# 2018 ANNUAL REPORT LYTE Collective







LYTE COLLECTIVE	3
THE WORK	4
THE COST	7
THE SUPPORT	8
OUR COMMITMENTS	9

Recent data from the Chicago Coalition for the Homeless reports that nearly 16,000 young people ages 14-24 are homeless and living on their own each year in our city. At LYTE Collective, we believe this is unconscionable and we demand an end to the systemic inequities that lead to, and perpetuate, poverty and homelessness across this country. While working to change root conditions that cause poverty and homelessness, LYTE Collective stands with young people who are experiencing harm from this structural violence right now. At LYTE, our approach is simple: we support every young person who contacts us, without condition, to try and help them get whatever they need, and do so for as long as they want us by their side. This is how we live in truth. The following report offers a glance at

our work in 2018 and at those who helped us make it happen.

With gratitude and in solidarity,

LYTE Collective







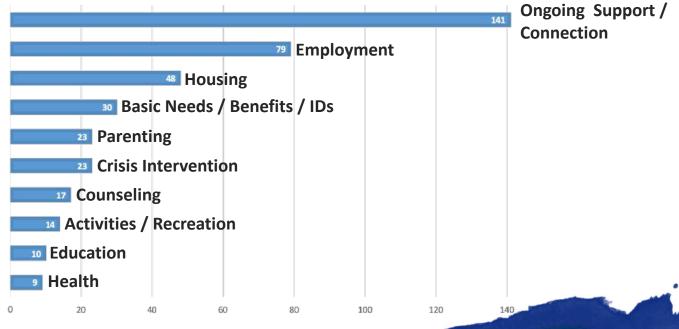






### **The Work:** By the Numbers

#### **2018 SUPPORT ACTIVITIES**

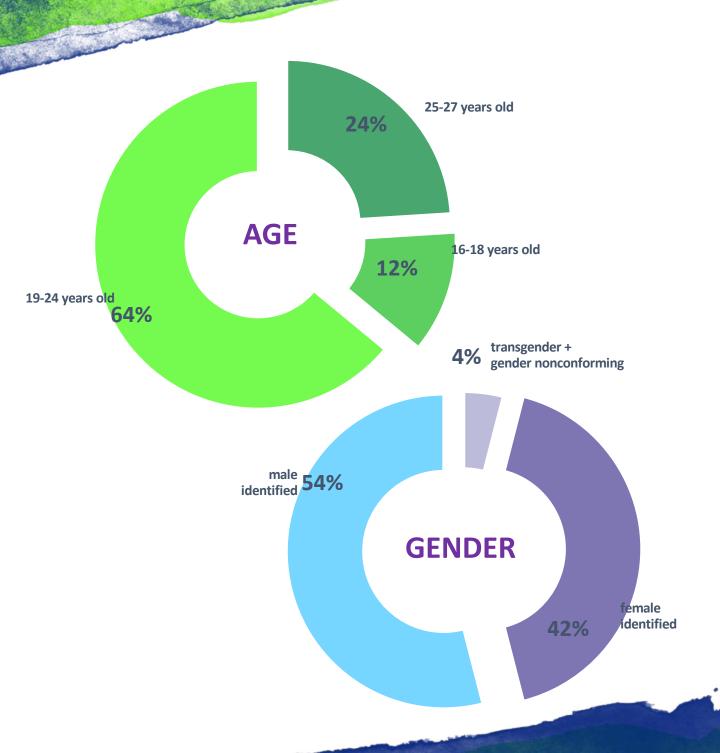


# **63** Youth Served

# **394** Sessions

While we work to renovate the LYTE Lounge, LYTE Collective is providing mobile support to youth in situations of poverty and homelessness. Our team travels across the Chicagoland area every day to meet with young people. Sessions include support with things such as: finding more stable housing, earning a high school diploma, practicing for a driver's test, getting a first job or exploring career, getting to a dentist, finding resources that make it possible to be a present and informed parent, healing and rebuilding after experiences of violence, developing a reliable network of friends and mentors, and beyond. (4)

# The Work: By the Numbers

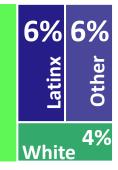


**Characteristics of Youth Served** 

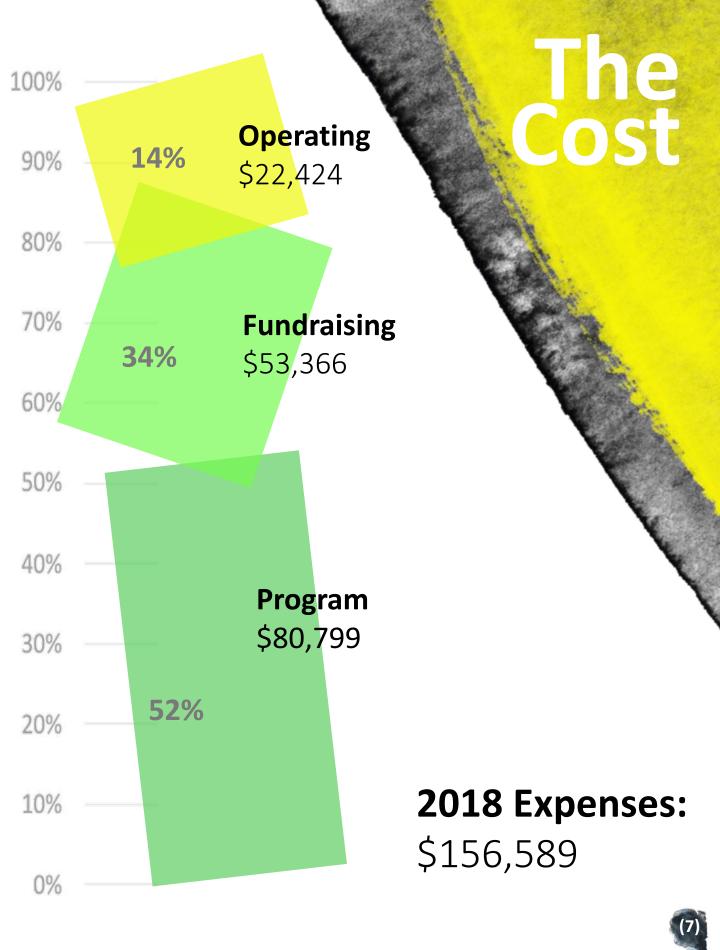
# The Work: By the Numbers

#### RACE

84% Black/African American



#### **ADDITIONAL CHARACTERISTICS:**



# **2018 Revenue:** \$436,921

Corporations gave \$10,180

(8)

**54 Individuals** gave \$82,188

### Foundations

#### gave \$343,094

#### Special thanks to:

Knight Family Foundation Pierce Family Foundation Polk Bros. Foundation Chicago Community Trust Conant Family Foundation Julian Grace Foundation Blowitz-Ridgeway Foundation A Bigger World Foundation Anonymous Family Foundation

#### **OUR COMMITMENTS**

un schan of, young people

#### and report our progress with transparency and integrity.

We will ground our work in our communities (in all their forms) and achieve sustainability through the financial and material generosity, knowledge, gifts, and time of all of those who wish to be a part of what we do.

We will provide evidence-informed services but require that this evidence must not only include, but privilege, the expertise of youth. And we will not just listen to the voices of young people; we will depend on them.

### A We will not ask youth to fit into our programs; we will fit our programs to their needs.

We take issue with the pervasive and widely accepted goals that understand success for youth as solely a state of self-reliance. We unapologetically believe that none of us do it alone and will equally prioritize the goals of connection and community.

We will celebrate the successes of youth and embrace all desires they may have to be ambassadors for LYTE Collective but we will not exploit young people by putting their vulnerabilities or victimization on display in an effort to raise funds.

We will embrace innovation at every level, from technology to daring program initiatives.

#### We will build transformative relationships.

We will see and value young people and all collective members as complex beings with holistic needs.

### We will love.

11We will not be afraid of challenges or change.

We will fight for as long as it takes to ensure every young person has a home and the future they deserve. We will take this fight from our streets to our political structures.

#### Together, we will **live our truth**.



