Choosing Our Roots
2017 – 2027 Strategic Plan

Core Purpose: Safely house queer youth

Core Values: Dignity & Respect ● Empowerment ● Cultural Relevancy ● Community ● Hope

Envisioned Future: All queer youth in Alaska have access to a safe place to call home and supportive community

Long-term Goals
2027

By 2027, data shows positive outcomes for queer youth participating in Choosing Our Roots (COR) programming

Indicators of Success
- All queer youth in Alaska who seek our services have access to safe housing
- Program participants self-report an improvement in quality of life and positive self-identity
- Programming is driven by outcome measurement

By 2027, queer youth have access to supportive and caring communities within and beyond COR programming

Indicators of Success
- Youth increasingly report that community partners are culturally competent and serving queer youth effectively
- Program participants self-report access to and dynamic engagement with resources that meet their needs, including an expanded list of support people
- Youth have skills to build their own communities, advocate for themselves, and identify appropriate resources

Short-term Goals
2017-2023

Safe and supportive housing is available to queer youth
- Develop a broad network of host homes, in and beyond Anchorage, to provide matched homes based on individual needs
  - Improve access to housing options in each of Alaska’s 6 regions (Arctic, Interior, Western, Southwestern, Southcentral, and Southeast)
  - Train and prepare at least 50 host homes for short and/or long term placement
- Develop an efficient and accessible referral/intake mechanism to connect queer youth with housing options

Queer youth have access to supportive and effective services to improve their health and well-being
- Coordinate a network of housing and community resources to provide services to at least 200 youth
- Provide supportive services, such as case management, to meet the needs of program participants
- Provide a structure for youth transitioning out of programs and into independence
- Expand staff and engage volunteers in order to meet needs of expanding programs

1 We embrace a broad definition of safety that encompasses physical, mental, and spiritual security. We therefore assert that host home providers must be competent, affirming, and able to provide appropriate mentorship in regard to LGBTQ+ challenges and overcomings.

2 See the COR Evaluation Plan for details on what outcomes are being measured and how data is collected.