

As part of its landmark report *All Our Children: Strategies to Prevent Homelessness, Strengthen Services and Build Support for LGBTQ Youth*, the New York City Commission for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning (LGBTQ) Runaway and Homeless Youth noted that LGBTQ youth are disproportionately represented among New York City's homeless and runaway youth, and that those who identify as LGBTQ are even more vulnerable than heterosexual homeless youth, due to factors such as family rejection, high rates of mental illness, and greater use of survival strategies that increase risk for HIV/AIDS.

To respond to this challenge, on July 1, 2011, Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD) launched the FTIP program, designed to provide support to LGBTQ youth at risk of homelessness and their families. The goals of the pilot are to promote family acceptance of their LGBTQ children, improve family functioning, and reduce incidence/duration of youth homelessness and other negative outcomes such as substance abuse, HIV/AIDS, violence, victimization, trauma and suicide among LGBTQ youth. Thanks to generous support from the MAC AIDS Fund, the H. van Ameringen Foundation, and the New York Community Trust, DYCD procured two providers, SCO Family of Services and Green Chimneys, to implement the program.