

Guildford YMCA needs £500,000



...to build a dedicated new youth venue in the centre of Guildford, supporting hundreds of young people through periods of change in their lives

This is needed because ...

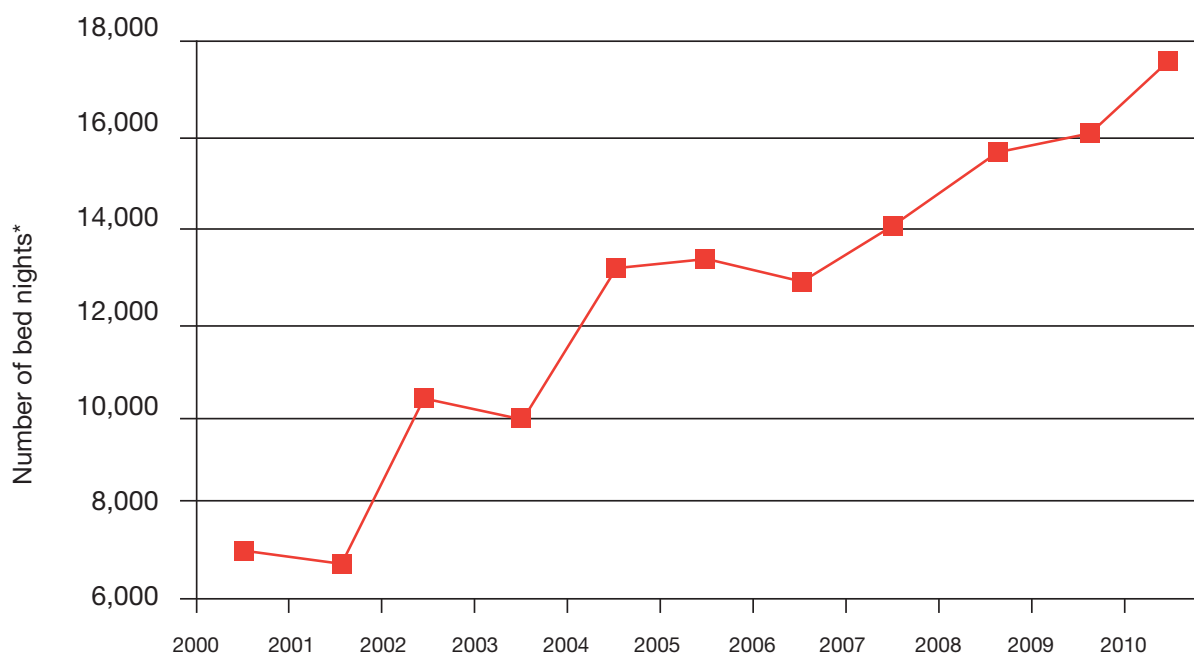
- There is growing demand for housing homeless young people, the majority of whom are under 18 years of age
- 1 in 5 young people cannot find employment and require support to engage in education and training
- Most homeless young people have no qualifications and lack social skills and so are very unlikely to find employment unless they receive help
- There is a need to get young people off the street and into a safe environment so they can be encouraged to make positive choices for their future

We offer a unique approach. Each young person receives personal support and encouragement tailored to their particular needs. Each youth worker develops a trusting, non-judgemental relationship that offers consistent support for as long as it takes.

We have the people to do this but we need much better facilities to do it to the highest standards.

Please help us to make our plans become a reality.

Young People in Supported Housing at Guildford YMCA 2000 to 2010



* Each bed night represents one young person receiving one night's accommodation

To build a new youth facility



...at the Y Centre which will provide a large, multi-functional venue for the young people of Guildford and the surrounding area

Our trained team of 22 youth workers will provide personal support to over 450 vulnerable young people in 2011. The new facility will provide...

- A dedicated learning and development space for our young hostel residents
- A multi-functional area (replacing Plantation in Market Street, Guildford YMCA's current youth venue) where young people can engage with a range of positive activities, or just chill out with their friends and listen to music in a safe, drug and alcohol free café
- A lounge for small groups to meet and share in a personal and reflective way
- Private interview rooms for confidential 'one to one' conversations with support workers
- An open office facility where our team can work alongside the young people they support
- A much needed laundry for our 120 residents

We know that the new venue will enable us to extend the range of support we can offer vulnerable young people and meet the increased demand for our services.

An impressive track record

Last year we...

- Managed 80 homeless referrals from Guildford Borough Council
- Supported an additional 106 young people not in employment, education or training
- Delivered professional counselling to 119 people
- Saw 9,146 young people come through the door of Plantation Cafe

Quote from Anne Milton MP

"I never fail to be impressed with the commitment, dedication and skill we see from all the staff at Guildford YMCA. The support given to young people is outstanding – we are very lucky to have such expertise on our doorstep. However a successful organisation needs to evolve and these latest plans are not only very exciting but are exactly the kind of facilities we need for the future. I wish them well and know that in Guildford our YMCA will go from strength to strength".



Guildford

YMCA