

Domus Positive Youth Development Approach

The core of our approach is to provide physical and emotional spaces and programs that allow young people to be who they are and become who they want to be.

Our programs:

Engage young people in one-on-one, positive, life-changing relationships.

Communicate our unwavering love for the youth we serve. Our love is unconditional and unselfish. We are driven by our desire to help young people become the best versions of themselves. We know that loving other people who return that love is the most strengthening emotional experience in the world.

Are clean, inviting, warm, and welcoming. They are places where young people belong and want to spend time, spaces where they feel physically and emotionally safe and accepted—places that reflect who our youth are.

Are joyful! Young people experience joy each day they are in our programs and look forward to coming back again.

Acknowledge the strength and resiliency of our young people. We have high expectations for our youth because we know nothing we ask of them is more difficult than what they have already endured and overcome.

Accept young people where they are. Young people are members of our community regardless of their behavior or their willingness to participate; we give many chances and don't give up.

Allow for youth voice and choice in all aspects of the program and programming.

Validate the shortcomings of the larger internal and external systems in which our young people operate. We do not dismiss the concerns young people raise regarding unjust situations or systems; instead, we advocate for our youth and teach them to advocate for themselves and others.

