



Success Story



*Tifah**

Adoption Finalized April 2025

Clark County, Ohio

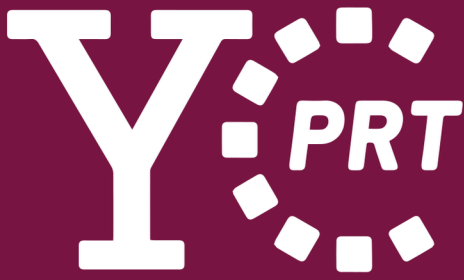
Tifah entered care at age 12, overwhelmed by a new environment and conflicted loyalty to her birth family. YCPRTs began the following year to help her explore permanency options at her own pace.

Over several meetings, she gained comfort, asked questions, and reflected on her future. She ultimately chose to be adopted by the family who had supported her for two years, honoring her biological mother by adopting her name as her middle name.

Tifah is now active in cheerleading, 4-H, school, and work, thriving in her new chapter with strong family connections.

*Names and identifying information have been changed for purposes of confidentiality.





Success Story



*Mariah and Micah**

Adoption Spring 2024

Athens County, Ohio

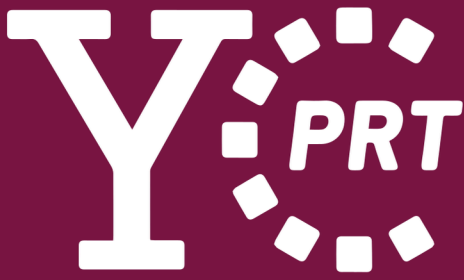
Twin siblings Mariah and Micah each participated in individual Youth-Centered Permanency Roundtables (YCPRTs), where they voiced their desire to remain together and be adopted by their fictive kin caregivers. They were clear about not wanting to return home and used the YCPRT space to advocate for stability and happiness in their final years of care.

Before adoption finalization, they requested a final joint meeting to thank the team and say goodbye. The YCPRT team celebrated their journey with a strengths-based sendoff.

Today, Mariah and Micah are thriving in a permanent, affirming home—an outcome shaped by their voice and the team's support.



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Success Story



*Jordan**

Adoption Finalized June 2025

Clark County, Ohio

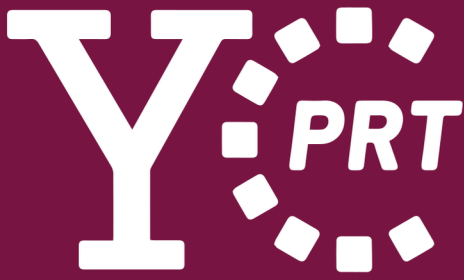
Jordan was hesitant about adoption, concerned about losing ties to his biological family. Through ongoing YCPRTs, he had space to explore these feelings and was supported by a team that listened without pressure.

Eventually, Jordan decided to move forward with adoption and honored his grandmother by taking her last name as his middle name.

Now closely bonded with his adoptive family, Jordan is planning for his future—interested in culinary school, driving, and continuing to build a stable life rooted in belonging.

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Success Story



*Alani**

Initial In-Person YCPRT: May 2025

Lorain County, Ohio

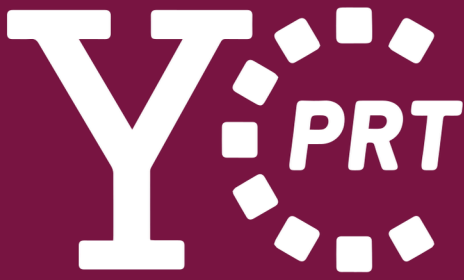
After several virtual meetings, Lorain County Children Services held its first in-person YCPRT for Alani, a teen navigating a complex permanency path. With seven adults in the room, Alani spoke clearly and confidently offering names of people from her past willing to support her and engaging fully in the process.

A new team member also stepped into the role of external consultant and committed to staying involved filling a critical gap. Several participants, new to YCPRT, shared how powerful it was to hear directly from the youth herself.

This meeting created new momentum and deepened team commitment to centering youth voice in every decision moving forward.



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Success Story



*Talia**

Initial In-Person YCPRT: May 2025

Marion County, Ohio

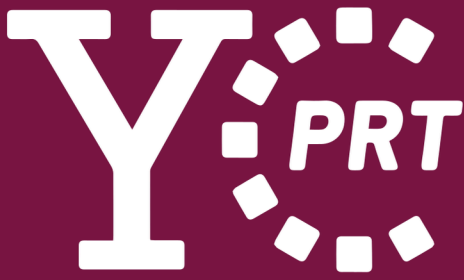
Talia arrived at her YCPRT visibly upset, telling her caseworker she didn't want to participate. With care and flexibility, the team honored her pace and created a welcoming space.

By the end of the meeting, Talia had relaxed, lit up when reviewing her extensive family tree, and left open to engaging again. Her initial resistance gave way to curiosity—and connection.

YCPRT gave Talia a fresh way to see her future and made meaningful family discovery possible.



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Success Story



*Martin**

Adoption Finalized June 23, 2025

Muskingum County, Ohio

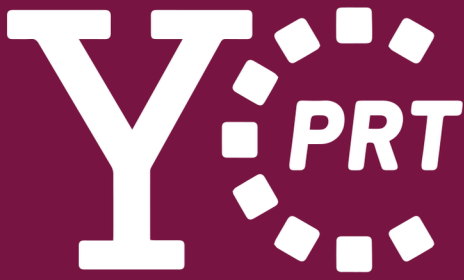
Martin's journey spans more than a decade: eight foster homes, three residential placements, and countless challenges. Diagnosed with Autism, ADHD, PTSD, and ODD, he entered permanent custody in 2021 at age 11.

Martin's first YCPRT in 2022 focused on building connection. With time and support, his team helped him feel safe enough to engage directly. One breakthrough came in early 2023 when a letter to his maternal cousin led to renewed contact and eventually, a new home.

Martin's moved in with his cousin in August 2024 and transitioned to adoptive placement in April 2025. His upcoming adoption is the result of small, loving steps taken by a committed team—and a youth who never gave up.

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Success Story



*Marla**

*Milestone Celebration: High School Graduation
Wood County, Ohio*

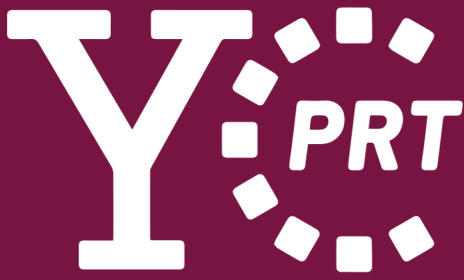
During Marla's most recent YCPRT, the team paused to celebrate a powerful milestone—her high school graduation. Joined by one of her favorite staff members, Marla was recognized for her determination and resilience.

Now a young adult, Marla continues to stay connected to her Independent Living worker and is actively building the foundation for a stable, successful future.

This moment was a reminder that permanency isn't just about placement—it's about relationships that last.



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Success Story



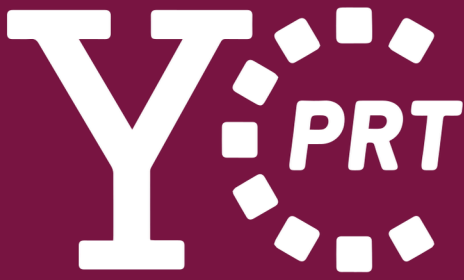
*Davion** *Warren County, Ohio*

Davion's YCPRT journey focused on understanding permanency. Alongside his siblings, he explored what permanent custody meant with support from his caseworker and therapist. Over time, Davion built strong bonds with his foster family who, while not adopting, committed to lifelong support. They affirmed he would always have a place to call home, including plans to visit him during Marine basic training.

While not a legal adoption, Davion's story reflects the power of relational permanency and a deep sense of belonging.



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Success Story



Damon & Malik** *Rebuilding Family Through Grief* *Allen County, Ohio*

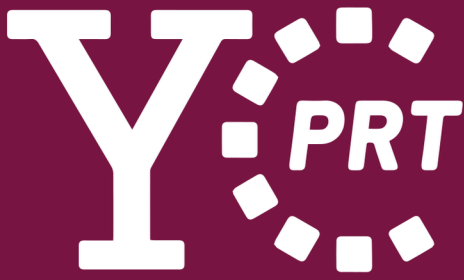
When teenage brothers Damon and Malik lost both parents, members of the YCPRT team attended their father's funeral with their foster family.

There, they reconnected with their adult sister living out of state, who expressed a desire to stay in their lives.

Grief gave way to new connection and the hope of lasting family ties.



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Success Story



*Landyn**

Permanency Path: Transitioning with Ongoing Support Jackson County, Ohio

Landyn entered care at age 9 and spent nearly a decade in foster and residential placements with minimal family connections. Despite these challenges, he graduated high school in May 2025 and was accepted to two art colleges. However, with dorms unavailable for the summer and his foster placement ending, he faced urgent housing needs.

Jackson County's first Youth-Centered Permanency Roundtable (YCPRT) brought together Landyn's caseworkers, foster parent, recruiter, teachers, and community partners to create a coordinated plan based on his goals. Each team member contributed—from helping with college visits and job preparation to locating housing and reconnecting Landyn with former foster parents who offered support.

Landyn was placed at MOAB House, a supervised independent living program in Youngstown. His rent was initially covered by the agency, with future support provided through Bridges. The YCPRT allowed the team to respond quickly, collaborate effectively, and ensure Landyn had a voice in planning for his future.

This first YCPRT demonstrated the power of youth-centered collaboration. Landyn's next chapter is stronger because of it.



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