

## You Gotta Believe announces new Partnerships for Permanency with NYC Foster Care Agencies: Redlich Horwitz Foundation to provide matching grants

You Gotta Believe is pleased to announce their first partnerships with Good Shepherd Services, Graham Windham, Heartshare St. Vincent's, and Leake & Watts. YGB and partner agencies will work together in a multi-pronged effort to connect more teens and young adults to families, build capacity and create culture change at all levels of their foster care and residential programs, and demonstrate measureable results for the youth and families served. YGB will provide intensive, youth-focused recruitment services for each agency as well as foster/adoptive parent training and staff coaching.

You Gotta Believe (YGB) is one of a few organizations in the U.S., and the only one in the NYC Metro area, that focuses exclusively on finding permanent families for young adults, teens, and preteens in the foster care system. YGB was created 20 years ago with a mission to end homelessness and other dire outcomes for youth at risk of aging out of care and envisions a day when **Nobody Ages Out** because they are firmly connected to an unconditionally committed, loving permanent family.

The *Nobody Ages Out* Movement (NAO) was created by YGB as a way to flip the conversation about aging out. Believing that permanency solutions must be the primary strategies used to meet the needs and secure the futures of foster youth facing the terrifying and deeply lonely prospect of aging out, YGB seeks to influence the system through a combination of permanency programming, capacity building and advocacy at all levels of the system.

Because so often, older youth have given up on the idea of permanency, youth voice will be infused in every aspect of this work. Led by YGB's *Nobody Ages Out (NAO)* Youth Collaborative, the NAO team of Advocates will deliver workshops for youth, staff and parents, and will provide coaching to youth transitioning into families.

YGB has capacity to add 2-3 more agencies as partners. Interested agencies should contact <u>Susan Grundberg</u> for more information. Matching grants will be provided by the **Redlich Horwitz Foundation**, which is committed to decreasing the time to permanency in New York.