



# COLLABORATION

WORKING TOGETHER MAKES US STRONGER

## Message from the Executive Director and Board President

As part of our annual strategic planning process, we set goals for Youth Outreach Services (YOS) and measure our progress throughout the year. Fiscal year 2013 was a time of tremendous growth for YOS, just as we planned.

**COLLABORATION** – with staff, corporations, partners, volunteers, donors, clients and the communities we serve – drives our progress. We thoughtfully seek out ways to leverage our team of supporters to expand the number of Chicago-area youth who benefit from YOS programs.

YOS was awarded \$1.2 million in federal funds over the next three years to enhance our adolescent substance abuse treatment and recovery programs. We also received funds to increase crisis intervention and temporary respite care for runaway and homeless youth, teen pregnancy prevention services, pre-trial detention alternative services and aftercare services for transitioning from the juvenile justice system.

This summer, YOS used a more than \$400 thousand award from the City of Chicago and the Chicago Community Trust to employ nearly 200 Chicago youth in the YOS Summer Youth Employment Program. Feedback from employers was overwhelmingly positive and furthers YOS' connection in our communities. As a result, the City of Chicago asked YOS to continue mentoring and life-skills training for all participants in preparation for next summer's program.

We continue to nourish relationships with area corporations that provide much needed funds and support our programs.

- AbelsonTaylor and Kelly Scott Madison collaborated to create and launch a wonderful pro bono foster parent recruitment campaign. Ads continue to appear all over Chicago in publications, taxicab toppers, billboards, websites and targeted radio spots. We've already doubled the number of inquiries from people interested in learning about becoming foster parents for teens.



- Call One sponsored a career exploration day for YOS clients to learn about how businesses work and participate in job skills development activities.
- Henricksen provided much needed new furniture and paint for our Melrose Park office.

We also launched our first large scale fundraising event in May, the Spring Soirée. It was a fun and informative evening that raised \$30 thousand, significantly more than our original goal.

While it's great to celebrate our successes, it's also important to remember the need for services is growing. That's why looking forward, our strategic plans calls for YOS to increase annual revenues by about 25% and double the number of youth we serve.

To make this happen, we need your continued support to help youth face down obstacles like poverty, gangs, gun violence, drugs, poor school performance, family crises and mental strife. By collaborating, we can help kids meet challenges on their way to becoming successful adults.

Sincerely,

Rick Velasquez  
Executive Director

Jesse Spungin  
Board President

### OUR VISION

A society that treasures the safety, well-being and self-worth of every child.

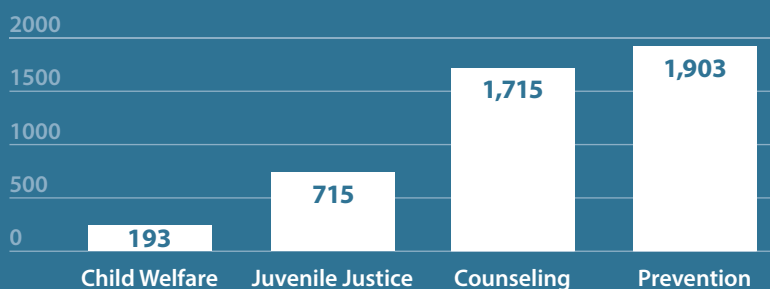
### OUR MISSION

Youth Outreach Services promotes the strengths and abilities of youth and families by providing community-based services that empower and enrich each to face life's challenges with confidence, competence and dignity.

### OUR VALUES

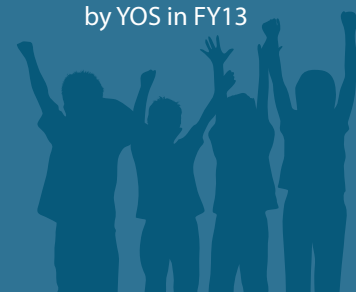
- Compassion
- Perseverance
- Impact
- Collaboration
- Diversity

## Children Served Per Program



**43%**

Increase in youth served by YOS in FY13





## Learning in Style with Community Support

AJ Styles Barber and Beauty Salon in Oak Park promises good service “where the style is all about you.” Two teenagers who worked at the salon through the YOS Summer Youth Employment Program discovered style isn’t just about how you look, it’s also about how you live your life.

Anthony Jones, a longtime resident, mentor and youth advocate in Chicago’s Austin community, owns AJ Styles. His personal mission is to help the young people of Austin understand the value of hard work through real life experiences.

“I believe that working at a young age shapes you and it is incredibly important to embrace real life early in the working field,” said Jones.

Jones made sure youth summer employees got lots of hands-on experience at AJ Styles.

Dezonya, a 15-year-old student from Chicago Bulls College Prep, says that thanks to her experience at AJ Styles, she is more confident about her future career as a cosmetologist.

“I liked that I learned a lot at AJ Styles and I was able to be hands-on with several clients,” said Dezonya. “I learned how to adapt and work with different types of people.”

Jones vision from day one for AJ Styles is that it is a place of comfort with an atmosphere that makes everyone feel like they are home. He also wants his business to be a place for young people looking for a positive outlet and a place to learn.

“Working this summer for Youth Outreach Services helped me stay out of trouble and kept me busy,” said Dezonya. “I am able to add this experience to my resume and I know it will impress future jobs.”

## Call One Selects YOS as their 2013 Charity of the Year

It was an honor for YOS to be selected as the Call One 2013 Charity of the Year. Throughout 2013, Call One’s Give Back Committee led fundraising and volunteer efforts in partnership with YOS.

YOS received proceeds from Call One’s annual Caddyshack Open where the company’s executive team dresses as characters from the movie. Call One also supported the YOS Spring Soirée with a Gold Sponsorship.

Call One hosted YOS youth for a career exploration workshop where they had the chance to see the inner-workings of the successful telecom organization. Youth participated in a variety of career-building lessons such as resume writing, interview preparation and workplace etiquette role play. Call One also hosted five youth workers as part of the YOS Summer Youth Employment Program.

“Philanthropy and giving back to the community plays such an important part of the Call One environment, and we are thrilled to be partnering with Youth Outreach Services as our 2013 charity of the year,” said Call One CEO, Craig Foster, who also sits on the YOS Board of Directors. “What they do every day for children in the Chicago area is absolutely inspiring and we are proud to partner with them as we continue our commitment to enriching the lives of Chicago’s youth.”



## Partnering with businesses to put teens to work

For nearly 200 youth, the summer of 2013 is one they’ll never forget because they were part of the YOS Summer Youth Employment Program. With a YOS mentor supporting them, the teenagers gained real work experience in professional workplaces around the Chicago area. The primary goals of the program were to keep youth safe and off the streets and promote economic growth in Chicago.

It was a valuable chance to learn how to get and maintain a job, financial literacy and the dedication it takes to earn a paycheck.

The program is the result of a partnership with the City of Chicago, the Searle Funds at the Chicago Community Trust, the Public Safety Action Committee, the McCormick Foundation and many businesses.

# Collaboration BY THE NUMBERS

## Counseling

### MAKING LASTING CHANGES ONE GOAL AT A TIME

YOS' Counseling program provided services to more than 1,715 youth in FY13. Clients face a variety of challenges ranging from substance abuse, low self-esteem, gang involvement, poor school performance, delinquency and family conflict. Youth are referred to YOS by schools, police, families and other authorities. It's not uncommon for clients to initially resist participation in counseling services, until they start to see results.

**Specific services include:** Substance Abuse Intervention, Counseling and 24/7 Crisis Intervention.

### TARIQUE'S STORY

When YOS counselors first met Tarique, he kept conversations with staff and other clients to a minimum, only speaking with others when addressed. Tarique lacked motivation to do school work or find a job. Relationships with family members were strained.



A key part of counseling is helping clients set and achieve personal goals. It only took two months of counseling for Tarique to open up to his counselors and other clients in his group. He started attending YOS social events and took on a leadership role in the Men's Group. Alcohol and substance abuse is no longer a part of his life. Tarique also worked on increasing his personal motivations by creating a resume, practicing job interviews and actively applying for positions.

When his mother died, rather than turn to old behaviors, Tarique continued to make positive changes. He completed grief counseling and worked hard to make the honor roll. Now that he's on track to finish high school, Tarique has his sights set on finding a job and going to college.

For making significant and lasting changes in his life, Tarique received the Outstanding Youth Award at the YOS Annual Meeting in June.

## Child Welfare

### FOSTER PARENT RECRUITMENT CAMPAIGN

In June 2013, YOS launched a foster parent recruitment campaign with considerable pro bono assistance from AblesonTaylor and Kelly Scott Madison. The purpose of the campaign is to increase the number of homes for foster youth managed by YOS. We have seen more interest from potential foster parents, higher website traffic and increased name recognition for the agency. AblesonTaylor and Kelly Scott Madison are committed to continuing the campaign and finding new advertising opportunities for YOS.

**Specific services include:** Traditional and Specialized Foster Care, Intact Family Services, Extended Family Support, Transitional Living Programs, Independent Living Programs and Runaway & Homeless Youth Services.

22 Billboards

25 Taxi toppers

850 Radio ads

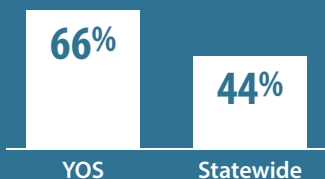
1.9M Newspaper ad impressions

3.5M Online ad impressions



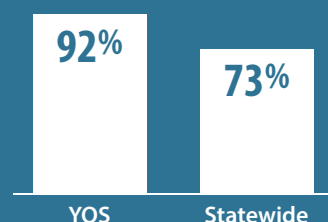
YOS believes that substance abuse is best treated with a high level of engagement.

Percentage of youth who received at least 4 sessions in the first 30 days:



YOS supports the involvement of families as part of the substance abuse treatment process.

Percentage of youth in substance abuse services who interacted with family and/or friends in support of his or her recovery:



## Juvenile Justice

### ASSESSING THE FUTURE

For teens that have been in the juvenile justice system, finding work can be difficult. But, holding a job is an important step in staying out of trouble and finding the right path to follow to become a productive adult.

That's why YOS collaborates with One Summer Chicago. Teens with a history in the juvenile justice system get a chance to prove they have what it takes to work in professional settings.

As part of the YOS Summer Employment Program, 23 teens from the One Summer Chicago Plus program gained valuable job skills at the Cook County Assessor's Office in 2013.

Youth employees took on a variety of tasks including clerical duties, communicating with taxpayers and guiding patrons through the downtown office. Participants received ongoing support from mentors who emphasized the importance of career development and self-growth in daily Social Emotional Learning classes.

"I told the young people I mentored that they were actually getting paid to learn and that is an amazing opportunity in itself," said Chris Singletary, a YOS mentor. "Students were happy to be a part of this process and thrilled to earn their own money."

Donna Dunningan, financial research analyst at the Cook County Assessor's Office, also played a key role with the summer employees.

"This experience gave the young people the ability to learn about a work environment, which they welcomed and took pride in," said Dunningan. "I saw my future in their faces, eyes, smiles and expressions. I saw hope for today's youth and their future."

**76%** of employers said they enjoyed supervising the youth employee(s)

**47%** of employers said the youth employee(s) performed as well or better than expected

**46%** of employers said they would hire the same youth intern(s) if they had a job opening

**44%** of youth out-performed compared to other employees in this position

**Specific services include:** Pre-Trial Services, Detention Alternatives, Diversion Services and Juvenile Reentry Services.



Summer youth employees with Cook County Assessor Joseph Berrios.

## Prevention

In FY13, YOS launched a teen pregnancy prevention program in Proviso townships. The goal of the program is to empower youth to make positive choices that prevent pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections (STIs). Collaborating with local schools, YOS provided youth with the opportunity to participate in a personal responsibility leadership group and to publish a teen health magazine.

**80%** of youth said YOS programming increased their understanding of how to safely and confidently use condom negotiation skills

**69%** said YOS programming changed their attitude/beliefs about condom use

**60%** said YOS programming was relevant to situations they actually experienced

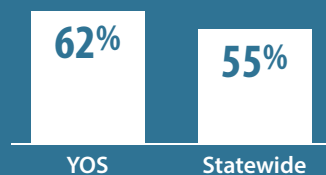
“After hearing about all the STIs and learning more about HIV and some of the advantages and disadvantages of birth control. I decided to stop having sex for a while and focus on my future. I don't want to get pregnant or deal with having an STI, that would wreck my family and me.”

-Youth Participant

**Specific services include:** Alcohol/Drug Abuse Prevention, After-School & Summer Programs, CeaseFire and Teen Pregnancy Prevention.

Completing treatment services sets youth on the path to success, helping them avoid abusing substances in the future.

Percentage of youth who successfully completed treatment services:



Source: Illinois Department of Human Services, Division of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse



# FY13 Donors

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

### \$50,000 +

The Chicago Community Trust

### \$10,000+

GE Capital

Framework Communications

Michael Reese Health Trust

### \$5,000+

Craig Foster

Galmont Consulting, LLC

Henricksen & Company, Inc.

### \$2,500+

ConAgra Foods Foundation

IBM

Latham & Watkins LLP

McMaster-Carr Supply

Company

Michelle Menconi

Price Consulting, Inc.

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

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### \$1,000+

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AbelsonTaylor

Adler Planetarium & Astronomy

Al Johnson's Swedish

Restaurant

Amalgamated Transit Union

Local 308

Wade Anderson

Andy's Frozen Custard

Athenaeum Theatre

Brunswick Zone - Niles

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Call One Give Back Committee

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Chicago Athletic Club

Chicago Dance

Chicago Fire Foundation

Chicago Magazine

Chicago Symphony Orchestra

Chicago Wolves

Frederick Christiano

Linda Christiano

Corboy & Demetrio

CorePower Yoga

Court Theatre

Dana Products Inc.

DataXu

Dog-A-Holics

Bernie Donaldson

Andrea Donatucci



# FY13 Financials

## Operating Revenue

Contracts and Grants	\$8,291,584
Noncontract Revenue	\$17,739
United Way	\$2,187
Contributions and Donations	\$299,305
Other	\$111,940
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$8,722,755</b>

## Operating Expenses

<b>Total Direct Program Expenses</b>	<b>\$7,085,882</b>
Child Welfare	\$2,107,851
Counseling	\$2,940,800
Juvenile Justice	\$1,010,444
Prevention	\$743,416
Other	\$283,371
<b>Total Indirect Expenses</b>	<b>\$1,483,267</b>
Administrative and General	\$1,329,993
Fundraising	\$153,274
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$8,569,149</b>
<b>Total Program Reserves</b>	<b>\$153,606</b>

## FY13 Operating Expenses

Child Welfare	\$2,107,851
Counseling	\$2,940,800
Juvenile Justice	\$1,010,444
Prevention	\$731,346
Other	\$283,371
Administrative and General	\$1,329,993
Fundraising	\$153,274
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$8,569,149</b>

The complete FY13 financial audit will be posted to the YOS website, [www.yos.org](http://www.yos.org), in the new year.

## In FY13, Youth Outreach Services was supported by funding provided by:

- City of Chicago
- Cook County Juvenile Court
- Illinois Department of Children and Family Services
- Illinois Department of Human Services, Division of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse
- Illinois Department of Human Services, Division of Family & Community Services
- Illinois State Board of Education
- Leyden Township
- Proviso Township Mental Health Commission
- United States Department of Health and Human Services
- University of Illinois at Chicago
- West Suburban United Way
- Youth Network Council



Committed to caring. Inspiring change.

2411 W. Congress Pkwy.  
Chicago, IL 60612



*YOS Director of Prevention Services Sandra Harrison explains a powerful display at the Spring Soirée that shows how Chicago's youth are disproportionately affected by violent crime. Each ball represents one person who was murdered in Chicago in 2012. The orange balls represent murder victims who were 24 and younger.*



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