



Youth Outreach Team

- PURPOSE:** To reach out to youth who are experiencing or at -risk of homelessness, abuse, and exploitation.
- WHO WE SERVE:** Youth and young adults who are experiencing homelessness or at-risk of homelessness from a wide range of ethnic, religious, and racial backgrounds. Youth are male, female, and transgender. These young people are typically ages 14 -21, although we do encounter youth as young as 10 and as old as 25.
- PROGRAM:** Members of the Youth Outreach Team create an accessible, non-judgmental, youth-friendly, supportive presence in areas frequented by homeless and at-risk youth. Staff members provide trustworthy adult relationships and information for healthy, informed choices, along with basic support, including:
- Nutritious food
 - Wide range of self-care and wellness supplies
 - Crisis management
 - Stress reduction
 - Counseling
 - Educational support
 - Referrals to a wide range of vocational and employment training and support
 - Support in enrollment in Chicago Public Schools and post-secondary educational facilities
 - Connection to healthcare, including:
 - Medical
 - Mental health
 - Dental
 - Wellness programs
 - Pre natal care
 - Advocacy on issues relevant to homeless youth
 - Referrals to other services
 - Empowerment
 - Goal-setting and development for youth based on individual needs and situations
- LOCATIONS:** Regular outreach events on the streets of Chicago's Lakeview neighborhood
Referrals to drop-in programming and case management at the Broadway Youth Center
Youth-friendly cultural and community celebrations

The Youth Outreach program is funded in part by the Chicago Department of Family and Support Services.