



Resource Packet

Focused on Trans and Gender Non Conforming Black and Brown Chicago Youth

This Resource Packet has been curated by the Youth Empowerment Performance Project (YEPP), an organization dedicated to support Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer and Intersex (LGBTQI+) youth experiencing homelessness. We update this packet on a monthly basis to make sure the resources listed are as accurate and updated as possible. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to email YEPP's Resource and Healing Advocate Howard Ruan at Howard@WeSayYEPP.com.

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Resource Advocates & Case Managers

The following list of resource advocates and/or case managers can provide support with applying, navigating and/or activating different kinds of resources such as: housing, education, rental assistance, obtaining vital records, employment, legal support, health services, etc.

1. **Broadway Youth Center (BYC)**

Julio Flores, Resource Advocate Manager

Phone: 773-388-1600 x7920

Email: juliof@howardbrown.org

Contact if you need housing referrals and general resource navigation.

2. **The Night Ministry (TNM)**

Candace Musick, Youth Development Specialist

Phone: 773-506-3611

Email: candace@thenightministry.org

Contact if you need referrals for governmental, legal, and vital record needs.

3. **Center on Halsted (CoH)**

Alton Dueks, Youth Program Case Manager

Phone: 773.472.6469 x459

Email: adueks@centeronhalsted.org

Contact if you need general resource advocacy.

Housing Resources

Emergency Resources

1. **City of Chicago Homelessness Prevention Call Center**

Services: Call 311 or 312-744-5000 and ask for Short-Term Help. Hours are Monday through Thursday 8:30am-4:30pm. Staff will assess eligibility for financial assistance and other community resources.

2. **StreetLight Chicago**

Website: <https://www.streetlightchicago.org/>

StreetLight Chicago provides information on shelters, health clinics, emergency beds, mental health services, and more. The website is made for young adults in Chicago between the ages of 16 and 24 living with unstable housing. Book a bed at a shelter either through the website or the app.

3. **La Casa Norte / Casa Corazon**

Contact: 773-276-4900, info@lacasanorte.org; Deja Davis 773-276-4900 x221 or deja@lacasanorte.org

Services: Emergency shelter for youth ages 18-24, all genders. Beds (out by 8am). Includes case management, laundry, showers, food, bus cards. Please call beforehand to check for their hours and bed availability.

4. **The Crib (The Night Ministry)**

Location: 1735 N Ashland Ave

Contact: 773-549-4158 (8pm-10am); Streetlight App; 773-506-3122 (Youth Outreach Team)

Services: Emergency shelter for 21 youth ages 18-24, all genders. Includes food, supplies, shower, and laundry. Lottery drawing 8:30pm. If a youth books a bed on Streetlight, they are allowed in at 7pm. Please call beforehand to check for their hours and bed availability.

5. **A Safe Haven**

Location: 2750 W Roosevelt Rd

Contact: 773-435-8440

Services: Emergency shelter for 25 youth ages 18-24, all genders. Includes food, showers. Please call beforehand to check for their hours and bed availability.

6. **Ujima Village**

Contact: 312-455-0007 or admin@unityparenting.org

Services: Emergency shelter for 24 youth ages 18-24, all genders. Includes food, showers, CTA passes. Please call beforehand to check for their hours and bed availability.

Domestic Violence Focused Resources

1. City of Chicago Domestic Violence Helpline

Hotline: 877-863-6338, TTY: 877-863-6339

2. Apna Ghar

Website: <http://www.apnaghar.org/>

Crisis Line: 773-334-4663 or 800-717-0757, Text Hotline: 773-899-1041

Email: help@apnaghar.org

3. WINGS Program

Website: <https://wingsprogram.com/safe-housing/>

Hotline: 847-221-5680

Services: Temporary shelter, safety planning, food, clothing, counseling, legal advocacy, assistance with securing orders of protection.

4. Connections for Abused Women and their Children

Website: <https://www.cawc.org/greenhouse/>

Hotline: 773-278-4566

Services: Counseling services, safe refuge, safety planning, court advocacy, individual/group counseling, life skills, referrals.

5. Family Rescue

Website: <https://familyrescueinc.org/programs-services/rosenthal-family-lodge-program/>

Hotline: 773-375-8400 or 800-360-6619, TTD: 773-375-8774

Services: Crisis intervention, supportive counseling, legal and social service advocacy, life skills education, non-emergency medical assistance, substance use counseling and support, children's programs, referrals

Rental & Utilities Assistance

1. Heartland Alliance

Contact: Jeffrey Klesner, jklesner@heartlandalliance.org; Cyndie Penrose, cpenrose@heartlandalliance.org

Website: <https://www.heartlandalliance.org/program/homeless-prevention/>

Services: Rental assistance. Some basic requirements include proof of hardship and employment-related documentation. Please contact the Homeless Prevention team above for more information and next steps.

2. Spanish Coalition for Housing

Website: <http://sc4housing.org/emergencyassistance/>

Services: Rental assistance. Some basic requirements include proof of hardship, letter from an employer, ID, and a lease agreement. Please fill out the form linked above and a team member from the organization will contact you.

3. Broadway Youth Center (BYC)

Contact: Julio Flores, juliof@howardbrown.org

Services: BYC supports clients ages 12-24 and supports TGNC clients up to 29.

Assistance takes about 10 days to process, but this also depends on how quickly you are able to secure and send required paperwork.

4. AIDS Foundation of Chicago

Contact: HIV Resource Hub at 1-844-HUB-4040 (1-844-482-4040)

Website: <https://www.aidschicago.org/page/our-work/care-services/hiv-resource-hub>

Services: Emergency financial assistance (rent and utilities) for people living with HIV or who are HIV-negative and are taking PrEP. They also support with medications, case management, medical care, food, mental health, substance use treatment, phone and internet payments, food assistance, and more.

Food Resources

1. SNAP Benefits / Link Card

Website: <https://abe.illinois.gov/abe/access/>

Apply for your SNAP benefits / Link card here. SNAP has eligibility requirements and a waiting period for processing your application, so utilize whatever resources you can find to secure food while you wait to hear back.

2. Greater Chicago Food Depository

Website: <https://www.chicagosfoodbank.org/find-food/>

The Greater Chicago Food Depository lets you search for food pantries within specific areas. Contact the pantry before traveling there. Confirm their hours and ask if there are any requirements such as proof of residency in a zip code.

3. The Night Ministry Health Outreach Bus & Youth Outreach Van

Website: <https://www.thenightministry.org>

Contact: 773-784-9000 x7004, 773-506-1322 (Youth Outreach Team)

Youth Outreach Van: Belmont & Halsted Thursdays 8:30pm-10pm, for youth 18-24.

Health Outreach Bus: See their website for their daily scheduled stops.

4. Broadway Youth Center Food Assistance Program

Website: <https://howardbrown.org/service/broadway-youth-center/>

Contact: Cash Mason at CashM@howardbrown.org, Carter Cavazos at CarterC@howardbrown.org

Reach out to BYC contacts, express need for food, and complete the required paperwork. BYC can support **once a month**.

5. Lakeview Pantry

Website: <https://www.lakeviewpantry.org/get-food/register/>

Contact: 773-525-1777

Lakeview Pantry distributes food 6 days a week. You must register as a new client on the website above. You will need to sign an official form saying you meet the government guidelines for income for receiving aid, but Lakeview Pantry does not require proof of income. (Lakeview Pantry also offers [Case Management](#) and [Mental Wellness](#) support.)

Tech & Communication Resources

Phone Resources

1. Lifeline (Federal Program)

Website: <https://www.lifelinesupport.org/how-to-get-lifeline/>

Details: Lifeline lowers the monthly cost of phone and internet by \$9.25. **Lifeline can only be used for either phone or internet, but not both.** You must meet certain eligibility requirements. You must find a provider that offers Lifeline. Find applications and more in the link above. **Please note that many resource advocates and case managers can support you in applying for Lifeline.**

2. Broadway Youth Center (BYC)

Phone: 773-388-1600 x7920

Email: juliof@howardbrown.org

Details: BYC sometimes has phones with **three months of free service** available. After the three months, you will be responsible for the bill. If you are looking for a quick and easy way to access a phone for a short period of time, please reach out to Julio Flores (contact info above) to start the process.

Internet Resources

1. National Digital Inclusion Alliance

Website: <https://www.digitalinclusion.org/free-low-cost-internet-plans/>

Details: NDIA regularly updates their list of Free & Low Cost Internet Plans. Because each provider has a different coverage network, this will require you to do some research on your end to find a free or low-cost plan that works for you. Not every provider has service in Chicago / Illinois. Eligibility requirements include participation in public assistance programs like Medicaid, SNAP, income below federal poverty guidelines, etc. Most plans listed cost about \$10-\$20 per month, with a few offering the first 60 days of service free of charge for new customers. Many do not include installation or modem charges, some include no contracts. **Please note that many resource advocates and case managers can support you in applying for free or low-cost internet.**

Hygiene Resources

1. The Night Ministry Health Outreach Bus & Youth Outreach Van

Contact: 773-784-9000 x7004, 773-506-1322 (Youth Outreach Team)

Details: The **Youth Outreach Van** offers safe, nonjudgmental support, referrals, meals, and more. They are located in Lakeview at the corner of Belmont & Halsted every Thursday night from 8:30pm-10pm, for youth ages 18-24. The **Health Outreach Bus** offers healthcare services, outreach, housing and social service referrals, case management, survival supplies, food, hygiene kits, warm winter wear, condoms, and coffee. Their [bus schedule can be found online](#).

2. Center on Halsted: Drop-off Laundry Services

Contact: YouthRSVP@centeronhalsted.org

Address: 3656 N Halsted

Details: Center on Halsted is now offering **free laundry drop-off service for youth ages 13-24**. Only four spots are available per week, and you will **need to RSVP** at the email above. After RSVPing, you can drop off laundry Wednesdays 12pm-3pm and pick it up the next day Thursday 12pm-3pm.

3. La Casa Norte: Casa Corazón (Back of the Yards)

Address: 1736 W 47th St

Contact: 773-276-4900

Details: Open 9pm-9am on a first-come first-served basis. Serves all genders ages 18-24. Showers are available for those who stay. Hygiene supplies are available on a drop-in basis but you need to call first to check with them first.

4. C2P Youth Center

Address: 5531 S Russell Dr

Contact: 773-702-5872

Details: C2P at Washington Park offers various services for LGBTQ youth experiencing homelessness. All services are provided on a first-come, first-served basis with no appointments. It is open every Tuesday in the Washington Park Refectory (address above) from 4:30pm-7:30pm. The community space includes hygiene supplies (soap, toothpaste, deodorant, etc.) They also provide resource advocacy and health services & testing. Call to schedule a pickup of supplies.

Legal Resources

1. Transformative Justice Law Project of Illinois (TJLP)

Website: <http://tjlp.org/>

General Contact: info@tjlp.org, Name Changes: namechange@tjlp.org

Services: TJLP provides holistic criminal legal services, which can take the form of direct criminal defense, expungement and sealing, access to legal name changes and identity documents, formal complaints against correctional staff, advocacy surrounding illegal discrimination in a variety of institutions, etc.

2. Chicago House - TransLife: TransLegal

Website: <https://www.chicagohouse.org/translife-care>

Contact: Elizabeth Ricks at 773-347-7847 or ericks@chicagohouse.org

Services: The TransLegal program offers clients free and sliding-scale access to legal counsel. Their legal team helps clients navigate a variety of legal challenges, including name changes; expungement and criminal records sealing; employment, public accommodations and housing discrimination; and benefits assistance.

3. Chicago Community Bond Fund

Website: <https://chicagobond.org/>

Services: The Chicago Community Bond Fund (CCBF) pays bond for people charged with crimes in Cook County, Illinois. Through a revolving fund, CCBF supports individuals whose communities cannot afford to pay the bonds themselves and who have been impacted by structural violence. For help, fill out the intake at <https://chicagobond.org/the-revolving-fund>.

4. Center on Halsted Anti Violence Project

Contact: Caitlin Tupper ctupper@centeronhalsted.org, 773-472-6469 x481

Services: Center on Halsted's Anti Violence Project helps people who have been victims of violence obtain orders of protection, file charges, prepare as a witness in a trial, etc.