

Our goal is to raise £250,000 by the end of the financial year.

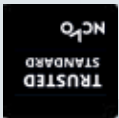
In many parts of the UK, that kind of money is the price of an entire home, but we're going to make that money work so much harder. We'll use it to ignite our project that will deliver not just one, but 10,000 homes for young people. **Here's how.**

With this early investment, we'll:

- Work closely with regional partners to **shape individual projects** around each community's needs – involving local people from the very start.
- Fund **feasibility studies** that will help us analyse whether our projects will be viable before significant resources are committed.
- Develop a sustainable blueprint that can scale our initial pilot projects into **10,000 homes over five years.**

By joining us, you won't just be helping to build homes, you'll be helping to build futures.

DISCLAIMER Luna and Marvin's stories are real, but to protect their privacy, names have been changed and photos were posed by models.
Charity number 212810. Registered address: YMCA England & Wales, 3rd Floor, 10-11 Charterhouse Square, London EC1M 6EH.



Here for young people
Here for communities
Here for you



Email me at kickstartfutures@ymca.org.uk



Tolu Raji,
Kickstart Project Officer,
YMCA England & Wales

I'm Tolu, and I'm proud to be your dedicated contact for this unique project. It's one of our boldest projects yet – creating 10,000 affordable homes for young people, and giving them the stability they need to have a fresh start. If you have any questions or just want to talk more about how your support could make a difference, I'd love to hear from you.

If you've got any questions, I'm here for you.



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Will you help us kickstart 10,000 futures?

A small group of loyal supporters like you are helping us take real steps toward ending the youth housing crisis. **We'd love for you to join this ambitious project.**



Our bold new plan

Play a vital role in transforming the lives of 10,000 young people.

Every young person deserves a safe, affordable place to call home. Yet right now, too many are sleeping on sofas, in hostels, or on the streets – unable to build the futures they deserve.

That’s why, as the largest charitable provider of safe, supported housing for young people in England and Wales, we’re launching an ambitious new plan: to create 10,000 affordable new homes for young people in the next five years.

This will **double** the number of spaces we can offer to young people, making it the most ambitious project we have ever undertaken. With over 180 years of experience supporting young people facing homelessness, no one is better placed to achieve this vision.

With your help, we aim to renovate

empty and neglected properties, convert unused spaces above shops, and **we’ll even build brand new homes.**

Right now, there are young people in our supported housing who are ready to move on, but high rents and unaffordable deposits hold them back. These new homes will help them take a vital step towards independence – while freeing up space for others in urgent need.

This will change lives – but a plan of this scale requires investment – that’s why we’re asking our most committed supporters to help us make it a reality.

Will you join us?

YMCA currently has 10,432 safe spaces. This project will mean we can

support twice as many young people across both England and Wales.

Kickstart a new life for someone like Luna

Luna found safety and hope at YMCA after having nowhere else to go.

“I remember police raids, my parents being strip-searched,” Luna recalls. “Needles everywhere, people injecting. It wasn’t until my early 20s that I realised life had actually been quite messed up.”

Luna should have been able to enjoy her childhood. Instead, it was filled with violence, crime, and chaos.

She worked hard to build a better future at university. When she realised she couldn’t go back to her mum’s, the university helped her secure short-term housing. But when the pandemic hit, she was forced to leave.

With nowhere safe to live, she sofa-surfed, unable to break the cycle of homelessness that she wanted so desperately to escape.

That’s when her local YMCA offered her a safe place to call home.

Now, Luna can begin thinking about her future again. She is working towards independence and is self-employed as Sofire Somatics, a certified Movement is Medicine instructor.

Luna’s ready to move on – but like many young people, she faces high rents, large deposits and no affordable homes nearby.

By creating new, permanent homes, you’ll help young people like Luna take their next step – and free up a space in supported housing for someone else in urgent need.

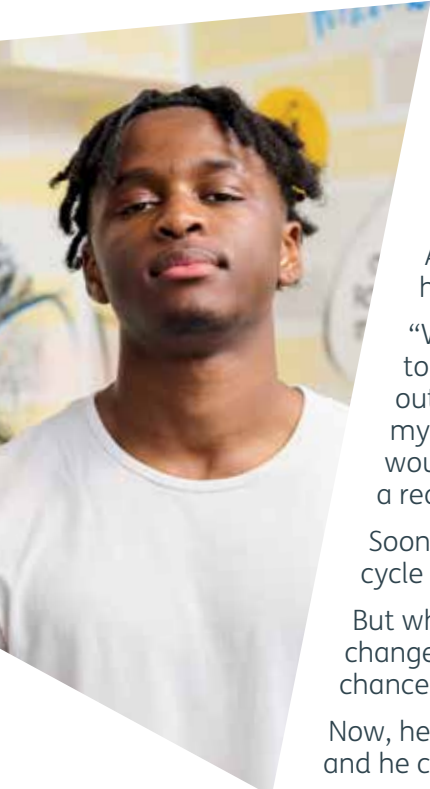
Support this project, and your gift won’t just change one life – it could change two.



“When I first walked in, I just cried my eyes out. I felt so looked after.”

Luna, YMCA resident

Help kickstart Marvin’s future



Marvin’s childhood was filled with fear. He grew up watching his stepfather abusing his mother. Intervening meant things just got worse.

Home was never truly safe, so he left. After time staying with friends, he found himself sleeping on the streets.

“When I was lucky, I moved from sofa to sofa. When I wasn’t, I’d have to sleep outside,” Marvin told us. “I had to wait for my friends to wake up, and maybe they would say, ‘you can come in for a bit.’ It was a really dark time in my life.”

Soon, he started using drugs, trapped in a cycle of depression.

But when Marvin came to YMCA, everything changed. A warm, safe room gave him the first chance to rest, recover, and start again.

Now, he’s getting support for his mental health and he can begin to think about his future.

Supported housing is just the start. Right now, young people like Marvin urgently need a safe place to begin their recovery – yet our spaces are limited.

By creating new homes for those ready to move on, we can free up space in supported housing, so that young people like Marvin can heal and rebuild.

Will you donate today, and help us create a real solution for thousands of young people like Luna and Marvin?

***176 people aged 16-24**

are assessed as homeless or at risk of homelessness every day in England and Wales.

*Ministry for Housing, Local Government and Communities, Statutory homelessness in England: financial year 2023-24, 30 October 2024. StatsWales, Households for which assistance has been provided by outcome, age and gender, 5 September 2024.