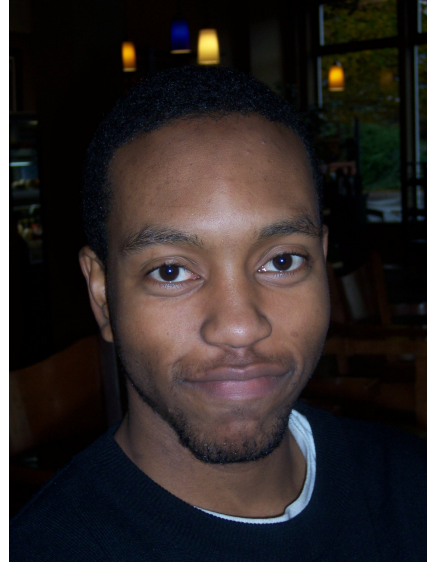


# Young Adult Services



## Central Area Shared Home

The YMCA's Central House is one of five homes located in King County serving young adults who are homeless and/or exiting the foster care system. Young adults (ages 18-24) can reside in the homes for up to 15 months while they work on achieving their goals in the areas of education, employment, life skills and housing.



## Leo's Story

Leo has blossomed in the YMCA housing program since he first moved in 9 months ago. Leo came to us with few skills or education, but has since taken advantage of the many opportunities available to him through the YMCA's Young Adult Services programs. Leo completed a 12 week employment program, WAGES, in which he learned basic employment skills. WAGES involved an internship as well as weekly classes and Leo was one of only two participants to complete the entire program. Leo also gained much needed confidence from this experience that allowed him to enter a full time welding program at South Seattle Community College after the program's completion. Leo's basic living skills have improved dramatically as well. Leo is more relaxed and has become determined and focused on his goals, something that was difficult for him when he first moved into the house. His cooking skills have come a long way as well, from not knowing how to cook, as he says, to planning and cooking house dinners for his fellow residents.