



Us Helping Us, People Into Living, Inc. For immediate release

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Us Helping US, People Into Living Inc. awarded \$250,000 for Project GROWTH, a Wrap-Around Workforce Development Program for Transgender, Non-Binary, and Gender Non-Conforming Youth Program

The Family Services Administration - Youth Services Division of the DC Department of Human Services has awarded Us Helping Us, People Into Living, Inc.'s Project GROWTH a grant for \$250,000 to create a wrap-around workforce development program for transgender, non-binary, and non-conforming (TGNC) identifying youth, ages eighteen (18) to twenty four (24) years old in the District, who are experiencing homelessness or at risk of experiencing homelessness. The primary goal of Project GROWTH is to eliminate barriers to employment by providing TGNC youth with a formidable set of tools – trainings and certifications – and professional work experience necessary to transition into living-wage careers as adults.

Specifically, **Project GROWTH** will include: (1) place-based employment opportunities with TGNC-affirming, multi-sector agencies and organizations in Washington, DC; (2) personalized, career-buttressing professional development opportunities; (3) didactic certifications (and applicable) trainings in, but not limited to, Microsoft Office, phlebotomy, HIV counseling, testing and referral, and community health worker; (4) monthly professional development trainings and trainings focused on soft skills; and (5) case-managed wraparound services. These work readiness and professional development opportunities will be coupled with the planning, implementation and evaluation of community events and community service opportunities.

Employer Partners

Table 1. Potential Partner Employer (Job Placement) Sites		
Agency / Organization	Sector	Focus
AIDS United	Policy & CBA	TGNC professional development; Technical assistance
DC Health / HAHSTA	Government	Public health and wellness; LGBTQ+ (TGNC) health
George Washington University	Academia	TGNC health and health disparities research
Human Rights Campaign	Policy & Advocacy	Health equity & human rights (LGBTQ+; TGNC)
SMYAL	Youth Development	Housing; LGBTQ youth advocacy and training
True Colors Fund	Advocacy	Youth Homelessness
Washington Health Institute	Healthcare	HIV care; Primary care; LGBTQ+ focused care

Professional Development & Soft-skills Trainings

Personalized Trainings offered on LinkedIn Training Center: [linkedin.com/learning](https://www.linkedin.com/learning).

Other Trainings & Certifications

- HIV counseling, testing and referral
- Certified Community Health Worker
- Phlebotomy

About Us Helping Us:

Us Helping Us is an experienced community-based organization that focuses on several health conditions, and HIV/AIDS in particular, and that works tirelessly to eliminate health disparities and achieve health equity for underserved and overlooked populations: sexual and gender minorities including TGNC youth, people living with HIV/AIDS, and people experiencing homelessness.