

OPPORTUNITY YOUTH SUMMIT



thrivechicago



Tuesday, March 14, 2017
9:00 AM – 1:00 PM
Chicago Cultural Center



Last summer, Thrive Chicago launched an Opportunity Youth Working Group of 30+ public and private partners to build new knowledge about Opportunity Youth in Chicago and produce a set of shared solutions for connecting them to employment and education. Partners included youth-facing public sector agencies, local funders, research institutions, youth leaders, and community-based service providers.

Participants of the Opportunity Youth Working Group

Alternative Schools Network

Jack Wuest
Martrice Manuel

Boys & Girls Clubs of Chicago

Mimi LeClair
Hermilo Hinojosa
JB Mantz

Chapin Hall at The University of Chicago

Jennifer Axelrod

Chicago Beyond

Liz Dozier
Gretchen Cusick
Katie Hickey

Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership

Karin Norington-Reaves
Greg Martinez

Chicago Public Schools

Molly Burke
Maricar Ramos
Jennifer Mitchell

Chicago Urban League

Andrew Wells

Chicagoland Workforce Funders Alliance

Matthew Bruce

Cook County Justice Advisory Council

Lanetta Haynes Turner

Department of Family & Support Services

Lisa Morrison Butler
Mary Ellen Messner
Kia Coleman

Dovetail Project

Sheldon Smith

Emerson Collective

Becky Betts

Get IN Chicago

Lisa Moultrie

K.L.E.O. Community Family Life Center

Torrey Barrett

Mercy Home for Boys & Girls

Daniel Nelson

Mikva Challenge

Joshua Prudowsky

National Youth Advocate Program, Inc.

Reyahd Kazmi

Office of the Mayor

Tiffany Hamel-Johnson
Juan Jose Gonzalez
Chris Longman

Robert R. McCormick Foundation

Molly Baltman Leonard

SGA Youth & Family Services

Andrew Fernandez

Skills for Chicagoland's Future

Allison Angeloni

The Chicago Community Trust

Emily Harris

The Joyce Foundation

Sameer Gadkaree

The Resurrection Project

Berto Aguayo

UChicago Urban Labs

Carmelo Barbaro
Stacy Norris

Westside Health Authority

Quiwana Bell

Year Up

Patricia Powell

Youth Connection Charter School

MariBeth Welch

Opportunity Youth Summit Partners





March 14, 2017

Dear Partners,

Welcome to the 2017 Opportunity Youth Summit, co-hosted by Thrive Chicago and the City of Chicago, where over 300 individuals and 150 organizations have come together to support the approximately 60,000 Opportunity Youth, ages 16 to 24, in Chicago who are out of work and out of school.

When youth are disconnected from school and work, they are at increased risk for long-term unemployment, poverty, substance abuse and criminal behavior. With a challenge this big, it is imperative that we bring our resources and expertise to the collective table and partner towards the shared goal of reconnecting 10,000 Opportunity Youth to school or work in three years.

Today is about collective action where you will have a chance to sign up to join Thrive Chicago's citywide efforts to help youth successfully transition to adulthood through school and work.

Since 2013, Thrive Chicago has partnered with organizations like yours in Chicago to design and drive shared solutions to the most pressing problems facing youth. Over the last eight months, Thrive Chicago convened a collaborative of private and public sector entities known as the Opportunity Youth Working Group to build new knowledge about Opportunity Youth in Chicago and produce a set of shared solutions for connecting them with employment and education. Members of this group include youth-facing public

sector agencies, local funders, research institutions, youth leaders, and community providers together representing over 30 organizations across the city. We want to thank those individuals of the Working Group who have dedicated their time to take this journey with us.

Starting today, Thrive Chicago will drive forward the recommendations that emerged from the Working Group. Thrive Chicago will also begin building a data infrastructure in partnership with University of Chicago's Urban Labs to better understand the needs and trends of Opportunity Youth and evaluate what program features are most effective so we can help nonprofits and city agencies throughout Chicago serve Opportunity Youth. We, as Thrive Chicago's Board of Directors, are also committed to identifying resources to support community and citywide efforts related to Opportunity Youth.

We are thrilled that you are joining us and the Thrive Chicago team to be a part of the momentum aimed at changing the future of Chicago's youth.

Sincerely,
Thrive Chicago Board of Directors

Thrive Chicago Board of Directors

Beth Swanson, Chair
Vice President of Strategy and Programs
The Joyce Foundation



David Hiller, Treasurer
President and Chief Executive Officer
Robert R. McCormick Foundation



Evelyn Diaz
President
Heartland Alliance



Arne Duncan
Managing Partner
Emerson Collective



Janice Jackson
Chief Education Officer
Chicago Public Schools



Terry Mazany
President and Chief Executive Officer
The Chicago Community Trust



Lisa Morrison Butler
Commissioner
Department of Family and Support Services



Karin Norington-Reaves
Chief Executive Officer
Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership



Shelley Stern Grach
Director of Civic Engagement
Microsoft



Tom Vanden Berk
Chairman
UCAN



Speaker Biographies



Beth Swanson
Vice President of Strategy and Programs,
The Joyce Foundation
& Thrive Chicago Board Chair

Elizabeth (Beth) Swanson is the Vice President of Strategy and Programs for The Joyce Foundation. In her role, Beth helps guide the development of strategic approaches to reach public policy goals across The Joyce Foundation's six focus areas: education, employment, environment, democracy, gun violence prevention and culture. Her experience at the intersection of policy and practice, and her shared love of our community, are evident as she supports the work of The Joyce Foundation's grantees.

Formerly as Deputy Chief of Staff for Education for the City of Chicago, Beth worked closely with Mayor Rahm Emanuel and other leaders to define the city's education policy agenda from birth through college. She has served as point person in expanding early learning opportunities, achieving a full school day, bringing quality school options to families, and launching the city's Summer of Learning.



Estefania Perez-Luna
VISTA Fellow, Thrive Chicago

Perez-Luna is an AmeriCorps VISTA member serving at Thrive Chicago through Public Allies. At Thrive Chicago, Estefania helps support all of Thrive's data efforts, including Thrive Chicago's Data Partnership with Chicago Public Schools.

She is a recent graduate from Benedictine University where she was a pre-med student. She is currently studying for her MCAT exam and anticipates applying to medical school in the summer. Most of her community involvement has been around the undocumented community. While a student at Joliet Junior College, she contributed to the efforts that led a protest against the building of a for-profit immigrant detention center in Joliet. Later she joined the Medicina Scholars program at UIC where she learned a public health perspective to medicine. That is also where she got interested in how medicine can be approached with a social justice lens.



Omphile Masego Franklin
VISTA Fellow, Thrive Chicago

Franklin is an AmeriCorps VISTA member serving at Thrive Chicago through Public Allies. At Thrive Chicago, Omphile helps support Thrive Chicago's social media platforms, including 100k, a citywide hiring effort helping Opportunity Youth find jobs.

Prior to this, he was a part of VOYCE (Voices of Youth in Chicago Education) where he engaged youth to lobby and pass two statewide bills (SB2793 and SB100) that will help put an end to the school to prison pipeline as well as racial disparities. Beside his success with passing bills, Omphile is passionate about uniting youth through creativity to promote tranquility, gratitude, and innovation #TGiMovement.



Rev. Michael L. Pflieger
*Pastor, The Faith Community
of Saint Sabina*

Since 1968, Father Pflieger has lived and ministered in the African-American community on both the west and south sides of Chicago. He has been recognized for his fight against alcohol and tobacco billboards, drugs and racism in various magazines, newspapers, and other news and media outlets. Father Pflieger is the founder of the Employment Resource Center, the Ark Youth Center, Saint Sabina Social Service Center, Thea Bowman Spiritual Advance Center, Samaritan House for the homeless, Saint Sabina 80-unit Elders Village and the Beloved Community, Inc.



Liz Dozier
Managing Director, Chicago Beyond

A lifelong educator, Liz Dozier has spent her career working tirelessly to interrupt the culture of inequity that is often pervasive in urban education. Dozier is most known for her innovative and creative approaches as a school principal to successfully addressing the complex needs of the whole child. In 2016, Dozier launched Chicago Beyond, a privately funded organization that invests in and analyzes new, innovative ideas and scalable programs to address two urgent issues that are flip sides of the same coin: youth safety and educational attainment. Over time, Chicago Beyond aims to leverage its findings to spark further public and philanthropic investments in work that does the most good per dollar to improve the lives of Chicago's young people.



Teresa Córdova
Director, UIC Great Cities Institute

Teresa Córdova is Director of UIC's Great Cities Institute. She is also Professor of Urban Planning and Policy in the College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs. As an applied theorist and community-based planner, Dr. Córdova approaches her work as a scholarship of engagement in which research, pedagogy and service are integrated. Her analysis of global/local dynamics, including impacts of globalization on communities, informs her publications in Community Development and Latino Studies. Professor Córdova is currently President of the Board of Directors of The Praxis Project, a national, nonprofit organization that provides research, technical assistance and financial support to tackle issues impacting the well being of communities. Early in her studies, Dr. Córdova was a National Science Foundation research trainee and a National Research Council Fellow. She has received multiple recognitions for academic achievement and leadership including recognition of her role in developing a small business incubator and commercial kitchen.

Speaker Biographies *continued*



Carmelo Barbaro

Executive Director, Poverty Lab at University of Chicago, Urban Labs



Jennifer Axelrod

Policy Fellow, Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago



Jonathan Furr

Executive Director, Education Systems Center at Northern Illinois University

Carmelo Barbaro is the Executive Director of the Poverty Lab. He previously worked as a Project Leader in the Chicago office of the Boston Consulting Group (BCG), a leading strategy consulting firm. Before joining BCG, he spent several years working in urban planning and community development, with a focus on low-income communities in the cities of Chicago and Milwaukee.

He holds a BA in government from Harvard University, an MSc in regional and urban planning studies from the London School of Economics and Political Science, and an MBA from the University of Chicago Booth School of Business.

Jennifer Axelrod is a Policy Fellow at Chapin Hall. Her career is focused on improving outcomes for the highest risk youth through effective implementation of evidence-based youth development programs, social emotional learning, violence prevention, and intervention within a frame of well-being and normal childhood and adolescent development. At Chapin Hall, Dr. Axelrod is leveraging her extensive experience in large public systems to work with federal, state, and local agency leadership to best leverage partnerships with private agencies. In this work, she brings a lens toward organizational capacity-building within both systems, most recently helping to develop an assessment tool that helps mitigate challenges when non-profit organizations introduce evidence-based interventions.

Jonathan Furr, Executive Director for Education Systems Center, is actively engaged in state and national education policy and legislative developments in key areas of education reform. Mr. Furr has played an active role to fund and establish the state's longitudinal system. He worked with seven state agencies to establish an interagency governance structure for the Illinois longitudinal data system, which he currently staffs. Prior to joining NIU, Mr. Furr was a partner in the public policy and education practice of an international law firm. From 2004 to 2006, Mr. Furr served as the General Counsel for the Illinois State Board of Education. Mr. Furr received his Juris Doctorate and Masters in Urban Planning from the University of Michigan, and his Bachelor's Degree from Washington University in St. Louis.



Lisa Morrison Butler

Commissioner, Chicago Department of Family and Support Services & Thrive Chicago Board Member

As Commissioner of DFSS, Morrison Butler is responsible for delivering social service programs and resources to more than 300,000 Chicago residents per year. This includes early learning opportunities for Chicago's children; summer employment opportunities and after-school programs for youth; supportive services, shelter and transitional housing for homeless families and individuals; safe accommodations and support services for victims of domestic violence; a wide array of life-enrichment opportunities and care services for Chicago's seniors; guidance and aid for our veterans; and job training and assistance for ex-offenders looking for a second chance to re-enter the workforce.

Morrison Butler holds a B.S. degree from Indiana University and pursued post-graduate studies at the J.L. Kellogg Graduate School of Management, Northwestern University and the University of Chicago.



Chris Warland

Associate Director for Field Building, Heartland Alliance

Chris serves as the Associate Director for Field Building at Heartland Alliance's National Initiatives on Poverty & Economic Opportunity. He supports employment for chronically unemployed people across the country by developing resources, offering trainings, facilitating peer learning, and consulting with employment initiatives at the local, state, and federal levels. Before getting involved in workforce development, Chris worked for several years as an adult education teacher for detainees at the Cook County Jail.

Heartland Alliance has created a toolkit of best practices for Opportunity Youth which can be found here: <https://www.heartlandalliance.org/nationalinitiatives/field-building/youth-employment-toolkit/>



Quiwana Bell

Chief Operating Officer, Westside Health Authority

Quiwana Bell's leadership at WHA has led to an organization that today serves more than 25,000 residents annually through grassroots community organizing, Youth Development, and Re-entry and Employment services for the residents of Chicago and Cook County. Under her direction, WHA has grown to also serve as an economic development engine in the Austin community with commercial and residential real estate development projects that have provided restoration to long time blighted areas while securing millions in contracts to local contractors since 2010. In 2011, she was integral in negotiating a community benefits agreement with US Bank and secured over \$2 million in support of community restoration projects in the areas of East and West Garfield Park, Austin, North Lawndale and Maywood.

Quiwana combines her financial experience with over 10 years of experience in social work with community advocacy, providing leadership and support for community members to shape public policies and use their gifts to transform the lives of their own communities. Her diverse experience has led to an interdisciplinary approach of combining grassroots community organizing with a sophisticated understanding of the integration of policy, programs and systems.

Speaker Biographies *continued*



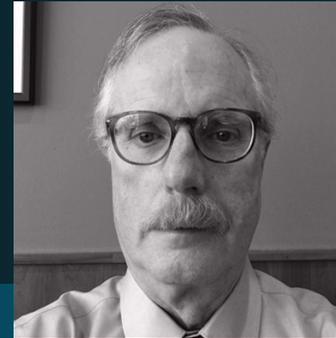
Daniel Nelson
Director of AfterCare, Supportive Housing, and Community Partnerships at Mercy Home for Boys & Girls

Daniel Nelson has a BSW from Illinois State University and his MSW from Jane Addams School of Social Work at UIC. He has worked at Mercy Home for the past 13 years, initially starting as a Therapist in their Residential Treatment Program at the Hay Boy's Campus in the West Loop. Daniel's responsibilities include supporting all the former residents of Mercy Home and their families once they are back in the community, managing a 20 unit affordable & supportive housing complex in Chicago's South Shore neighborhood, and establishing mutually beneficial partnerships within the community.



Andrew Fernández
Regional Director, SGA Youth & Family Services

Andrew J. Fernández has lived in Chicago for his entire life. A former resident of Brighton Park and a current resident of Humboldt Park, Mr. Fernández has worked as a public servant for 29 years. He has worked for both non-for-profit organizations and city government. His career includes service to people with disabilities, youth and youth serving agencies, employment services, and building capacity in local communities. He has worked in several communities in Chicago and the suburbs. Mr. Fernández graduated from Roosevelt University with a Bachelor's in General Studies and a Master's in History. He currently works for SGA Youth and Family Services as a Regional Director.



Jack Wuest
Executive Director, Alternative Schools Network

Jack Wuest is the founder and Executive Director of Alternative Schools Network (ASN). Founded in 1973, ASN continues to be the largest formal network of nonprofit, community-based, alternative schools in the country that re-enrolls high-risk, low-income youth who have dropped out-of-school. Today, ASN is composed of 22 alternative schools as well as youth and adult education organizations throughout Chicago. The ASN works in a close partnership with the Youth Connection Charter School (YCCS) to provide comprehensive education, support/trauma related services and employment preparation and placement services. ASN serves more than 3,500 youth each year and works to develop and expand nonprofit alternative schools that re-enroll, educate and graduate high-risk, high school dropouts.

He has also worked to develop policies to provide youth and young adults who have dropped out of school an education and employment opportunities. For nearly a decade, ASN has organized a series of hearings and policy forums to highlight the need for more educational opportunities for high-risk, high school dropouts as well as employment programs to provide them ways to become successful adults. Jack Wuest has a BS from Xavier University with a major in English.



Sandra Abrevaya
President and Chief Impact Officer,
Thrive Chicago

Sandra joined Thrive in October 2015 to lead the development and implementation of Thrive’s vision and strategy. Under her leadership, Thrive is poised to enter the next ambitious phase of its collective impact work.

Prior to joining Thrive, she worked in the Office of Mayor Rahm Emanuel as the Education Policy Director. Previously, Sandra served as founding Executive Director of Urban Alliance Chicago, a non-profit that provides internships, mentoring and college access support to Chicago Public Schools students. Before returning to Chicago three years ago, Sandra spent nearly a decade in federal government and politics. During the Obama administration, she served as Associate Communications Director at the White House where she oversaw press strategy on weekly domestic policy announcements. In addition, Sandra was the Press Secretary to U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan, Communications Director for New Hampshire for President Obama’s 2008 general election, and Deputy Communications Director and Press Secretary for U.S. Senator Dick Durbin from 2005 to 2008. Sandra holds a B.A. and a B.F.A. from the University of Michigan and a J.D. from Northwestern University School of Law.



Reyahd Kazmi
Director of Business & Government
Strategies, National Youth Advocate
Program, Inc.

Reyahd D.J. Kazmi is the Director of Business & Government Strategies for National Youth Advocate Program, Inc. (NYAP) where he oversees multiple programs and divisions, manages the organization’s service contracts, and advocates at the municipal, state, and federal level. In addition, Mr. Kazmi is the owner of Kazmi Advisors, LLC, a consulting firm dedicated to providing strategic advising, government strategy, relationship management, and community engagement to corporate, not-for-profit, and public sector clients in Chicago, the state of Illinois and the greater Midwest region.



Neil Sullivan
Executive Director, Boston Private
Industry Council

Neil Sullivan is the executive director of the Boston Private Industry Council, known locally as the PIC. The PIC is a non-profit intermediary organization, focusing on youth employment, work-based learning, dropout reduction, postsecondary completion, and school-to-career transitions. The PIC also serves as Boston’s Workforce Development Board, overseeing federal workforce training dollars and chartering the city’s one-stop career centers. Its members are appointed by Mayor Martin J. Walsh and represent business, government, labor, education, and the community.

The PIC organizes the private sector component of the Mayor’s Summer Jobs Campaign, coordinates internships and career awareness activities for public high school students, manages the Re-Engagement Center for returning dropouts, and plays a lead role in the Success Boston college completion initiative. The PIC convenes a variety of industry sector committees and task forces, including the Opportunity Youth Collaborative. PIC research staff support all these convenings and initiatives.

Before joining the PIC in 1992, Neil served as chief policy advisor to Boston Mayor Ray Flynn for ten years, as a community organizer and policy strategist for Massachusetts Fair Share for six years, and as a high school teacher in the Chicago area for three years. A 1974 Amherst College graduate, Sullivan holds a Master of Arts in Teaching degree from Northwestern University.

Speaker Biographies *continued*



Andrew Wells
Director of Workforce Development,
Chicago Urban League

Andrew J. Wells has over a decade of not-for-profit experience in leadership, corporate and community relations, program management, and community development. Over the span of his career, Andrew helped more than 1,600 Opportunity Youth through various educational, mentoring, and employment and training initiatives. As director of Chicago Urban League's Workforce Development Center, Andrew is responsible for ensuring the functional and financial success of all employment and training programs. Andrew has been with the Chicago Urban League—a leading provider of economic development, education, and social justice programming and advocacy—since 2013.

A Chicago native, Andrew received his undergraduate degree from Roosevelt University. He is also an M.B.A candidate at Walden University.



Karin Norington-Reaves
Chief Executive Officer, Chicago
Cook Workforce Partnership
& Thrive Chicago Board Member

Karin M. Norington-Reaves is a lifelong public servant with more than 25 years of experience in education, law, advocacy, and community and workforce development. In 2012, Karin became the founding Chief Executive Officer of the Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership (The Partnership) upon her appointment by Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel and Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle.

Karin continues to play an active role in the community, serving as a board member on the Cook County Economic Development Advisory Committee (EDAC), the Board of Advisors for LISC Chicago, the Board of Trustees for the Workforce Development Council of the U.S. Conference of Mayors, and the Board of Thrive Chicago. She also spent 8 years as a mentor/sponsor for LINK Unlimited. Karin received recognition for her "Excellence in Public Service" by the Civic Federation of Chicago and Motorola Solutions Foundation.

A Chicago native, Karin holds a J.D. from Southern Methodist University School of Law in Dallas, Texas and a B.A. in Spanish Language and Literature from Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois. She is also the proud mother of a blended family of four children.



Terry Mazany
President and CEO,
The Chicago Community Trust
& Thrive Chicago Board Member

Terry Mazany is President and CEO of The Chicago Community Trust, one of the nation's leading community foundations that recently celebrated its 100th anniversary. With assets of more than \$2.5 billion, the Trust partners with donors to distribute over \$150 million annually. Terry was selected as the sixth executive in the Trust's hundred year history in 2004. In 2011, Terry also served as the interim chief executive officer of Chicago Public Schools.

Terry is also Chairman of the National Assessment Governing Board, and Principal Investigator for the CAPriCORN CDRN, network member of PCORnet. He was a member of the board of directors of the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago. In recognition of the 100th anniversary of the first community foundation, Terry and his colleague, David Perry, co-edited *Here for Good: Community Foundations and the Challenges of the 21st Century*.

Prior to his work in philanthropy, Terry enjoyed earlier careers in public education, archaeology, and dendrochronology; with degrees in Anthropology, Business, and Education. He has also been awarded Honorary Doctorate degrees from DePaul University and Lewis University.

Research Presentations



**Great Cities
Institute**



U^{CHICAGO}
URBANLABS

Science in Service
of Cities.

ChapinHall
at the University of Chicago



Education Systems Center

NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY



Out of Work and Out of School: Data for 16-24 Year Olds in Chicago

Thrive Opportunity Youth Summit

Great Cities Institute

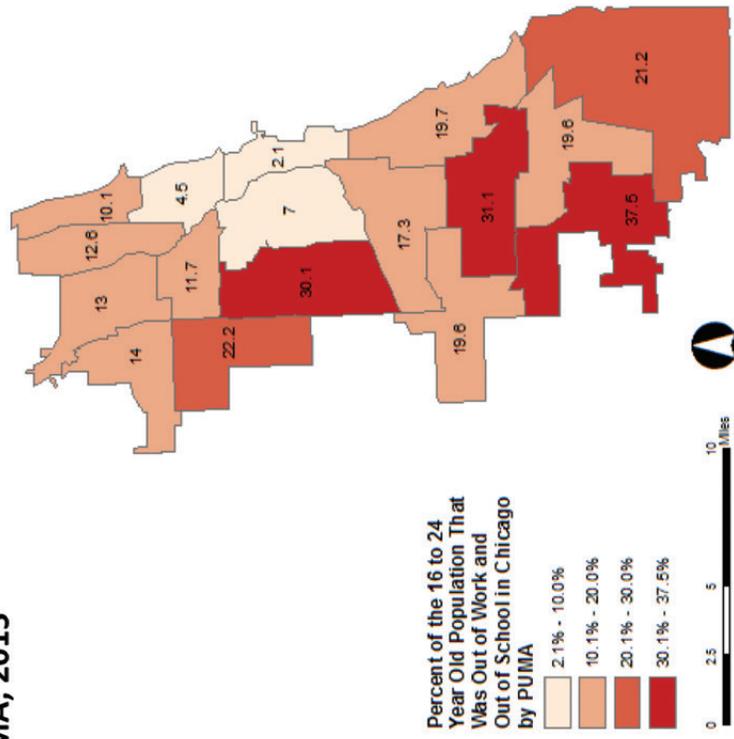
University of Illinois at Chicago

March 14, 2017

@UICGCI

16-24 Out of Work and Out of School

Percent of 16 to 24 Olds that were Out of Work and Out of School by PUMA, 2015



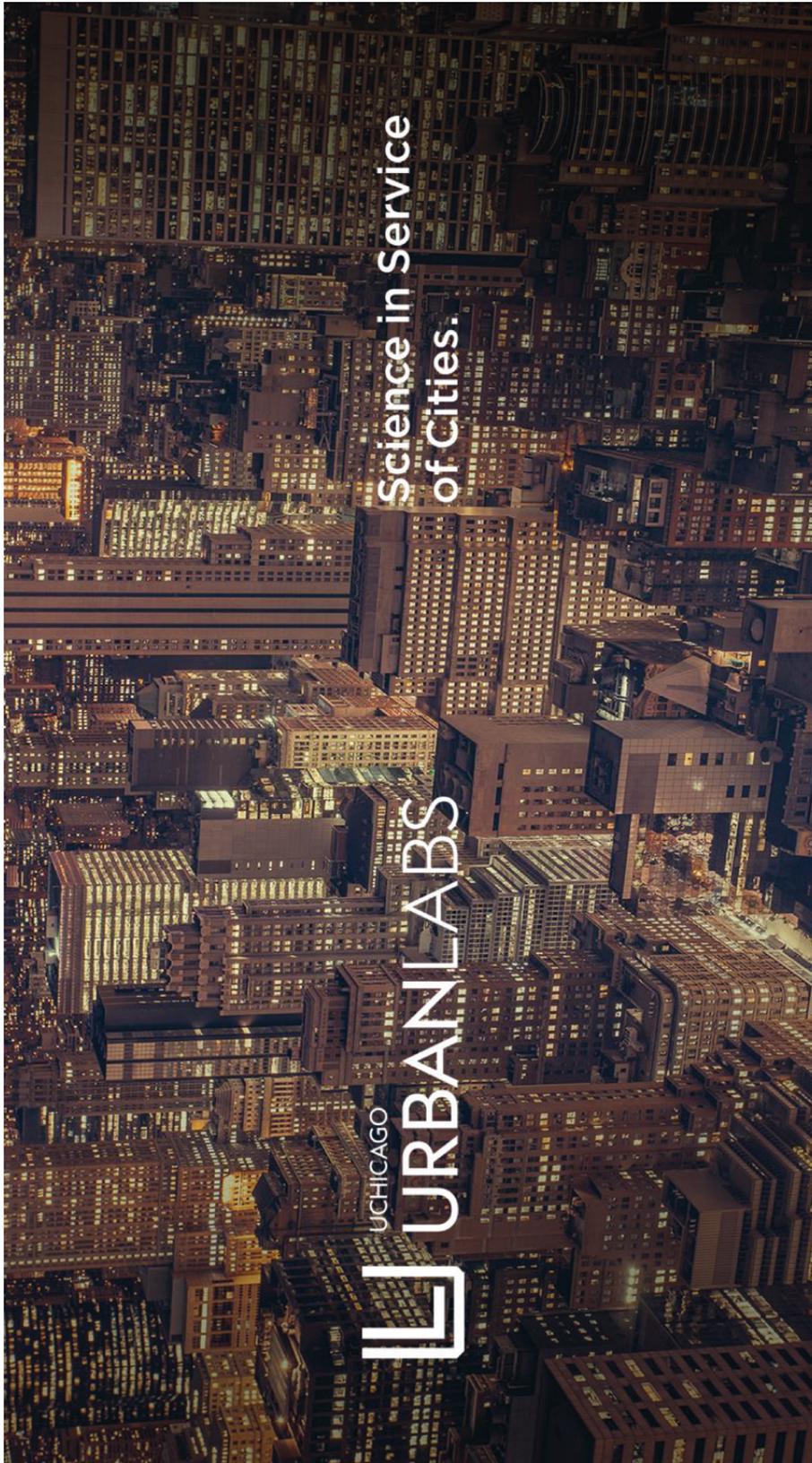
Data Source: 2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau.
Map created by Great Cities Institute, University of Illinois at Chicago.



16-24 Out of Work and Out of School

Number and Percent of Out of Work and Out of School 16 to 24 Year Olds by Chicago PUMA Areas, 2015		16 to 24	
PUMA Name	PUMA Number	Number	Percent
Chicago City (North)--Edgewater, Uptown & Rogers Park	03501	2,005	10.1%
Chicago City (North)--Lake View & Lincoln Park	03502	947	4.5%
Chicago City (North)--West Ridge, Lincoln Square & North Center	03503	1,549	12.6%
Chicago City (Northwest)--Irving Park, Albany Park, Forest Glen & North Park	03504	2,153	13.0%
Chicago City (Northwest)--Portage Park, Dunning & Jefferson Park	03520	1,485	14.0%
Chicago City (West)--Austin, Belmont Cragin & Montclare	03521	5,010	22.2%
Chicago City (Northwest)--Logan Square, Avondale & Hermosa	03522	1,756	11.7%
Chicago City (West)--North & South Lawndale, Humboldt Park, East & West Garfield Park	03523	9,373	30.1%
Chicago City (West)--West Town, Near West Side & Lower West Side	03524	1,805	7.0%
Chicago City (Central)--Near North Side, Loop & Near South Side	03525	380	2.1%
Chicago City (Southwest)--Brighton Park, New City, Bridgeport & McKinley Park	03526	3,594	17.3%
Chicago City (Southwest)--Gage Park, Garfield Ridge & West Lawn	03527	4,564	19.6%
Chicago City (South)--Chicago Lawn, Englewood/West Englewood & Greater Grand Crossing	03528	6,042	31.1%
Chicago City (South)--South Shore, Hyde Park, Woodlawn, Grand Boulevard & Douglas	03529	6,699	19.7%
Chicago City (South)--Ashburn, Washington Heights, Morgan Park & Beverly	03530	3,926	37.5%
Chicago City (South)--Auburn Gresham, Roseland, Chatham, Avalon Park & Burnside	03531	3,161	19.6%
Chicago City (South)--South Chicago, Pullman, West Pullman, East Side & South Deering	03532	4,116	21.2%
Chicago	N/A	58,565	17.0%

Data Source: 2015 American Community Survey, public use files. Tabulations by Great Cities Institute, University of Illinois at Chicago.

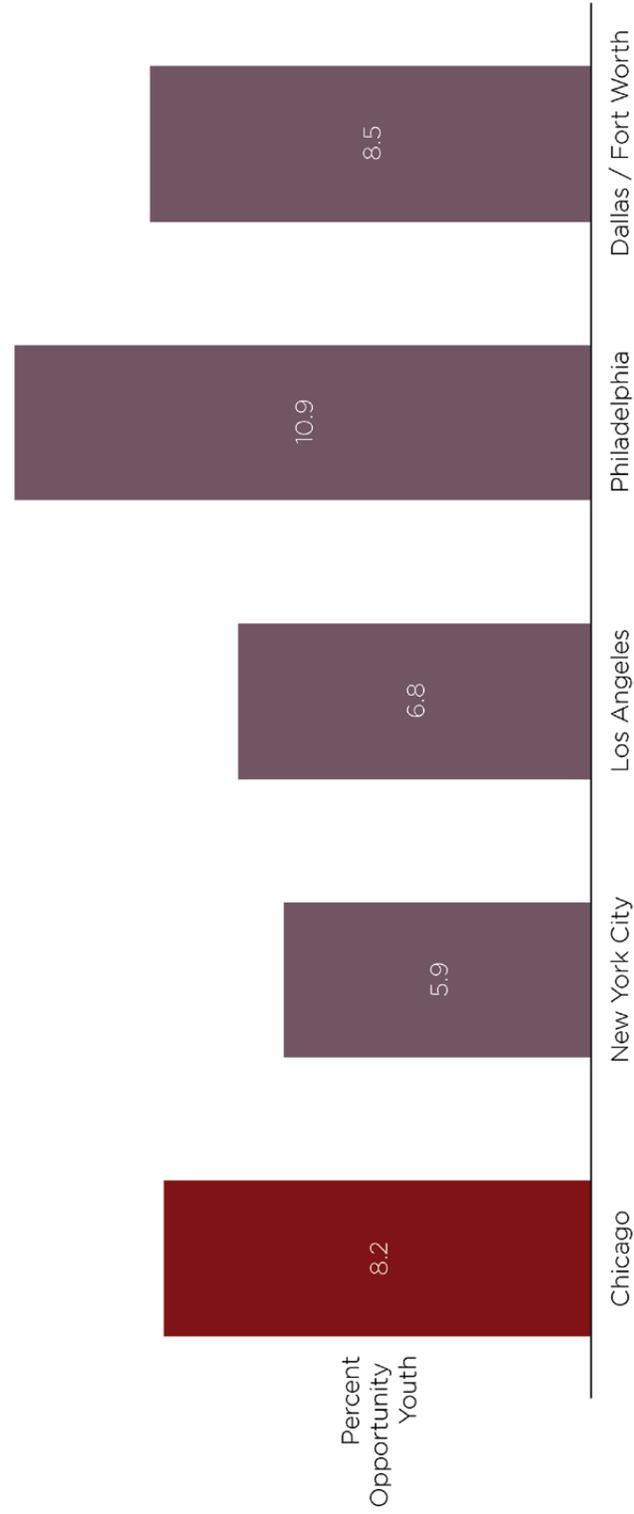


This presentation focuses on understanding the characteristics of more persistently disconnected youth

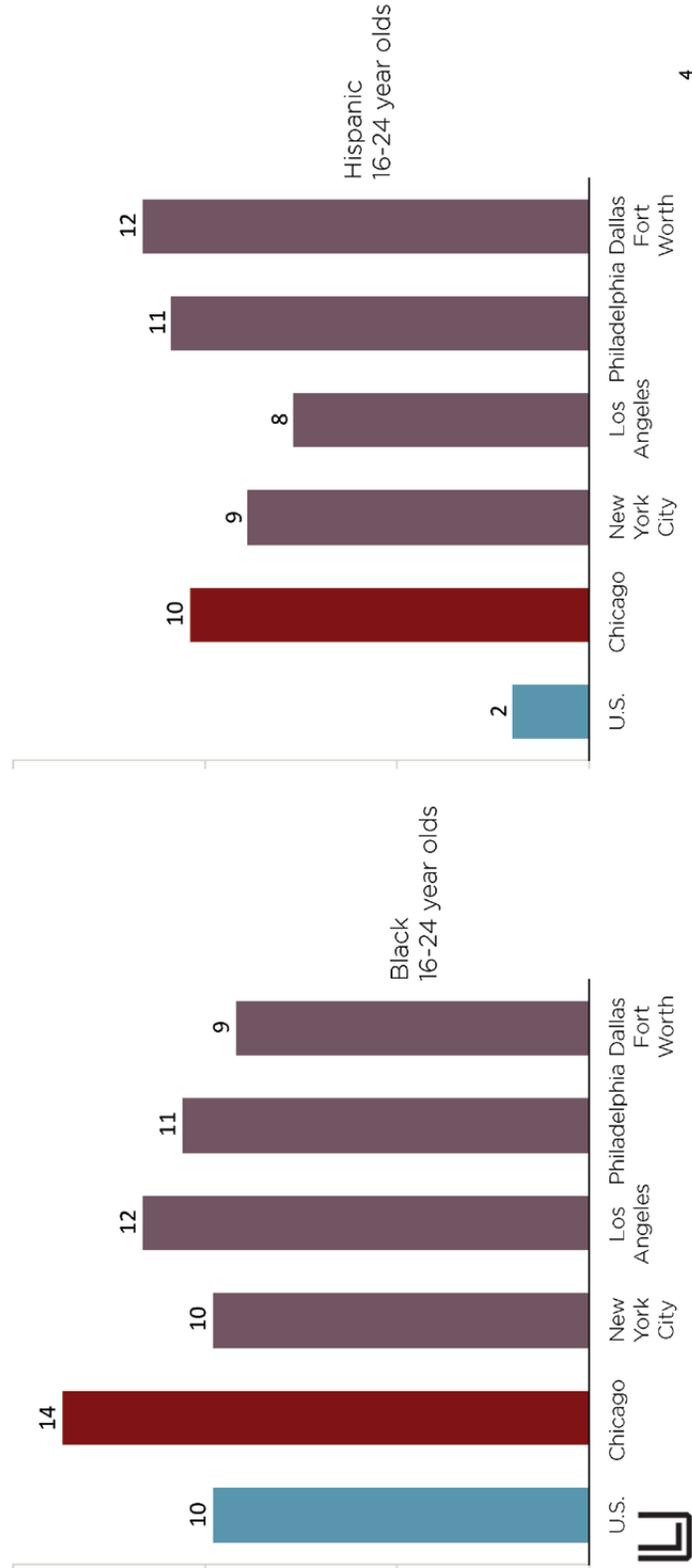
	UIC Great Cities Institute	Urban Labs, Congressional Research Service
Definition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 16-24 years old • Out of school and work currently 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 16-24 years old • Out of school and work for 12 months • Not married with children
Data Source	American Communities Survey	Current Population Survey



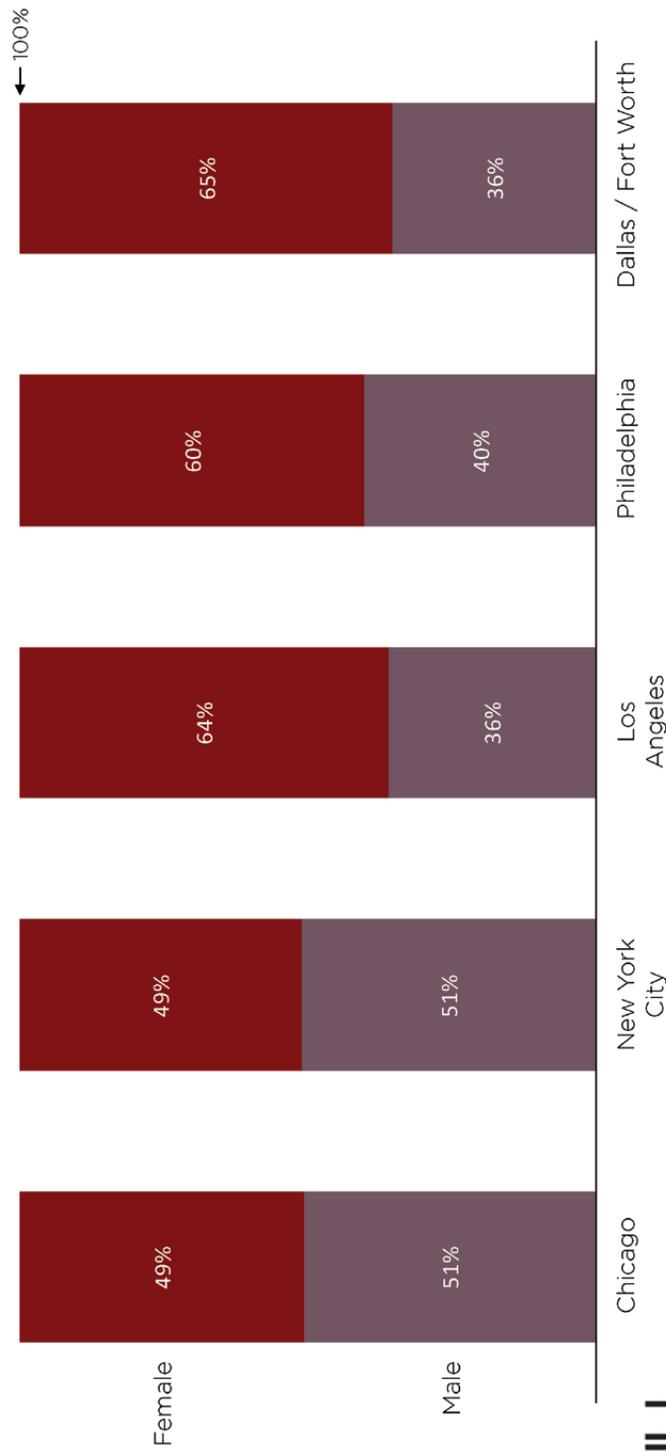
Rates of opportunity youth vary widely by city



Youth of color are more likely to be out of school and work in Chicago than in other cities



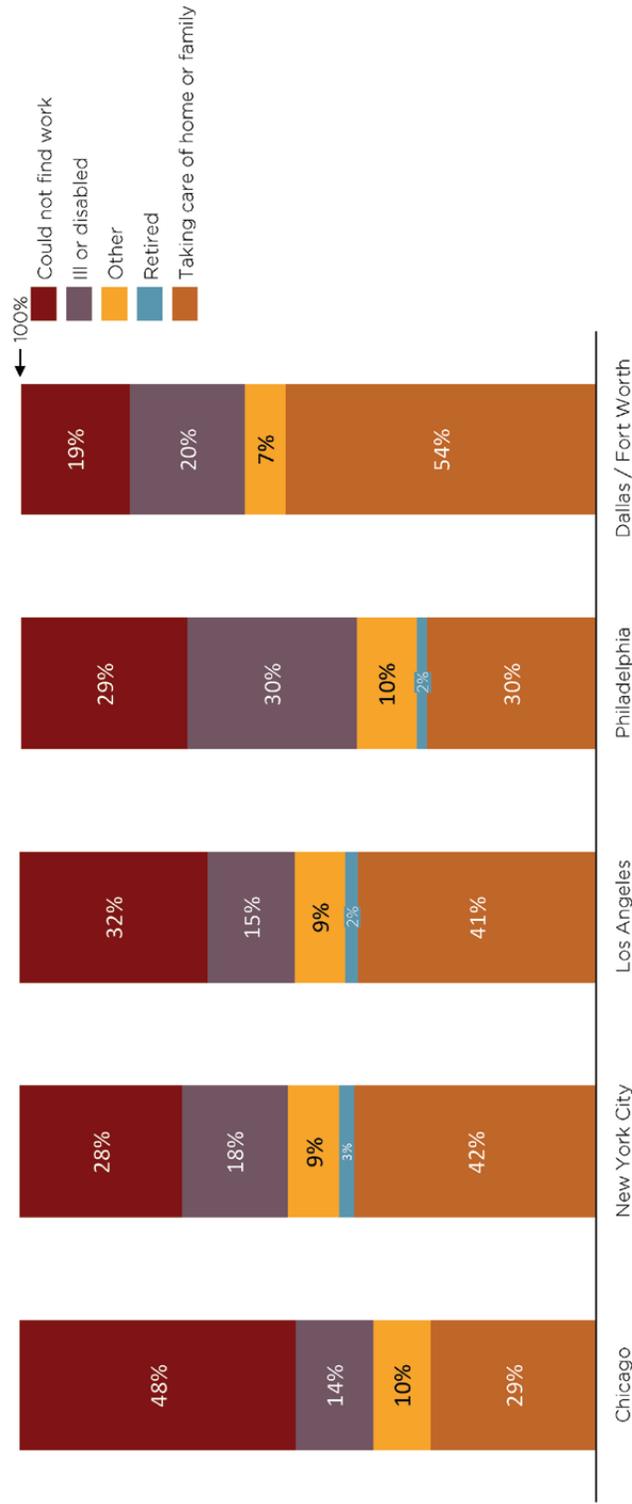
In Chicago, opportunity youth are equally likely to be male or female



Opportunity youth in Chicago are more likely to have a high school diploma than youth in peer cities



Nearly half of opportunity youth in Chicago report a lack of job opportunities as the reason for being out of work



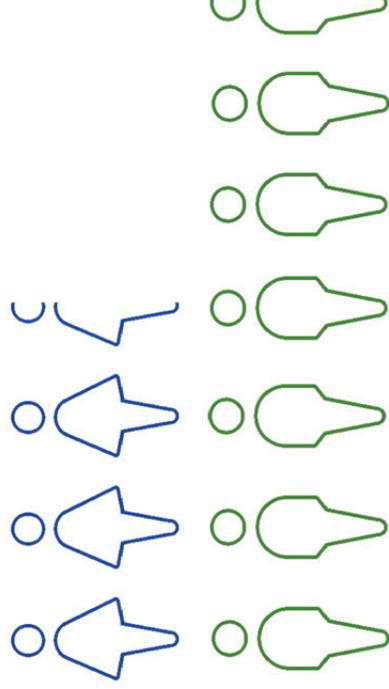
Opportunity Youth CBO Survey

3.14.17

ChapinHall at the University of Chicago
Policy research that benefits children, families, and their communities

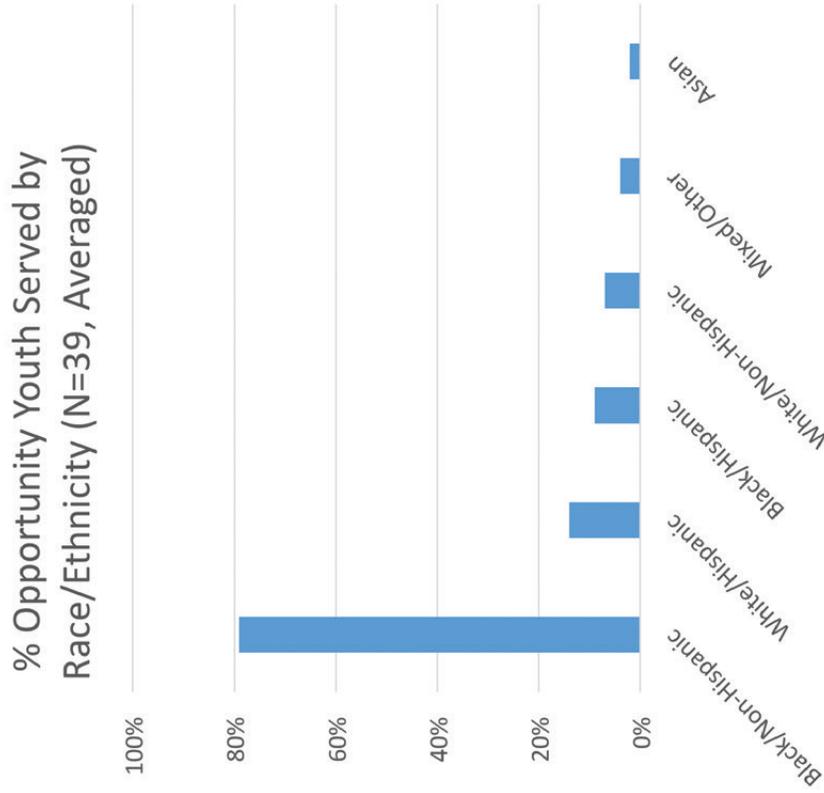
Demographics of Opportunity Youth Served

The average caseload of a CBO serving OY is majority male (64%)



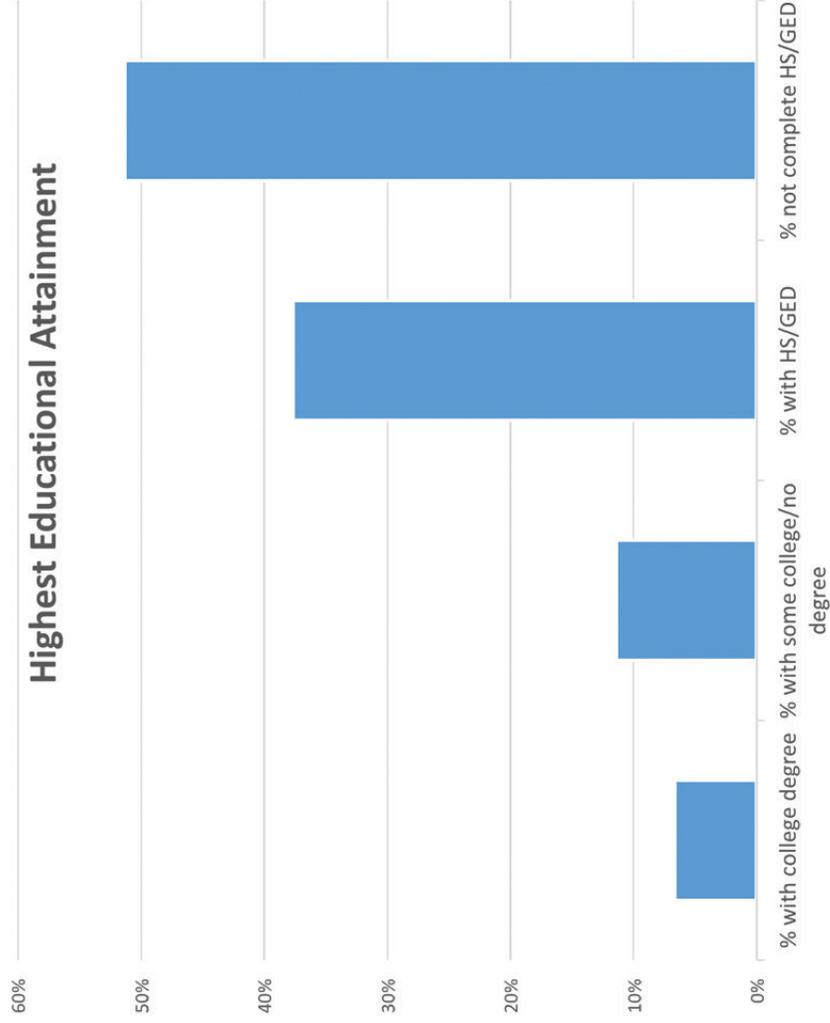
Demographics of Opportunity Youth Served

Organizations reported that the majority of OY served are:
 Black/Non-Hispanic (79%)
 White/Hispanic (14%)
 Black/Hispanic (10%)



Educational Attainment of OY Served

Organizations reported that the majority of OY participating in services **have not** completed high school or a GED (51%) or **have only completed high school/GED** (38%).



Top Barriers Facing Opportunity Youth

Respondents were asked to name the top 3 barriers for OY that impact their re-engagement in educational or workforce programming.

Housing Instability
Food Insecurity

Homelessness
Unemployment
Child Care
Substance Abuse
Care for Family

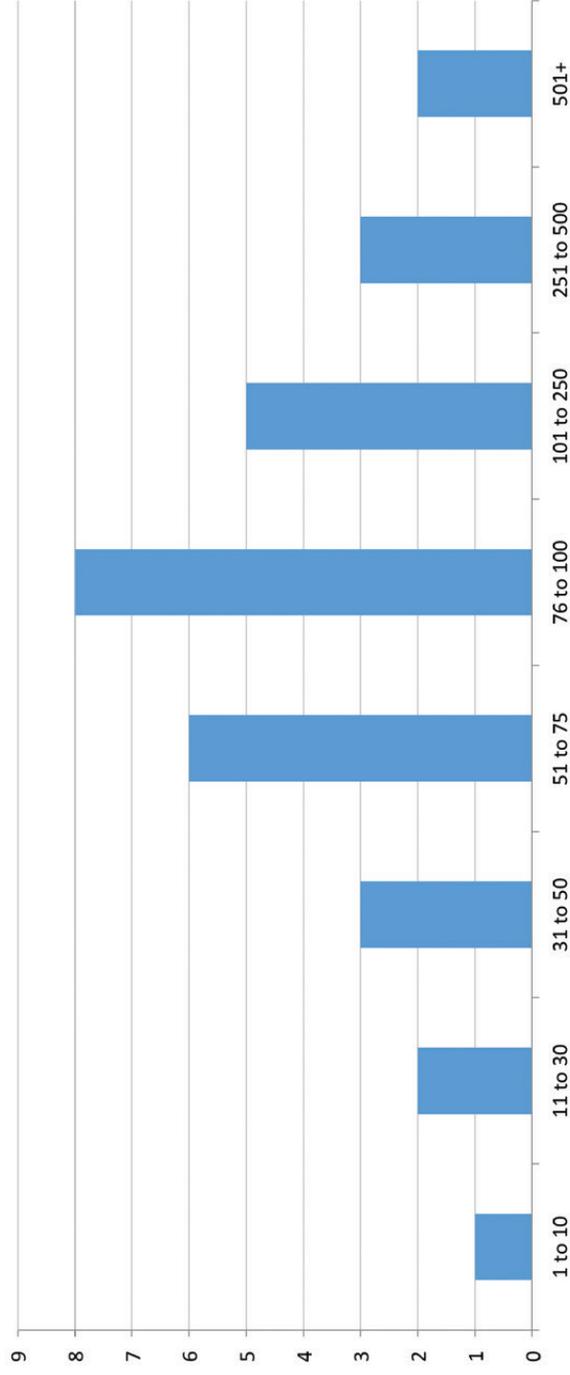
Justice Involvement
Mental Health

Transportation

Capacity

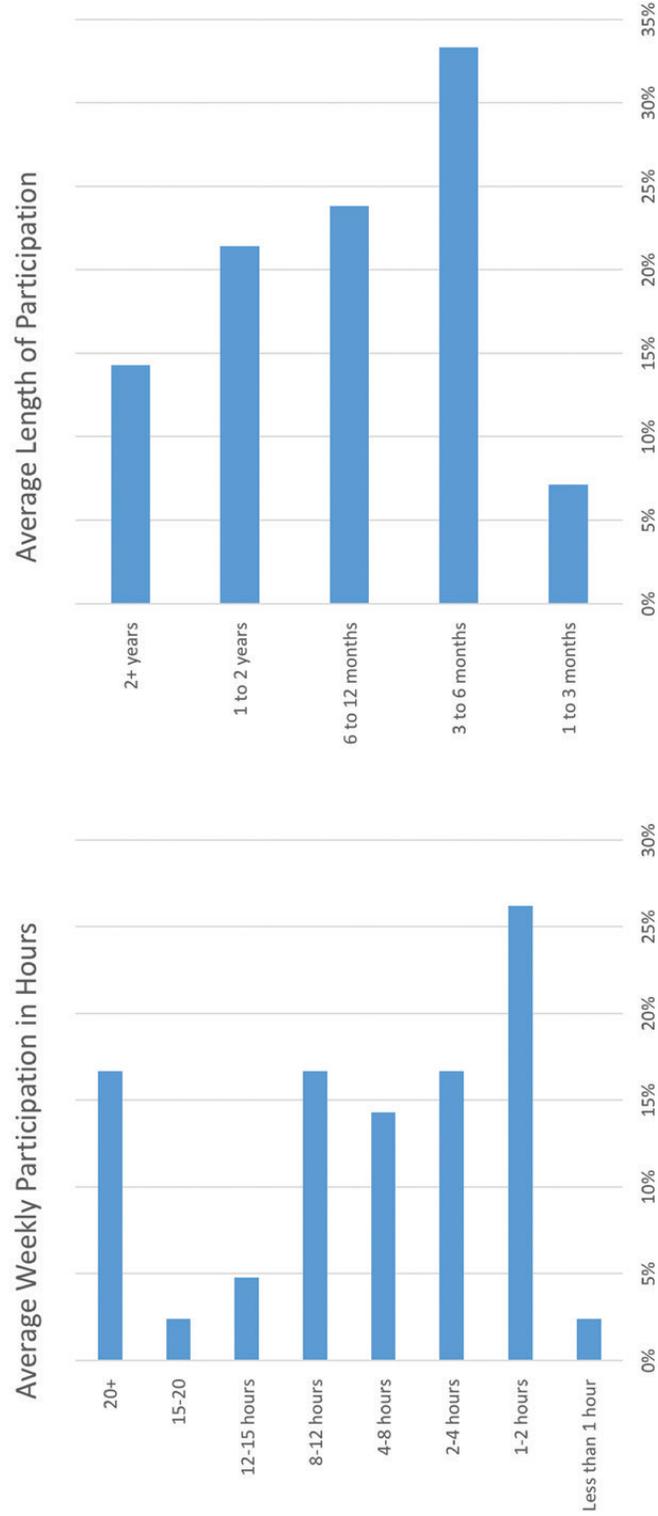
Of the 30 CBOs reporting on their capacity, the majority serve under 100 youth at any one time. Together, these 30 organizations serve approximately 4,200 youths at any given time.

CBOs by Number of Youth Served



Duration of Services per Week and Over Time

Most respondents indicated that on average OY spend 3-6 months participating in their services. Time spent participating per week varies widely across organizations.





Harnessing Data to Understand Barriers and Opportunities for Youth

Jonathan Furr
March 14, 2017

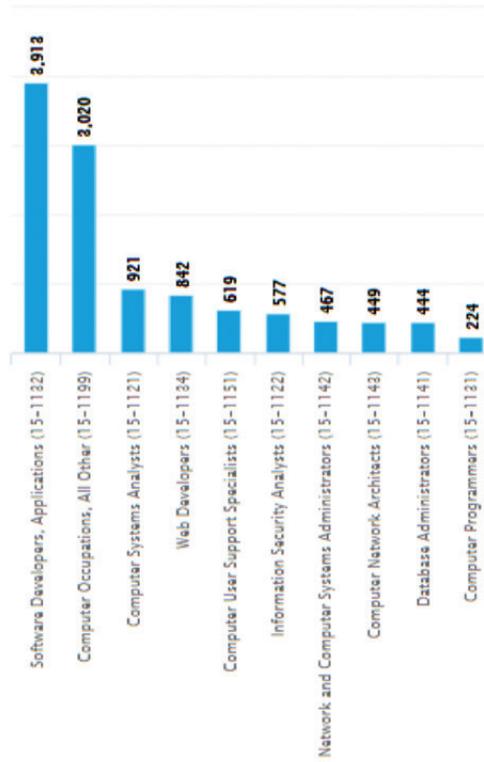
Opportunities in the Chicago Economy

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SECTOR

Occupations with the Most Job Openings – 2016 August – October

Source: Labor Insight Jobs (Burning Glass Technologies)

Export

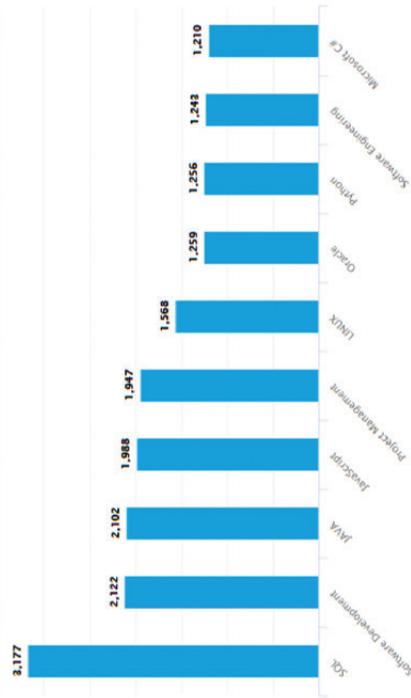


Obtaining the Right Skills

Top Specialized Skills in Demand by Online Job Listings - 2016 August - October

Source: Labor Insight Jobs (Burning Glass Technologies)

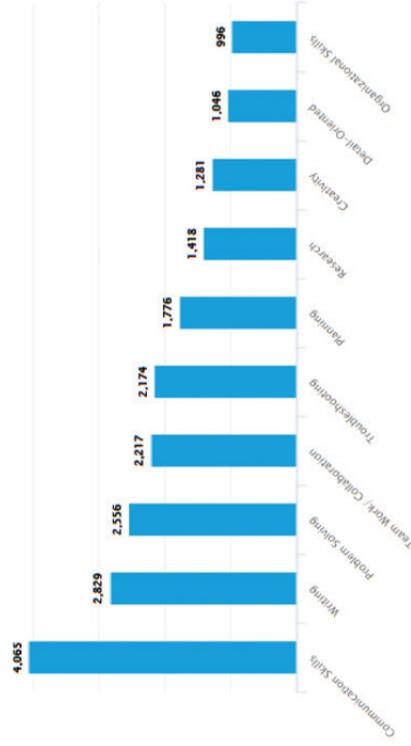
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Top Baseline Skills in Demand by Online Job Listings - 2016 August - October

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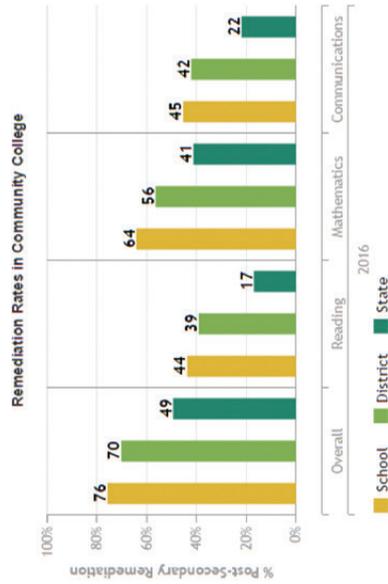
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INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SECTOR



Readiness for College-level Coursework



	Class of 2014		
	School	District	State
Graduates (N)	368	21,725	132,661
Attending Illinois Community Colleges (N)	128	5,548	42,256
Attending Illinois Community Colleges (%)	34.8%	25.5%	31.9%
Enrolled in Remedial Courses (N)	97	3,899	20,894
Enrolled in Remedial Courses (%)	75.8%	70.3%	49.4%

Access to High School Career Education Programs

Participants Concentrators

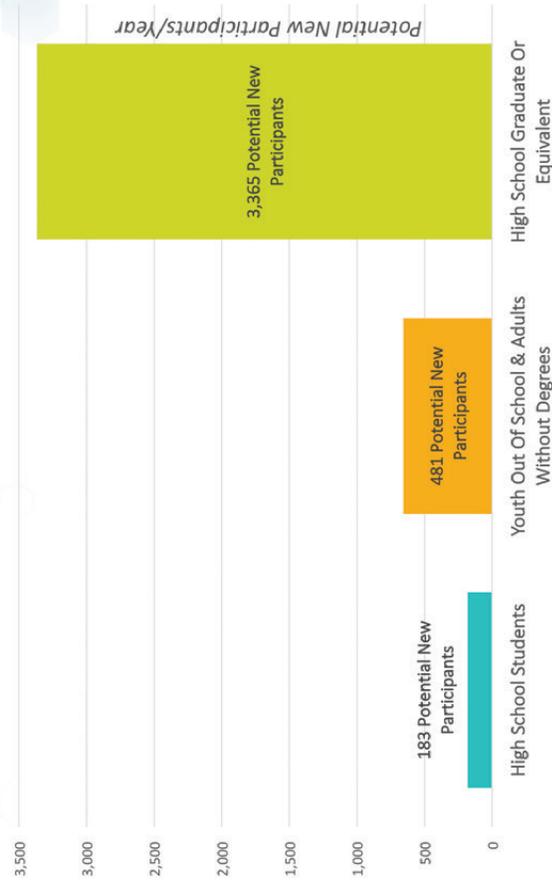
CTE Concentrators Across the Community

Source: Illinois State Board of Education



Education Systems Center
NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

Access to Postsecondary, Non-college Programs



Target Population

10,000 Reconnected Campaign





What:

The Chicago citywide goal is to reconnect 10,000 youth, ages 16-24, to school or work by 2020.

Why:

Chicago has approximately 60,000 “Opportunity Youth” (OY)—youth ages 16-24 who are disconnected from school and work. Every year that passes, more youth become disconnected and remain jobless as adults. Stopping the flow of generations of youth not connected to employment or education is imperative for Chicago’s economic health and public safety.

OY Working Group Recommendations

- 1 Build a data infrastructure to better understand the needs and trends of Opportunity Youth.
- 2 Launch community-based “Reconnection Hubs” for Opportunity Youth to better navigate existing resources from one centralized location.
- 3 Invest in unified referral structures and tools that create better handoffs between and across system providers.
- 4 Identify existing resources for under-served Opportunity Youth; expand funding for actual programmatic capacity where gaps exist.
- 5 Offer more opportunities to build skills towards a career, whether it is through job skills training or apprentices, that provide Opportunity Youth with a stipend or paid work.
- 6 Scale up investments in housing, childcare, transportation, substance abuse, and justice system barrier supports for Opportunity Youth.
- 7 Create better outreach tools, technologies and online resources to reach and engage the most disconnected youth.
- 8 Partner with employers to better understand the “demand” for local talent and then create the “supply” pipeline of qualified youth.
- 9 Invest in programming that incorporates a strengths-based, positive approach to working with youth that is trauma-informed and is knowledgeable about adolescent development.
- 10 Invest in programming that provides higher “dosage” rates and case management supports for Opportunity Youth.

The OY Working Group also captured employer and youth feedback on these recommendations. This feedback from employers and youth, coupled with the OY Working Group’s recommendations, form the basis of an “Opportunity Youth Pathway” that provides a holistic approach for reconnecting Opportunity Youth to education and employment opportunities.

CHALLENGE

Opportunity Youth cannot easily navigate the complex landscape of services.

Opportunity Youth need more options to be in school and working at the same time.

Opportunity Youth need more employers committed to hiring and supporting them.



SOLUTION

Support existing programs to help them become **reconnection hubs** that help Opportunity Youth navigate the system.

Support existing programs to scale **learn and earn** programs that provide Opportunity Youth an opportunity to develop marketable skills and receive compensation for their work.

Identify employers willing to partner with youth organizations to provide **employment opportunities**.





Today, more than 150 organizations and employers come together for an Opportunity Youth Summit to learn how each can play a part in the **10,000 Reconnected Campaign** to reconnect 10,000 Opportunity Youth to school or work by 2020.

No one organization or one employer can do this alone. That is where Thrive Chicago comes in. Thrive Chicago partners with hundreds of organizations in Chicago, large and small, and across sectors to:

- *Design shared solutions to pressing problems facing youth*
- *Drive citywide action towards common goals*
- *Promote the adoption of best practices*
- *Facilitate peer-to-peer learning across neighborhoods*
- *Collect, analyze and report data to track and accelerate upon progress*
- *Stimulate access and coordinate funding streams for shared solutions*

Specifically, Summit participants can sign up to join an Action Team led by Thrive Chicago that will focus on each of the three stages along this pathway.

Action Teams

RECONNECTION ACTION TEAM

The Reconnection Action team will work directly with service providers to recruit and implement the best practices around how to identify the most disconnected Opportunity Youth and connect them to the myriad of services they need to begin their return to school and/or work.

LEARN AND EARN ACTION TEAM

The Learn and Earn Action Team will work directly with organizations that run apprenticeship or paid internship programs for disconnected youth to help these organizations better identify and implement best practices for training Opportunity Youth and connecting them to paid work experience.

YOUTH EMPLOYMENT ACTION TEAM

The Youth Employment Action Team will work directly with both nonprofit organizations and employers to build better supports for Opportunity Youth to help ensure their long-term employment.

Each Action Team will enable participating organizations to learn from peers in the field as well as apply the best research available nationally and locally. In support of this work, Thrive Chicago will convene, facilitate and monitor the impact of these efforts, allowing the participating organizations and the city to continually improve their efforts with this population. In doing so, this work will not only offer the organizations serving youth critical supports they need but also offer Chicago a better understanding of the effectiveness of different program elements so we can quickly scale what is working citywide.

How can non-profits and community groups engage?

Sign up for an Action Team.

- *Co-design solutions with 'on the ground' expertise*
- *Receive funding to execute solutions and serve more youth*
- *Participate in regular meetings to drive implementation*
- *Receive support to monitor progress and access the latest research*
- *Share and adopt best practices with other CBOs, and help support scaling the solution citywide*

How can employers engage?

Sign up to be a Thrive Chicago Corporate Partner.

- *Gain access to a network of organizations to partner with to employ and support Opportunity Youth*
- *Learn how other employers are successfully hiring and retaining Opportunity Youth*
- *Be a visible part of a citywide campaign*
- *Learn from data on Opportunity Youth hired and retained*

How can philanthropy engage?

Fund the Opportunity Youth Pathway.

- *Inform the solution with CBOs*
- *Participate in regular meetings to drive the implementation*
- *Share data to monitor progress on implementation*
- *Help support scaling the solutions citywide*

Investments in Opportunity Youth





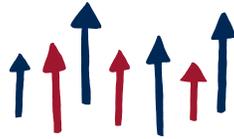
Aspen Forum Pathways to Careers Fund

To support the 100,000 Opportunities Demonstration Cities to effectively align employer demand and career pathways with the supply of trained Opportunity Youth, the Aspen Forum for Community Solutions designed the Pathways to Careers Fund as a mechanism for local, regional, and national philanthropy to maximize this unprecedented commitment by the private sector to create, accelerate and expand innovative career pathways for Opportunity Youth. In Chicago, the Pathways Fund Request for Proposals launched in January 2017 and funding decisions will be announced by May 2017. The Aspen Forum is excited by the potential of working with partners in Chicago to create many more opportunities for young people to connect to education and careers.



OYIF is a long-term systems change initiative launched by the Aspen Forum that represents a network at scale of community stakeholders and partners who have proven to be deeply committed to improving outcomes for opportunity youth.

The overall goal of the OYIF is to build out and/or deepen second chance pathways at scale for Opportunity Youth.



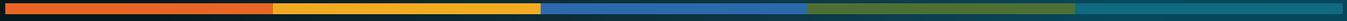
100,000 OPPORTUNITIES Initiative™

The 100,000 Opportunities Initiative is funded by the Aspen Forum and The Schultz Family Foundation. It aims to bridge the opportunity divide for the 5.5 million Americans, aged 16 – 24, who are out of school and not working. Launched in August 2015, the 100,000 Opportunities Initiative is the largest employer-led coalition focused on creating opportunities for employment, internships, and apprenticeships for Opportunity Youth. In the 100,000 Opportunities Demonstration Cities, partners are working together to develop a comprehensive system in their community to provide young people the resources and experiences they need to be successful, and, they're also developing connections to employers who are looking for talent. These partnerships between "supply and demand" will demonstrate new ways to connect Opportunity Youth to employment.

The Chicago 100,000 Opportunities Demonstration City work is funded by the Aspen Forum and Schultz Family Foundation and is led by Thrive Chicago and the Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership, with support from the Chicago Community Trust.



Opportunity Youth Data Infrastructure





Today, Thrive Chicago, in partnership with Urban Labs at the University of Chicago, is announcing a \$3.6 million investment by the Laura and John Arnold Foundation (LJAF) to build data infrastructure that will provide an accurate picture of these youth, including their needs, the barriers they face and the services available to them today. The data will enable evaluation of various programs and interventions, which will help determine which approaches are most effective at improving outcomes for Opportunity Youth.

“Policymakers and service providers need accurate, reliable and actionable data to inform their decisions,” LJAF Director of Public Accountability Erica Brown explained. “We are pleased to provide funding to help build the critical data infrastructure for this effort. New data systems will make it possible to learn more about these youth and will allow researchers to conduct high-quality, rigorous studies of programs intended to help young people succeed.”

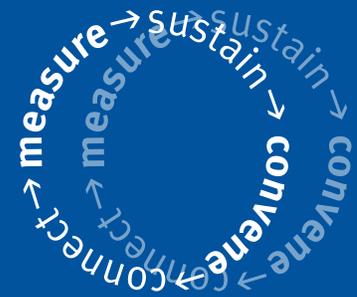


Opportunity Youth Tools & Resources



The Re-Engagement Center

BOSTON PRIVATE INDUSTRY COUNCIL



Helping every student through

The Re-Engagement Center (REC) re-enrolls students who have dropped out of school and those who remain enrolled, but no longer attend school regularly. Launched in 2009 as a joint initiative between the Boston Public Schools (BPS) and the Boston Private Industry Council (PIC), the REC has become a national model and has inspired cities around the country to start similar initiatives.

The REC provides the resources and counseling students need to get back on track to graduation. Without a high school diploma, the future can be dim. In fact, high school graduates earn an average of \$9,000 more per year and almost \$500,000 more over the course of their lifetimes than people who do not finish high school. Since the work to re-engage dropouts began, 2,547 young people have been re-enrolled in the BPS, and of those, over 650 have earned a diploma to date. Due to the sustained efforts of the BPS, the REC, and a broad coalition of community organizations, there were 1,124 fewer dropouts in Boston last year, a 58% decrease compared to 10 years ago.

The re-engagement process

- Staff reach out to dropouts via mail, phone, social media, networking, and door-knocking
- Once at the REC, each young person has a chance to tell his or her story, and to hear the story of a staff member who faced similar struggles
- REC staff review transcripts to give students a clear picture of the requirements they need to fulfill in order to graduate from high school
- Students and REC staff discuss educational options including BPS high school or alternative programs such as online credit recovery, night school, day and summer school classes, and staff offer their recommendations
- REC staff begin re-enrollment paperwork and advise students on next steps
- Once re-enrollment takes place, REC staff follow students to ensure that they receive guidance at every stage
- Together, students and staff focus on the finish line and help students to empower themselves to earn their diploma

REC address:

Madison Park Complex, Bldg 1
55 Malcolm X Blvd.
Roxbury, MA 02119



For more information, please contact:

Emmanuel Allen
Re-Engagement Center Manager
(617) 635-2273
emmanuel.allen@bostonpic.org



Career guidance // Job training // College preparation

Getting Youth Back on Track

The Connection Center, operated by nonprofit organization X-Cel Education, is a one-stop resource for Boston's Opportunity Youth (OY). Mayor Martin J. Walsh and the Boston Opportunity Youth Collaborative (OYC) launched the Connection Center in 2015 with the goal of engaging, assessing, and connecting OY with best-fit education and career programs. Modeled on the Re-Engagement Center, the Connection Center targets a slightly older population—18-24-year-olds with a high school credential who are unemployed or underemployed and not pursuing further education or training. The Connection Center matches young adults with Success Coaches, often former OY themselves. Success Coaches connect OY to college bridging and occupational training programs, as well as employment opportunities. Since its opening in 2015, the Connection Center has engaged more than 400 OY.

Who are Boston's Opportunity Youth?

In Boston, there are over 9,000 16-24-year-olds neither in school nor work at any given time. Of the 9,000 OY in Boston, 39% are Black and 34% are Latino, and nearly 7,000 have a high school credential. Disconnected high school graduates are the largest subgroup of OY in the city, yet there are far fewer programs targeted at them than targeted at high school dropouts. This is why the Boston OYC opened the Connection Center to serve 18-to-24-year-olds with a high school diploma or equivalent credential.

Boston Opportunity Youth Collaborative

The Boston Private Industry Council and the Boston Opportunity Agenda jointly convene the Boston OYC, a dynamic group of stakeholders working to improve systems and outcomes for OY in Boston. In April 2015, Boston was one of only seven communities across the country to receive a Social Innovation Fund (SIF) sub-grant through Jobs for the Future and the Aspen Forum for Community Solutions Opportunity Youth Incentive Fund. The funding is making it possible for the OYC to pursue career and education pathways for OY through the Connection Center.



Opportunity Youth Employment Toolkit

Best and promising practices to help opportunity youth gain employment

PROVIDING TRUE OPPORTUNITY FOR OPPORTUNITY YOUTH
Promising Practices and Principles for Helping Youth Facing Barriers to Employment

May 2015, Research Brief

Many "opportunity youth" — youth who are not working or in school — need a pathway to gain the work experience, skills, and connections that are necessary to enter the workforce. This research brief provides a framework for developing and implementing a program that can help opportunity youth gain the skills and connections they need to succeed in the workforce.

Heartland Alliance is proud to partner with our staff and community partners to provide these services to our opportunity youth. We are currently piloting a program in Chicago that provides opportunity youth with the skills and connections they need to succeed in the workforce. This research brief provides a framework for developing and implementing a program that can help opportunity youth gain the skills and connections they need to succeed in the workforce.

For more information, please contact us at www.heartlandalliance.org. We are currently piloting a program in Chicago that provides opportunity youth with the skills and connections they need to succeed in the workforce. This research brief provides a framework for developing and implementing a program that can help opportunity youth gain the skills and connections they need to succeed in the workforce.

HEARTLAND ALLIANCE
ENDING POVERTY

CASE STUDY: DAYBREAK

Daybreak is a program that provides opportunity youth with the skills and connections they need to succeed in the workforce. This research brief provides a framework for developing and implementing a program that can help opportunity youth gain the skills and connections they need to succeed in the workforce.

HEARTLAND ALLIANCE
ENDING POVERTY

CASE STUDY: LARKIN STREET

Larkin Street is a program that provides opportunity youth with the skills and connections they need to succeed in the workforce. This research brief provides a framework for developing and implementing a program that can help opportunity youth gain the skills and connections they need to succeed in the workforce.

HEARTLAND ALLIANCE
ENDING POVERTY

CASE STUDY: ROCA

ROCA is a program that provides opportunity youth with the skills and connections they need to succeed in the workforce. This research brief provides a framework for developing and implementing a program that can help opportunity youth gain the skills and connections they need to succeed in the workforce.

HEARTLAND ALLIANCE
ENDING POVERTY

See it all here: <https://www.heartlandalliance.org/nationalinitiatives/field-building/youth-employment-toolkit/>

HEARTLAND ALLIANCE
ENDING POVERTY



2017 Opportunity Youth Summit Attending Organizations

A Better Chicago
After School All Stars
After School Matters
Albany Park Community Center
Alternative Schools Network
America Works
Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago
Asian Human Services
Boston Consulting Group
Bottom Line
Boys & Girls Clubs of Chicago
BUILD
Center for Companies That Care
Chapin Hall at The University of Chicago
Chicago Beyond
Chicago Botanic Garden
Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership
Chicago Foundation for Women
Chicago History Museum
Chicago Housing Authority
Chicago Jobs Council
Chicago Pre-College Science and Engineering Program
Chicago Public Schools
Chicago Urban League
Chicago Youth Boxing Club
Chicago Youth Centers
Children's Home + Aid
City Colleges of Chicago
City of Chicago
Civic Consulting Alliance
College Advising Corps
Comcast Corporation
Crown Family Philanthropies
Daniel Murphy Scholarship Fund
Department of Family & Support Services
Education Systems at Northern Illinois University
Embarc Chicago
Emerson Collective
Employment & Employer Services
Empowerment through Education and Exposure
Enlace Chicago
Erie Neighborhood House
Food Hero
Gardeneers
Gary Comer Youth Center
Genesys Works
Get IN Chicago
Girls in the Game
Heartland Alliance
Hilton Worldwide
Hyde Park Neighborhood Club
Illinois Department of Children and Family Services
Illinois Institute of Technology
Illinois Justice Project
iMentor
Jewish Vocational Service Chicago
Jobs for the Future
KRA Corporation
Lawrence Hall
Leaders Up
Leave No Veteran Behind
Legal Assistance Foundation of Metropolitan Chicago
LINK Unlimited Scholars
LRNG
Marriott Foundation
MENTOR Illinois
Mercy Home for Boys & Girls
Metropolitan Family Services
Microsoft
Midtown Educational Foundation
Mikva Challenge
Mozilla Foundation

My Brother's Keeper Alliance
National Able Network
National Louis University
National Youth Advocate Program, Inc.
New Moms, Inc.
OAI, Inc.
Office of the Mayor
Office of U.S. Senator Dick Durbin
One Million Degrees
Partnership for College Completion
Phalanx Family Services
Polk Bros. Foundation
Potbelly Sandwich Shop
Pritzker Traubert Family Foundation
Project SYNCERE
Public Allies Chicago
Pyramid Career Institute
re:work training
Revolution Impact
Robert R. McCormick Foundation
Rush University Medical Center
Schools That Can
Serco Incorporation
SGA Youth & Family Services
Skills for Chicagoland's Future
Small Business Majority
Smart Chicago Collaborative
Spark
St. Joseph Services
St. Sabina
Starbucks Coffee Company
Symbol Training Institute
Teamwork Englewood
The Aspen Institute
The Barack Obama Foundation
The Boeing Company

The Cara Program
The Chicago Community Trust
The College Board
The Community Builders
The Joyce Foundation
The LYTE Collective
The Mayer & Moris Kaplan Family Foundation
The Osa Foundation
The Resurrection Project
Tutor Mentor Institute
UCAN
UChicago Arts + Public Life
UChicago Consortium on School Research
UChicago Impact
UChicago Urban Education Institute
UChicago Urban Labs
UIC Great Cities Institute
Umoja Student Development Corporation
United Way of Metropolitan Chicago
University of Chicago Collegiate Scholars Program
University of Chicago Office of Civic Engagement
UPS
Urban Alliance
Urban Initiatives
Westside Health Authority
William Blair & Company
Women with Drive Foundation
Working In The Schools (WITS)
World Business Chicago
Year Up
YMCA of Metro Chicago
Youth Advocate Programs, Inc.
Youth Connection Charter School
Youth Guidance
Youth Job Center
YWCA Metropolitan Chicago





★ ★ ★ ★ **JOIN THE
10,000 RECONNECTED CAMPAIGN**

TEXT 96000

Type **OYRECONNECT** if you want to take part
in the Reconnection Action Team

Type **OYLEARN** if you want to take part in the
Learn & Earn Action Team

Type **OYEMPLOY** if you want to take part in
the Youth Employment Action Team

thrivechicago www.thrivechi.org | Phone: 773.904.2989

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