



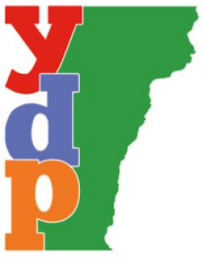
# VERMONT YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Extended Care for Teens & Young Adults



# What is the Youth Development Program (YDP)?

- ▶ **Our Work:** YDP is Vermont's extended care program for teens and young adults who have experience with the foster care system.
- ▶ **Our Mission:** To ensure that youth with foster care experience enter adulthood with the necessary support to build productive and fulfilling lives. By investing in youth, YDP promotes healthier and better-connected young adults, families, and communities.
- ▶ **Our Philosophy:** We believe in providing services that are strength-based and fully driven by the youths' own identified goals. YDP is a voluntary program.



# Who We Serve

- ▶ Youth ages 14-23 who are currently in custody or exited at 16 or older are eligible for case management, funding and advocacy opportunities
- ▶ Youth may connect with YDP any time before they turn 23.

**YDP serves about 450 youth statewide annually!**





# YDP Agency Partners



**SPECTRUM**  
YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES



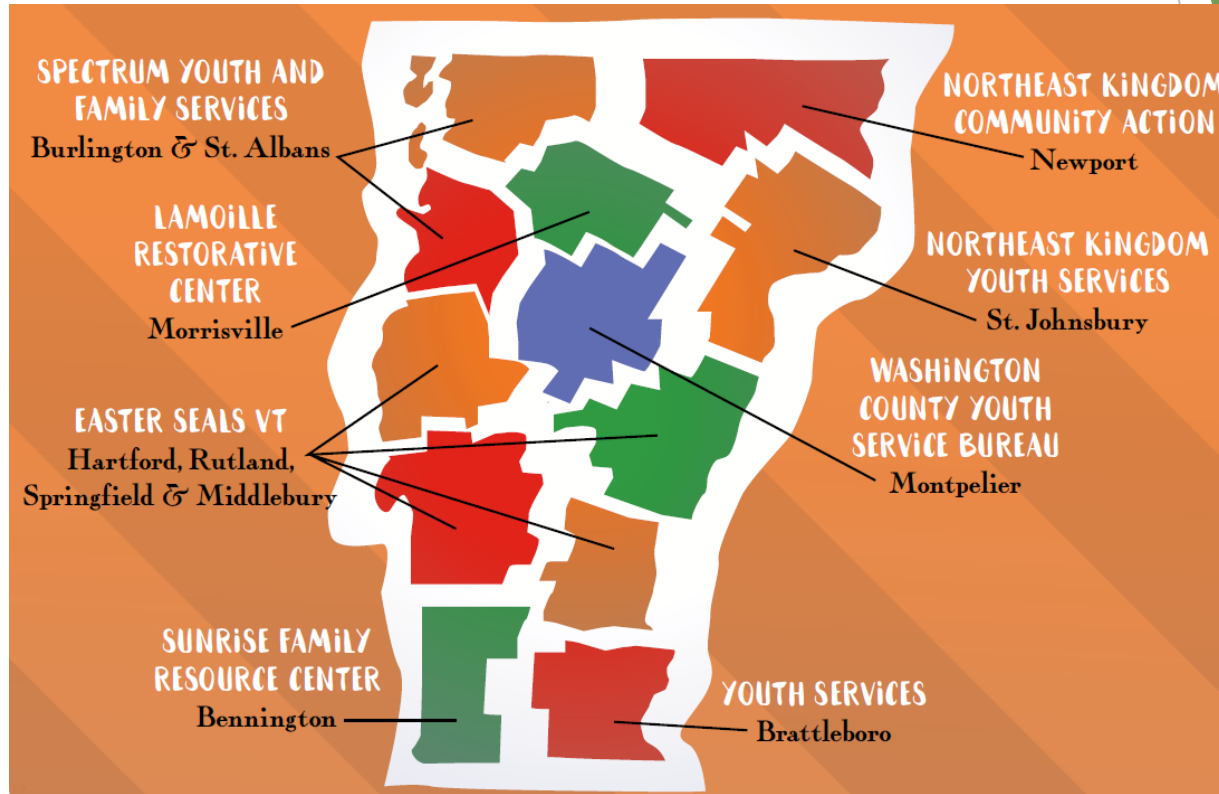
**Lamoille**  
RESTORATIVE CENTER  
Restoring relationships.  
Rebuilding community.  
Renewing hope.



**easterseals**  
Vermont



**Sunrise**  
Family  
Resource Center  
Bennington County's Parent Child Center



**NEKCA**  
Together We Grow  
NORTHEAST KINGDOM COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY



**NEKYS**



**elevate**  
YOUTH SERVICES



**Youth**  
SERVICES

**\*Elevate Youth Services administers the YDP statewide**



# Our Services

- ▶ **Youth Development Coordinators (YDCs)** are case managers who partner with youth to help them set goals, explore personal interests, connect with natural supports, and transition to adulthood successfully.
- ▶ **Financial resources** provide flexible funding through Youth Investment Grants (YIGs) to support interests and goals of youth who are engaged in the program.
- ▶ **Extended foster care** financially supports former foster parents and other supportive adults to care for youth beyond the age of 18.
- ▶ **Leadership opportunities** empower and inspire youth to advocate for improvements in the child welfare system and beyond.



# Youth Leadership, Advocacy, Events and More!

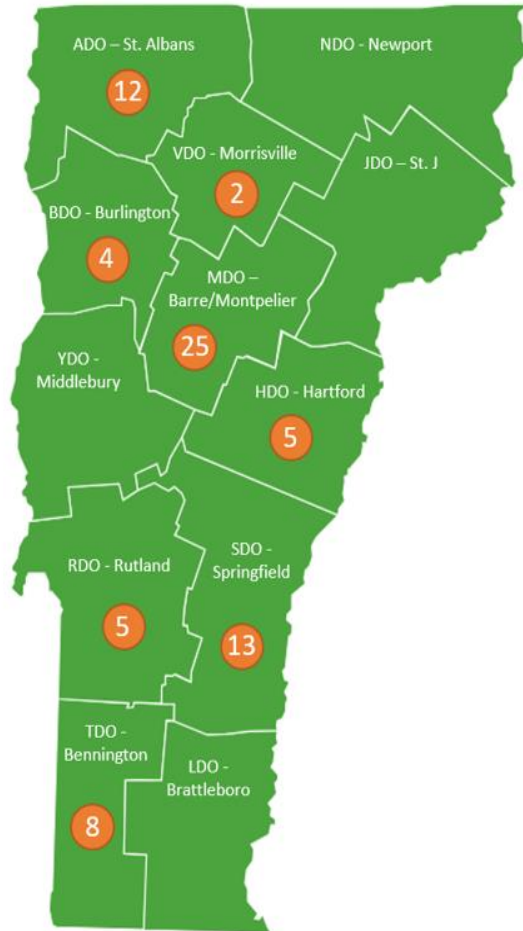
- ▶ Youth Panels at Trainings (DCF workers, foster parents, GALs)
- ▶ Youth Advisory Board (YAB)
- ▶ Youth Empowerment Summit
- ▶ Travel Opportunities





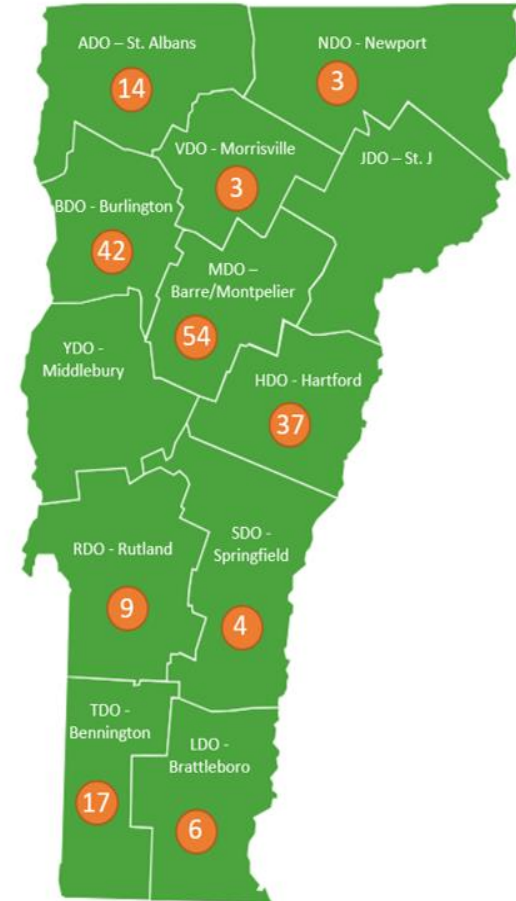
# Engagement Data

YDP  
Youth Advocacy Engagement  
by DCF District  
Fy23



\*These numbers reflect *instances of participation* by youths in advocacy, leadership, or volunteer opportunities throughout FY23. Many youth participants engage in multiple opportunities throughout the year.

YDP  
Youth Advocacy Engagement  
by DCF District  
Fy24



\*These numbers reflect *instances of participation* by youths in advocacy, leadership, or volunteer opportunities throughout FY24. Many youth participants engage in multiple opportunities throughout the year.



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Do you have questions?

## Contact Us Today!

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[www.vtyouthdevelopmentprogram.org](http://www.vtyouthdevelopmentprogram.org)



@VTYDP



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