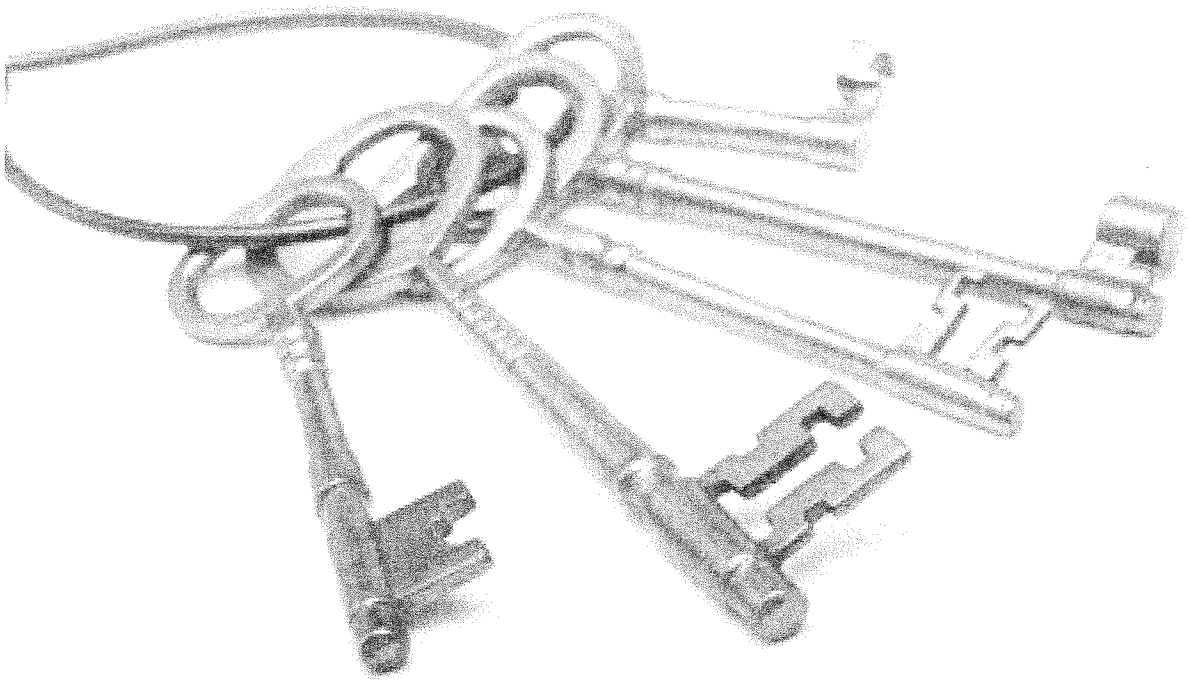
The Chicago School
FORENSIC CENTER

RESOURCE GUIDE 2017



All our lives we live in chains and never even know we hold the key.
-Winston Churchill

TheChicagoSchool
of Professional Psychology

The Chicago School
FORENSIC CENTER

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Table of Contents

INTRODUCTION:

REAL PEOPLE, REAL STORIES 1

VITAL RECORDS 3
- BIRTH CERTIFICATE 3
  - *How do I obtain my birth certificate?* 3
  - *Requesting a Birth Certificate from Cook County* 4
- DRIVER'S LICENSE/STATE ID 5

EMERGENCY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE 6
- ALSO, AN ASSIGNED DHS CASEWORKER WILL TELL YOU WHAT YOU NEED TO BRING. PLEASE CALL THE DHS TOLL-FREE LINE AT 1-800-843-6154 FOR MORE INFORMATION. 6

HOUSING 8
- WHAT IS PUBLIC HOUSING? 8
- WHAT IS THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT RESPONSIBLE FOR? 8
- EMERGENCY HOUSING RESOURCES 10

HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES 12
- HEALTH SERVICES 12
- SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES 17
- SOCIAL SERVICES INFORMATION HOTLINES AND PROGRAMS 17
- SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY (SSI) 18
- HIV/AIDS SERVICES 18

PARENTING 19
- CHILD CARE 19
- EDUCATION TIPS 19
- EDUCATION RESOURCES FOR PARENTS 20
- IMPORTANT LAW TO KNOW 21
- LEGAL 21
- COUNSELING AND FAMILY SUPPORT 22
- YOUTH WITH DISABILITIES 22

LEGAL SUPPORT 23
- CHILD SUPPORT 23
- RAP SHEETS 24
- EXPUNGEMENT 24

EMPLOYMENT SERVICES 26
- ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF LABOR 26
- UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE 29

VOTING RIGHTS 30

EDUCATION 31
- FINANCIAL AID 31
- EDUCATION SERVICES 31

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQS) 32
- JOB HUNTING 33

FREE FUN, LEISURE, AND ESSENTIALS 34

REFERENCES 1

Real People, Real Stories

Individuals who have faced challenges and overcome obstacles to continue along a journey to a successful transition shared their stories with The Chicago School Forensic Center. Here is one of the stories in her own words.

A PAID OFF JOURNEY: A Testimonial by K.D.

I was born and raised on the west side of Chicago with my mother and grandmother; my father was never around, but I still had a good family and support system. My mother was a workaholic and not around very much while growing up, so my grandmother mainly raised me. I never was victim to abuse or neglect, but I saw my grandmother struggle with alcoholism daily, and saw the effects that abuse had on her. Nonetheless, I was a good student and attended school through the eleventh grade—this is where my life started to turn.

When I was in the eleventh grade, I became pregnant with my first daughter. I was unable to cope with the shame I felt from becoming pregnant, so I dropped out of school. Once I had my daughter, I suffered from Postpartum Depression, but was never treated for it because I wasn't aware that there were ways to treat it. Instead, I began to self-medicate in order to cope with the feelings of depression. I began using powder cocaine first, but it quickly turned into using rock and snorting cocaine, and eventually into using heroine. I liked the feeling that it gave me, and it made the depression subside, if only for a short amount of time. Also, somebody told me that I would lose weight if I used crack. I always suffered from low self-esteem so I used it because I wanted to look better. My mother sensed that something was wrong; she would find powder on objects in my room, and I would have her take care of my daughter more and more. However, I was still "in control" of my situation, and I was able to cover up my tracks.

At age twenty-one, I was arrested for the first time for prostitution; this was the first arrest of a fifteen year struggle with the police. I would be arrested one day, and then three weeks later be arrested again. I used my body, sold drugs, and I've even been to the penitentiary. I tried going to treatment and attending church, but I just wasn't really tired yet—I wasn't fed up with my life. I still wanted to use, I still wanted to gamble, I still wanted to do all of those things.

On August 13, 2006, after a two week run of no sleep or food, I used my last drug, drank my last drop of alcohol, and was arrested for the last time. I was picked up by the police for selling drugs, and as I got into the police car, I looked up to God and thought, "I am rescued". While in police custody, a woman from the Mental Health Court came to speak with me about their program. Because I suffered from untreated Postpartum Depression, it evolved into Bipolar Disorder, and therefore I could be part of the Mental Health Court. I was told that it was not a "get out of jail free card", but that my life would have the chance of improving. I took the opportunity to get involved with the Mental Health Court and TASC, and I never looked back.

TASC was what changed my life. I went from sleeping wherever and with whomever I could to get shelter and food, to living in a recovery home—The Future House—and eventually back with my mother and children. It was difficult, but I did everything that the TASC team asked of me, and I couldn't be more grateful.

Today, I live in the same apartment on the west side of Chicago, where my grandmother abused alcohol and I snorted cocaine and shot heroine in the bathroom and on the back porch. But I don't see my apartment as a place where my life once was, but as a place where my life sober is. There was a time in my life where I thought there was no light, and I would die being high. But now, I have my life—and it's a clean life—and that's all that matters.

At my lowest point, I would have considered myself to be a rat, because I was slimy and dirty, and I didn't think there was ever a different way to live. However, once I began my process of change, I didn't give up, I kept looking ahead, and I didn't allow myself to become that rat again.

One day it will sink in. Even if it feels like you keep falling, if you have the strength to get back up, do it. If you believe in something, whether it's a higher power, your family, or a Kleenex box, then you can achieve anything. Don't put limitations on yourself simply because you haven't succeeded in the past; there is always someone to talk to, even if it is just yourself, to help you through any situation.

Sometimes I have an urge to use, but it last about 7 seconds. I shake it off and its gone. So, there are no challenges that I face on a daily basis; it is a privilege to be living today. I am proud to have the label of ex-offender, as long as the "ex" is attached to it. Don't ever give up; it will get better.

"Life: it is a beautiful way to live."

VITAL RECORDS

Birth Certificate

Verification and documentation of your identity is important. A birth certificate is a legal document. You will need a certified copy of your birth certificate to carry out many procedures such as, obtaining a state identification card or driver's license, as well as registering for school. There are "Certified" and "Non-Certified" copies of birth certificates. "Certified" copies are the type that can be used for legal purposes. They have a raised seal and a signature to show they are certified. "Non-Certified" copies do not have such details and are often not recognized for legal procedures but can be used for informational purposes.

How do I obtain my birth certificate?

Searching Locally

Step 1

Birth certificates can be obtained in the city and state in which you were born. If you don't know where you were born, ask your parents or another family member. Or, use social service agencies that store vital records such as the Cook County Clerk of the Circuit Court or the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS).

Step 2

Try to find the original copy of your birth certificate. It will list the information you need to get a new, certified copy.

Step 3

Locate the phone number for the Department of Health in that city. Call Directory Assistance or log onto the Internet and perform a search.

Step 4

Ask the Health Department what information you need to send in, or take with you, to get your certified birth certificate. You'll probably need identification such as a current driver's license and your Social Security card.

Getting the Actual Certificate Locally

Step1

Send via the U.S. post office the required information and fee. Or, drive to the location of the Health Department to get a certified copy of your birth certificate in person. Call in advance to make sure the hours of operation.

Getting Your Birth Certificate by Using the Internet

Step 1

You can visit the National Center for Health Statistics website. Click on the state in which you were born, not where you currently live/reside.

Step 2

The listing will give you the cost of the copy of your birth certificate and the address for the department of health in that state. It will also tell you what information you need to include with your request, such as a valid picture ID.

Illinois Contact for Vital Records

Division of Vital Records
IL Department of Public Health
605 W Jefferson St
Springfield, IL 62702-5097
217-782-6553
http://www.idph.state.il.us

Requesting a Birth Certificate from Cook County

You may obtain a birth certificate in one of 5 methods:

Order Online @ http://cookcountyvitalrecord.com/

Order By Phone Call Toll-Free: (866) 252-8974

Mail your request to:
Cook County Clerk David Orr
Bureau of Vital Records
P.O. Box 642570
Chicago, IL 60664-2570

Include the following items:
Completed Birth Certificate Request Form* (obtain a form at
http://www.cookctyclerk.com/pdf/Birth%20Request%20Form%20English.pdf)
Photocopy of your photo identification (e.g. drivers license, state issued identification, etc.)
Check or money order payable to the Cook County Clerk for $15 (additional copies of the same record cost $4 each)
Self-addressed stamped envelope

Go to a local Currency Exchange
Call (847) 759-8905 for Currency Exchange hours and locations in Chicago and suburban Cook County, or visit www.mycurrencyexchange.com.
There is a $5 surcharge for records obtained at Currency Exchanges.

Visit in person
Downtown Chicago
Cook County Vital Records - Daley Center
50 W. Washington St.
East Concourse Level
Chicago, IL 60602
(312) 603-7790
Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday; 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Saturday (for marriage records only)

North suburbs/Skokie
5600 W. Old Orchard Road, Room 149
Skokie, IL 60077
(847) 470-7233
Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday;
8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. Wednesday

Northwest suburbs/Rolling Meadows
2121 Euclid Ave., Room 238
Rolling Meadows, IL 60008
(847) 818-2850
Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday;
8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. Wednesday

West suburbs/Maywood
1311 Maybrook Square, Room 109
Maywood, IL 60153
(708) 865-6010
Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday;
8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. Wednesday

South suburbs/Markham
16501 S. Kedzie Ave., Room 238
Markham, IL 60426
(708) 210-4150
Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday;
8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. Wednesday

Southwest suburbs/Bridgeview
10220 S. 76th Ave., Room 238
Bridgeview, IL 60455
(708) 974-6150
Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday;
8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. Wednesday

Driver's License/State ID

A driver's license or state ID are the best forms of picture identification and can be useful in many important tasks, such as searching for a home or job. You may reinstate or obtain your license and/or ID by contacting the Illinois Motorist Services. You may write to them with your inquiries or call them at:

Illinois Motorist Services
Vehicle Services Department
Record Inquiry Section
501 South 2nd Street
Springfield, IL 62756
(217) 782-6992

There are also 130 Secretary of State Offices in Illinois that provide driver services. You may locate one by visiting this website: http://www.dmv.org/il-illinois/locations-&-hours.php. Once you are on the page you can click on the city that is closest to you and find out the office hours of operation, payment methods, links to directions, etc.

If additional assistance is needed, you may also contact Westside Health Authority for case managers to help aid in obtaining state IDs.

Westside Health Authority
5816 W. Division St.
Chicago, IL 60651
(773) 786-0226

Free identification is provided for newly released ex-offenders by Christian Community Health Center. Eligibiliity requirements are that the individual was released from a correctional institution within 6 months or less. Call for an appointment.

Christian Community Health Center
1701 West Monterey Street, Suite 2
Chicago, IL 60643
(773) 298-2075

EMERGENCY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS):

IDHS provides numerous services to assist individuals in times of need that include mental health services, domestic violence assistance, child support information, services to the disabled and the elderly. Additionally, IDHS offers financial assistance. There are several ways to apply for Financial Assistance, SNAP (formerly Food Stamps), and Medical Assistance:

Apply Online
Use the Illinois Web Benefits Online Application System to apply for SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program), cash or medical assistance. Follow the instructions on the first page of the application process. If you choose the online option, DO NOT complete a paper application (https://wb.dhs.illinois.gove/wbpublic/register/wb/)

To learn about SNAP eligibility, visit DHS Illinois Department of Human Services: http://www.dhs.state.il.us

Apply Using a Paper Application
Download the application at http://www.dhs.state.il.us/OneNetLibrary/27897/documents/Forms/IL444-2378B.pdf
Follow the directions on the form. Type in as much information as you can. If you can't answer all the questions, that's ok. You must include your name and address. You may print out the application and write on it if you prefer. You must sign the form.

Once you've completed the application, carry, mail or fax it to your local Family Community Resource Center that is listed on the website.

What happens next?
The application process begins the day your DHS office receives your signed application. You will be asked to come to the office for an interview or participate by phone if you are unable to come to the office.
You will be asked for various types of documents such as:

- Proof of your identity
- Proof of your residence
- Proof of Social Security numbers for all people on your application
- Other types of documents depending on your circumstances.

Also, an assigned DHS caseworker will tell you what you need to bring. Please call the DHS toll-free line at 1-800-843-6154 for more information.

Community and Economic Development Association of Cook County, Inc. (CEDA)

208 S. LaSalle St., Suite 1900, Chicago, IL
1-800-571-2332
www.cedaorg.net

To apply for or receive more information about the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program, or home energy bill payment assistance contact CEDA for eligibility and required documents.

The Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity

For information about home heating assistance programs, call 1-800-252-8643.
Illinois Commerce Commission's toll-free customer service line: 1-800-524-0795 or visit www.icc.state.il.us

The Illinois Commerce Commission has created rules designed to protect consumers from disconnection of heating service in cold weather. Between December 1 and March 31, a gas or electric public utility cannot terminate heating service for non-payment unless: the customer has been offered a payment plan; the customer has refused to enter into a payment plan; the customer has received the required notice; and the outdoor temperature is 32°F or higher.

Illness certificates are available to prevent utility shut-off when a licensed physician has provided documentation indicating that shutting off the heating service would worsen an existing medical condition or create a medical emergency for a permanent resident of the home. Consumers should as their utility how to submit an illness certificate.

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
This program is designed to help income eligible households meet the high cost of home energy. For more information, call 1-800-252-8643.

Illinois Home Weatherization Assistance Program (IHWAP)
This program is designed to help income eligible households conserve fuel and save money by making their homes and apartments energy efficient. For more information, call 1-800-252-8643.

Lifeline Assistance ("Obama Phone")

www.obamaphone.com

The Obama Phone program gives struggling low income Americans free cell phones, voice minutes and texting. The eligibility requirements are very similar — but not identical — from state-to-state. Individuals who already participate in another state or federal assistance program, or if their income is low enough, may qualify for this program. The companies offering the free phones, free minutes and free texts also vary from state-to-state as do the number of minutes and texts they may offer. After determining eligibility, find the companies that offer phones in your state (Safe Link, Life Wireless, and ReachOut Wireless service Illinois). Visit the phone company websites to find the best offer for your needs. Complete the online application on the phone company website and wait for the phone to arrive in the mail. *Note: Mobile vendors often set up booths at street fairs and outside of government assistance agencies for those who do not have internet access.

HOUSING

Having an affordable and a habitable (livable) place to live can provide you with a sense of safety, security, and wellbeing. In the Cook County area, there are housing programs for low-income individuals and families that provide home ownership assistance, education on home ownership, renting support, and weatherization and repair help. Contact www.cedaorg.net for more information on eligibility and requirements.

What is Public Housing?

Public housing was established to provide decent and safe rental housing for eligible low-income families, the elderly, and persons with disabilities. Public housing comes in all different forms, from scattered single family houses to high rise apartments for elderly families. There are approximately 1.2 million households living in public housing units.

- In Chicago, public housing is managed by the Chicago Housing Authority (CHA). For more information about (CHA), please visit their website at: http://www.thecha.org
- For a complete list of Public Housing Authorities in Illinois go to: http://www.hud.gov/offices/pih/pha/contacts/states/il.cf

What is the Department of Housing and Urban Development responsible for?

In the United States, the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is responsible for enforcing the Fair Housing Act of 1968, along with supporting community development, increasing home ownership, and fighting housing discrimination. The agency provides low income housing to people in need in a number of ways including public HUD housing, rent subsidies, and grants to private agencies which intend to provide low-income housing. HUD housing is eligible for individuals with incomes below a certain level, and is part of the wide network of social services provided by the United States government to support people in need. If you need advice about public housing, contact a housing counseling agency. A complete list of HUD approved housing counseling agencies in Illinois, visit this site: http://www.hud.gov/offices/hsg/sfh/hcc/hcs.cfm?webListAction=search&searchstate=IL

Some agencies located in Chicago, include:

ACCESS LIVING OF METROPOLITAN CHICAGO	**P:** 312-640-2100-2197 **F:** 312-640-2101 **E:** dfeidt@accessliving.org **W:** n/a	115 W. Chicago Ave Chicago Chicago, Illinois 60610-0000
ACORN HOUSING FORECLOSURE PREVENTION CALL CENTER	**P:** 312-235-4991 **F:** **E:** gstewart@acornhousing.org **W:** acornhousing.org	209 W. Jackson Blvd, Suite 301 Chicago, Illinois 60606
CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER	**P:** 773-233-4100 **F:** 773-233-4055 **W:**www.cchc-online.org	9718 South Halsted Street Chicago, IL 60628
GREATER SOUTHWEST DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION	**P:** 773-735-6727-12 **F:** 773-735-6592 **E:** l.villarreal@greatersouthwest.org **W:** www.greatersouthwest.org	6155 S. Pulaski, 2nd Floor Chicago, Illinois 60629
HCP OF ILLINOIS, INC.	**P:** 312-386-1009-1 **F:** 312-386-1019 **E:** cklepper@hcp-chicago.org **W:** hcp-chicago.org	28 E. Jackson Blvd. #1109 Chicago, Illinois 60604

KINGDOM COMMUNITY, INC	**P:** 773-379-0077 **F:** 773-626-3848 **E:** apostlejta@tdcc.org **W:** www.tdcc.org	5151 West Madison 2nd Flr Chicago, Illinois 60644
LAKESIDE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION	**P:** 773-381-5253 **F:** 773-262-9402 **E:** info@lakesidecdc.org **W:** www.lakesidecdc.org	1652 W. Wallen Ave Chicago, Illinois 60626
LATIN UNITED COMMUNITY HOUSING ASSOCIATION	**P:** 773-276-5338-234 **F:** 773-276-5358 **E:** ebarbosa@lucha.org **W:** www.lucha.org	3541 West North Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60647-4808
NID-HCA SIMMONS	**P: 773-684-5273** **F: 773-684-5092** **E:** supremereality@sbcglobal.net **W:** www.nidonline.org	6459 South Cottage Grove Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60637-3511
NID-HCA WEBBER	**P: 773-375-8253** **F: 773-375-1631** **E:** jdawnwebb1@yahoo.com **W:** www.nidonline.org	8543 S. Story Island Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60617-2249
NOBEL NEIGHBORS	**P: 773-252-8524** **F: 773-252-8548** **E:** Nobelneighbors@aol.com **W:** n/a	1345 N. Karlov Chicago, Illinois 60651
NORTH SIDE COMMUNITY FEDERAL CREDIT UNION	**P: 773-769-5800-227** **F: 773-769-6800** **E:** nosidefcu@aol.com **W:** www.northsidecommunityfcu.org	1011 W. Lawrence Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60640

http://www.hud.gov/offices/hsg/sfh/hcc/hcs.cfm?webListAction=search&searchstate=IL

Restrictions

- Each local housing authority can determine its own eligibility restrictions. However, the federal government requires all housing authorities to develop a plan that prohibits the admission of certain individuals who have engaged in drug-related criminal behavior, those who are subject to a state lifetime sex offender registration program, or individuals whose substance abuse or pattern of abuse interferes with the rights of other residents.
- Chicago Housing Authority (CHA) does not make individual determinations about an applicant's eligibility based upon the relevance of the criminal record. However, CHA considers convictions (not arrest) in its admission criteria.
- To determine whether there are any eligibility restrictions in your area, contact your local housing authority. For a complete list of Public Housing Authorities in Illinois go to: http://www.hud.gov/offices/pih/pha/contacts/states/il.cfm

Emergency Housing Resources

Emergency Shelter Department of Human Services: 1-800-535-7252
24 hour hotline

Emergency & Transitional Housing Program

- The emergency and Transitional Housing Program gives immediate and comprehensive shelter services to homeless persons and persons at risk of being homeless.
- Shelter Programs in Illinois consist of: Overnight Shelters, Transitional shelters, and Voucher Shelters. For more information please visit the website **https://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=30362**

Emergency Shelter Clearinghouse Hotline: 1-800-654-8595

- Tracks the availability of over 5,400 overnight, transitional, and second-stage shelter beds daily, directing those who need shelter to the closest available bed
- Provides transportation when required, picking up the homeless person and transporting him/her to an appropriate shelter

Matthew House
Complete Supportive Services
888-270-3433
Intake hours 7am-3pm

- Emergency shelter, housing for chronically homeless, and housing referrals
- Provide 2 balanced meals per day and free clothing, daily grooming, including showers, haircuts, and physical exams
- Ability to use as mailing address
- Domestic violence services, substance abuse referrals, social security payee programs
- GED and job readiness classes, employment services, ex-offender support, computer literacy, and veterans cervices

Connections for the Homeless
Evanston, IL
847-424-0945

- Must be 21+, no kids
- Call to set up an intake, a case manager will call back the day after
  - Extension 210 for drop in services and case management
  - Extension 10 for transitional shelter

Franciscan House of Mary & Joseph
2715 W. Harrison St, Chicago
773-265-6683

- First come, first serve basis:
- Beds full for men by 7:15PM and for women by 7:00PM
- Beds for 209 single men and 38 single women

Lena Washington Food & Shelter
1609 S. Homan Avenue
773-522-3320

- Shelter is open 24 hours a day; Must have DHS referral (DHS closest to the Shelter is at 10 S. Kedzie)
- Summer Lunch Program (June 25-Aug 25): For children 18 and under, Lunch: 11:30-1:30pm Snack: 3:00-4:00 pm daily
- On-site physician, day care, and parenting classes

Food Pantries—find locations
Chicago: http://www.chicagosfoodbank.org/
Outside Chicago: http://www.direct2food.org/

Housing Opportunities for Women (HOW)
1607 W Howard St, Floor 2, Chicago (accessible via the Red Line CTA train)
773-465-5770

- Works to secure affordable and supportive housing for women, children, and families who are homeless or disabled
- Additional services include case management, academic coaching, and help with meeting parole conditions
- Career services as well as legal aid provided
- Childcare and afterschool programs provided
- Provide emergency assistance to prevent homelessness
- In order to be eligible for housing provided by HOW, one must prove they are disabled and/or homeless.
- To apply for housing, visit www.chicagocrs.org to access their application and specific eligibility
  Check waitlist status

Mercy Housing-Lakefront
120 S. LaSalle, Suite 1850 Chicago
312-447-4500 (main office) 312-447-4621 (leasing office).

- Serves families, seniors, and people with special needs
- Offers the full spectrum of affordable housing, including supportive housing for the formerly homeless, transitional housing, permanent rental, and affordable homeownership opportunities
- Housing system currently is comprised of 28 housing site in the Chicagoland area and several surrounding suburbs

Deborah's Place
2822 W. Jackson Blvd Chicago
773-722-5080

- Provide housing and wraparound services for women
- Offers crisis interventions, referrals, advocacy, and assistance in obtaining housing, healthcare and income
- Has three locations and a main administration office

Stepping Stones of Rockford
706 N Main St, Rockford, IL 61103
(815) 963-0683
www.ssrinc.org

- Healthcare and living space for adults with severe mental illness living in Rockford or Northern Illinois.
- Provide housing options, medication monitoring and assistance, psychiatric appointments at least every 90 days, education, and job coaching.

HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES

Health Services

Presently, under the Affordable Health Care Act (ACA) medical care and behavioral health care (counseling, substance abuse) are largely provided through the managed care system. Therefore, it is required to enroll with a managed care insurance provider in order to access services. Some of the common Medicaid Managed Care Providers include Harmony, Aetna, Meriden, County Care, and Family Health Network. Visit Cook County Health and Hospital System for more information, www.cookcountyhhs.org/patient-services/billing-financial-assistance/accepted-insurance or call the Illinois Client Enrollment hotline about insurance at 1-877-912-8880.

There are also close to 50 free and affordable health care clinics available to children and families throughout Cook County provided by the Chicago Public Health Department. To find out the closest clinic to you, call the automated **Primary Care Directory Line at (312) 864- 6000**. You will need to provide your zip code at the time of your call.

ACCESS Community Health Network

Many locations throughout Cook County

- Provides healthcare to Cook County Residents whose earnings are below Federal Poverty Level (below $15,282 for an individual or $20,628 for a couple) and who are not eligible for Medicaid, Medicare, or the Children's Medicaid Program (CHIP)
- Individuals must be between 19-64 years old, have a Social Security Number or be in the process of applying for one, be a U.S. Citizen or a legal immigrant for a minimum of 5 years

Women, Infants and Children Nutritional Program (WIC)

Information and clinic finder: 1-800-323-4769

- Lower-income pregnant or nursing mothers and children through 5 years can get supplemental nutrition (fathers and other legal guardians can also receive WIC health screenings and food "prescriptions")
- Vouchers to buy eligible food at designated grocery stores or centers, provide breast-feeding mothers with advice about breast pumps, and vouchers for baby formula

All Kids

866-255-5437

www.allkidscovered.com

- Health insurance for children of low-income families, premium costs and co-pays vary by income
- Covers doctor's visits, hospital stays, prescription drugs, vision and dental care, mental health services, and medical devices

Chicago Women's Health Center

3435 N. Sheffield Avenue

773-935-6126

- All-woman health center offering breast and gynecological exams, birth control education and samples, cervical cap fittings, emergency contraception, fertility and childbirth education, breast-feeding classes, individual and group therapy
- Sliding-scale fees based on income can be paid right away or over time, and accepts insurance

Circle Family Healthcare Network
5002 W. Madison
Chicago, IL 60644
773-379-1000
www.cfhcn.org

- Circle Family Healthcare Network is a Christian Foundation that focuses on improving the physical, behavioral and spiritual status of their participants.
- Services provided include health and educational services, as well as various community initiatives.
- They have two facilities one for physical health and another one for behavioral health.

DuPage County Health Department (DCHD)
1111 W Lake Street
Addison IL, 60101
630-628-1811

- Bilingual clinicians, services, and forms available.
- DuPage County Health Department promotes physical and emotional health; prevents illness, injury and disability: protects health from environmental risk factors: and strives to assure the provision of accessible, quality service.
- Immunizations, family case management support, child, adolescent, and adult behavioral health services are provided.

Association for Individual Development (AID)
1230 N Highland Avenue
Aurora IL, 60506
630-859-1291
http://www.the-association.org

- AID provides services to individuals with physical, developmental, intellectual and mental health challenges
- Services include housing, employment, community integration, health promotion, recovery, and crisis prevention
- Support available for Spanish speaking clients.

Association House of Chicago
1116 N Kedzie Ave
Chicago, IL 60651
(773) 772-7170
http://www.associationhouse.org/

- Association House offers a myriad of services in the areas of health and wellness (including behavioral health), educational advancement, and economic empowerment.
- Services provided in English and Spanish.

The Fantus Clinic
1901 W Harrison St (inside John H Stroger Jr Hospital)
Chicago, IL 60612
(312) 864-6000

- Cook County Health and Hospitals System community clinic.
- They offer outpatient psychological services for both children and adults, and will see any client regardless of ability to pay.
- Fantus offers services in multiple languages, and has a pharmacy locate on site.

Footprints: A Program of Christian Community Health Center
1701 S. Monterey Ave, Chicago, IL 60643
(773) 233-5850 ext: 3512

- Case management coordination activities
- Domestic Violence screenings and counseling
- Emotional wellness screening and counseling
- Life skills workshops
- Confidential HIV/STD testing
- Substance abuse services
- Internal referrals for primary care services
- Outreach services, street level outreach, court advocacy, and jail and court outreach
- Specialty services for women and transgender women arrested for prostitution and referred by the courts as well as for men arrested for solicitation and referred by the courts.

H.A.S. (Healthcare Alternative Systems, Inc.) (12 locations)
www.hascares.org

- Assessment; Early Intervention (counseling and testing); Risk Reduction Education; Safe Sex Counseling; Pre-Test and Post-Test Counseling; Confidential and/or Anonymous (Oral) Testing
- Most services at H.A.S. are offered in both English and Spanish. H.A.S. accepts private health insurance, Medicaid, and self-pay services offered on a sliding fee scale.
- Please call for information regarding referrals, assessments, or hours of operation.

North Office
2755 West Armitage Ave.
(773) 252-3100

- Adult Substance Abuse Treatment
- Anger Management
- Continuing Care
- Drug Testing
- DUI Services
- HIV/AIDS Counseling, Education and Testing
- Partner Abuse Intervention Program (PAIP)

South Office
4534 S. Western Ave.
(773) 254-5141

- Adult Substance Abuse Treatment
- Anger Management
- Continuing Care
- Drug Testing
- DUI Services
- Youth Prevention Program
- Youth Substance Abuse Treatment

Northwest Office
5005 W. Fullerton Ave.
(773) 745-7107

- Domestic Violence Program ~ ¡Basta!
- Youth Substance Abuse Treatment

DuPage Office
373 S. County Farm Road
Wheaton, IL 60187
(630) 344-0001

- Adult Substance Abuse Treatment
- Continuing Care
- Drug Testing
- DUI Services
- Youth Substance Abuse Treatment

Proviso Township
1115 N. 23rd Ave.
Melrose Park, IL 60160
(708) 345-3632

- Adult Substance Abuse Treatment
- Youth Substance Abuse Treatment
- Continuing Care
- Drug Testing
- DUI Services

Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT)
210 N. Ashland Ave.
(312) 948-0200

- Adult Substance Abuse Outpatient Treatment
- Opiate Addiction
- HIV/AIDS Medical Case Management

Men's Transitional Housing
1866 N. Milwaukee Ave.
(773) 782-4734
- Adult Interim Housing Services

Men's Residential Treatment
1949 N. Humbolt Blvd
(773) 252-2666
- Adult Substance Abuse Treatment

Women's Program
1942 N. California
(773) 292-4242
- Adult Substance Abuse Treatment
- Continuing Care
- DUI Services

Postpartum Depression
1942 N. California Ave
(773) 292-4242

4534 S. Western Ave
(773) 254-5141

9855 W. Roosevelt Rd.
Westchester, IL 60154
(708) 223-7175
- Clinical Evaluations
- Individual and Family Therapy
- Psychiatric Evaluations
- Medication Monitoring
- Case Management

Community Violence Prevention Program (CVPP)
2755 W. Armitage Ave.
(773) 252-3100

4534 S. Western Ave
(773) 254-5141
- Educational Support
- Job & Vocational Training Development
- Mentoring & Family Support
- Anger Management
- Domestic Violence
- Referrals to Behavioral Health Treatment
- Community Resources
- Crisis Support
- Emergency Funds & Shelter

Mercy Family Health Clinic
1713 S. Ashland Ave.
(773) 701-1718
- Behavioral Screening
- Individual Counseling Services
- Referral and Outreach
- Medical Referrals

St. Leonard's Ministries (St. Leonard's referrals only)
2100 W. Warren Blvd.
(312) 666-0950
- Adult Substance Abuse Treatment
- Counseling and Life Skills Training

The Hamdard Center (2 locations)
The Hamdard Center is a multilingual (Arabic, Bosnian, Hindi, Urdu, Punjabi and Gujarati), multi-cultural Social & Health Service Agency dedicated to serving the South Asian, Middle Eastern, and Bosnian communities in Illinois.

Chicago Office
1542 W. Devon Avenue
Chicago, IL 60660
Phone: (773) 465-4600
Fax: (773) 465-4666
Toll-Free Crisis Line: 866-305-3933

Addison Office
228 E. Lake Street
Addison, IL 60101
Phone: (630) 835.1430
Fax: (630) 835-1433
main@hamdardcenter.org

- Primary Care & Mental Health which includes health screenings and immunizations;
- Behavioral Health which includes crisis intervention, group therapy and mental health assessment;
- Family Preservation;
- Case Management and Employment Counseling;
- Domestic Violence Residential Shelter Facility & Transitional Housing Program;
- Adult Day Center & In Home Care; and
- Community Outreach.
- Medicaid, Medicare and private insurances.

Howard Brown Health Center
4025 N. Sheridan Road (main center)
773-388-1600

- Specializes in gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender Chicagoans, but will serve anyone regardless of sexual orientation
- Primary medical care, laboratory/diagnostic work, referrals to specialists, anonymous HIV and STD testing
- Sliding scale fees, public aid and private insurance

The Living Room (2 locations)

Turning Point Behavioral Health Care Center
8324 Skokie Boulevard
Skokie, IL 60077-2545
847-933-9202

The Josselyn Center
130 Waukegan Road
Deerfield, IL 60015
847-607-8915

- The Living Room is an alternative to hospital emergency for adults in crisis
- They provide support and assistance in problem solving, referrals for shelter, healthcare and food and a safe space to rest and relax.
- They serve adults 18 and over.

Nami Chicago: Chicago's Voice on Mental Illness
1536 W Chicago Ave #1
Chicago, IL 60642
(312) 563-0445
*Hotline and Main line
M-F 10:00am-5:00pm

- Support groups for individuals living with mental illness and family members/caretakers of individuals with mental illness (Free; Spanish and English).
- Call the hotline for the intake, locations, and times of support groups.
- Hotline is also a good resource for when in crisis, or if need other community resources involving mental illness.

Rincon Family Services (3 locations)

Administrative Office and Mental Health Center
3710 N. Kedzie Avenue
Chicago, IL 60618
(773) 564-9070

Rafael "Paloma" Rios Center
3809 W. Grand Avenue
Chicago, IL 60651
(773) 276-0200

Hilda Frontany Women's Center
5453 W. Diversey Avenue
Chicago, IL 60639
(888) 215-0513

Ricon Family Services provides child and adolescent as well as adult mental health services including: psychiatric evaluations, mental health assessment, medication monitoring, individual, family, and group therapy and counseling, crisis intervention, and intensive case management services. Other specialized services include:

- Community Health Program – provides health education
- Intact Family Recovery Program – providing services to intact families in the recovery process
- Chicago Regional Traffic Safety Resource Center – offers access to child car seats and training at low cost
- Specialized counseling services including anger management, and gambling services
- State-Licensed DUI Services – designed to serve court-mandated DUI offenders
- Substance Abuse Treatment and Prevention Services including Opioid Maintenance Treatment, HIV Early Intervention Program, and Re-Entry Program for formerly incarcerated individuals

SHORE community services
Multiple locations throughout Skokie, Evanston, and Morton Grove

- Adult services, child programs, and residential programs provided to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities
- Adult and child programs include in-home and home-based care, as well as day programs

Cabrini Green Legal Aid – CLAIM (Chicago Legal Advocacy for Incarcerated Mothers) Program
740 N. Milwaukee Ave.
Chicago, IL 60642
(312) 738-2452
www.cgla.net

- **Visible Voices** – peer empowerment and advocacy group, where formerly incarcerated women meet bi-weekly for support, information sharing, skill building, and policy analysis. Meets every other Wednesday at Grace House. For more information contact Colette Payne, Visible Voices Organizer at 312-850-4204 or colettepayne@cgla.net.
- **The Speakers Bureau** – trains women who want to speak publicly on the need for changes in the criminal justice system.
- **Family Law Classes** – CLAIM presents cases for mothers in jail, prison, and transitional housing to help them protect their legal rights, maintain bonds with their children, and ensure proper care is provided during incarceration.
- **Free Legal Services** – Staff and volunteer lawyers represent CLAIM clients for free for family law cases.

Substance Abuse Services

Abraxas Southwood Interventions
5701 S. Wood Street
Chicago, IL 60636
(773) 737-4600

Essence House Residential Program
(773) 651-2720
www.hrdi.org

The South Suburban Council on Alcoholism and Substance Abuse
1909 Cheker Square
East Hazel Crest, IL 60429
To schedule an Assessment: (708) 647-3333, option 8

Alcoholics Anonymous
(312) 346-1475

Narcotics Anonymous
(708) 848-4884

Youth Outreach Services
6417 W. Irving Park Road (Main Office); 5910 W. Division Chicago, IL; 4419 W. North Ave, Melrose Park, IL
(773) 777-7112

- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Treatment (Individual and Group Counseling)
- Adolescents 12-21 years old
- Outpatient; some clients are court mandated

Social Services Information Hotlines and Programs

AIDS
Info: (800) 448-0440
Hotline: (800) 243-2437

Grace House (Faith Based Re-entry Program for Women)
(312) 733-5363

Rape Victims Advocates, crisis hotline
(888) 293-2080

Domestic Violence Hotline
(877) 863-6338

Child Abuse Hotline
(800) 252-2873

CTA/RTA Route Info
(312) 836-7000

CEDA Housing Hotline
(312) 795-8962

IL Homeless Hotline
(800) 941-8691

Safe Haven (Substance Abuse/Co-Occurring Mental Health Concerns)

(773)-435-8300

Chicago Rape Crisis
(888) 293-2080

Maria Shelter (Re-entry Program for Women with Children)
(773) 994-1556

Suicide Hotline
(800) 784-2433

Chicago Abused Women Coalition
(773) 278-4566

National Runaway Switchboard (for safe alternatives to running away)
(800)-Runaway
(800-786-2929)

Sexually Transmitted Infections Hotline
(919) 361-8488

Crisis Intervention
(773) 434-5577

Public Benefits Hotline
(888) 893-5327

Women Alive- HIV Peer support
(800) 554-4876

Gay & Lesbian National Hotline
(888) 843-4564

Rape, Abuse, Incest National Network
(800) 656-HOPE

Westside Health Authority Community Re-Entry Support Center
(773) 786-0226

CCASA Chicago Coalition Against Sexual Assault
Mujeres Latinas en Accion
(773) 890-7676

CCASA Chicago Coalition Against Sexual Assault
Rape Victim Advocates
(312) 443-9603

CCASA Chicago Coalition Against Sexual Assault
Pillars
(708) 741-4500

CCASA Chicago Coalition Against Sexual Assault
YWCA Metropolitan
(312) 372-6600

World Relief
Information and support on issues of immigration
(773) 583-9191

Social Security Disability (SSI)

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a Federal assistance program that provides income to individuals with disabilities (mental, physical, intellectual, medical) that limits their ability to financially support themselves. There are several offices in the Chicago to determine eligibility and to apply for benefits. Call the general number to find site location at (800) 772-1213.

HIV/AIDS Services

TPAN (Test Positive Awareness Network)
5537 N. Broadway Street
(773) 989-9400

- Prevention Outreach; Intake/Assessment; HIV Testing/Counseling; Needle Exchange; Hepatitis/STI Screening;
- Clinical Services (via its on-site partner, ACCESS @ TPAN) include Case Management, Treatment Education, One-to-One and Group-Level Psychosocial Support, and Substance Abuse Interventions

PARENTING

CHILD CARE

Illinois Department of Human Services' Child Care program provides low-income families with access to child care. Child Care program staff approves eligible clients for services and processes provider billings. Call IL Department of Human Services (800) 843-6154.

- For more information about the DHS' Child Care program, please visit: http://www.dhs.state.il.us/chp/ofh/MIH/childcnp.asp
- For information about getting help paying for child care while you are in school or training, contact Women Employed at http://www.womenemployed.org (look for child care brochure)
- For additional information, please go to the Action for Children website at: http://www.actforchildren.org/

St. Vincent de Paul Center is a daycare located on 2145 N. Halsted Street, Chicago, IL 60614. St. Vincent de Paul Center is contracted with the Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) and will assist qualifying parents in obtaining IDHS child care assistance. Tuition is based on household and income and family size. For more information visit the website at: http://marillacstvincent.org/stvincentdepaulcenter/childdevelopment/admissionsinformation.html or call (312) 943-6776.

EDUCATION TIPS

Learning problems/disorders are not about intelligence. If your child demonstrates consistent problems expressing ideas, following directions, retelling what is heard, telling time, and/or counting, he/she may have a learning disorder.

To address learning concerns, know who your child deals with at school to share your concerns as well as advocate for your child:

- School Name
- Principal
- Names of Teacher(s)
- School Psychologist
- Social Worker
- Guidance Counselor

Education Resources for Parents

Rush Neurobehavioral Center
4711 Golf Road Skokie, IL

- The Meryl Lipton Scholarship was established to provide the resources necessary to promote academic and social emotional success for underserved children struggling with social emotional learning difficulties.
- The applicant must have a chronic social-emotional learning disability as often seen with Autism Spectrum Disorder and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder. The applicants must also have normal intellectual ability.
- All children who fulfill the referral, diagnostic, and financial criteria of the Meryl E. Lipton Scholarship Program are invited to apply for the scholarship program. Each child is eligible for $7, 500 dollars worth of services. To learn more about the eligibility criteria please visit the Rush Neurobehavioral Center website

CHICAGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS (CPS):
This is a general website about Chicago Public Schools that includes information for parents, students, the community, partners and staff. Individual school information, programs, school calendars and news about CPS are additionally offered on this website.

For more information, please visit: www.cps.edu or call CPS General Information at (773) 553-1000 or Academic Enhancement at (773) 553-2060.

CATALYST FOR CHICAGO:
Catalyst Chicago is an independent newsmagazine that documents, analyzes and supports school-improvement efforts in the Chicago Public Schools. Their goal is to improve the education of children through journalism, as well as provide constructive dialogues between students, parents, educators, community leaders and policy makers.

For more information, please visit: www.catalyst-chicago.org

FAMILIES AND ADVOCATES PARTNERSHIPS FOR EDUCATION (FAPE):
FAPE is a partnership organization that aims to improve the educational outcomes for children with disabilities. It links families, advocates, and self-advocates to information about the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). The project is designed to address the information needs of the 6 million families throughout the Country whose children with disabilities receive special education services.

For more information, please visit: www.fape.org.

WRIGHTS LAW:
This website is designed for parents, educators, advocates and attorneys who are looking for information about special education law, education law, and advocacy for children with disabilities.

For more information, please visit: www.wrightslaw.com

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION:
This is a general website that provides social security services to the public.

For more information, please visit: www.socialsecurity.gov

Important law to know

INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (IDEA):
This website provides information about the ways that IDEA governs how states and public agencies provide early intervention, special education and related services to children and youth.

For more information, please visit: http://www.help4adhd.org/education/rights/idea.
or http://idea.ed.gov/explore/home.

LEGAL

What to Do if Your Child Gets into Legal Trouble

Know the names and numbers of your child's:

- Precinct
- Arresting Officer
- Lawyer (if court appointed)
- Judge

Go to court prepared:

- Know details of what happened
- Provide relevant information about your child (family history, school records, mental health history, medical history)
- Bring letters of support (church, youth center)

Know what legal services are available to your family:

Northwestern University Law School Clinic Children and Family Justice Center
(312) 503-0396

Provides legal services for children under 18 years old who are facing legal problems. The NU Clinic has a counterpart at the Loyola University Child Law Clinic -(312) 915-7927.

Chicago Legal Clinic, Inc.
(773) 731-1762
Provides legal services and education to underserved and low-income groups.

Legal Assistance Foundation (LAF)
(312) 341-1070

LAF provides legal assistance to low income residents of Cook County in civil cases only: Issues cover Housing Evictions, Special Education; Unemployment Problems, SSI, Domestic Violence, Immigration Problems, Bankruptcy

Equip for Equality
(312)341-341-0022

The agency provides advocacy assistance and legal services to individuals with disabilities including children and their educational needs

COUNSELING AND FAMILY SUPPORT

Know the signs of trouble with your child:

- Stress reactions (complaints of headache, stomach ache, rashes)
- Mood changes (irritability, tearfulness)
- Substance use (mood changes, unaccounted time, stealing, red eyes, changes in peer group)
- Sudden change with sleep and eating patterns, activities, friendships, decline in hygiene, decrease in interests

Where to go:

There are close to 50 free and affordable health care clinics available to you and your family throughout Cook County provided by the Chicago Public Health Department. To find out the closest clinic to you, call the automated Primary Care Directory Line at (312) 864- 6420. Other facilities available that are throughout the Chicagoland:

Chicago Community Counseling Center
(773) 365-7277

Catholic Charities
(312) 655-7000

Metropolitan Family Services
(773) 371-2900

Lutheran Child and Family Services
(800) 363-LCFS

Parent Resource Center
(773) 535-0139
Assistance and community outreach for parents of school aged children.

YOUTH WITH DISABILITIES

Illinois Department of Human Services
Division of Rehabilitation Services (DRS)
100 W. Randolph Suite 5-300
(312) 814-4050
www.dhs.state.il.us

DRS works in partnership with people with disabilities and their families to assist them in making informed choices to achieve full community participation through education, employment, and independent living opportunities. Individuals with mental and/or physical disabilities, ages 14 ½ through 22, may be eligible for transition services.

LEGAL SUPPORT

You might face difficult situations that require legal advice that are civil (not criminal) in nature (e.g., divorce, custody, visitation, child support). There are services free or little cost to yourself. You may call the **Chicago Volunteer Legal Service at (312) 332-1624** or email at cvls@cvls.org. Another resource is **Cook County's Legal Assistance Hotline, CARPLS: (312) 738-9200**, or visit the website to find out additional information: www.carpls.org

Child Support

Federal law says that all states must offer child support services to all families, whether they are receiving welfare or not. In Illinois, the Division of Child Support Enforcement (DCSE), a part of the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services, provides services to help families receive financial and medical support for their children. DCSE helps parents and caretakers locate the parent who does not live with the child, assist to establish the paternity, and to get child support and/or medical coverage, and change the amount a parent has to pay for child support including ex-offenders who have been convicted and who may have been charged with non-payment. DCSE also provides job search and employment services for an unemployed non-custodial parent.

Paternity can be established in three ways: both parents complete, sign, and have witnessed/dated a Voluntary Acknowledgement of Paternity form; an Administrative Paternity Order is entered by the State of Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services' Child Support Services (DCSS); or an Order of Paternity is entered in court by a judge. All unmarried parents are eligible to receive free help to establish paternity. Establishing paternity is important to ensure a child's right to a legal father-child relationship, add the father's name to the birth certificate, protect the parents' rights, enable access to family medical information, and secure the child's benefits such as financial and medical support, social security, veteran's benefits and inheritance.

Modifications be of child support may be requested by a non-custodial parent, custodial parent/caretaker, Healthcare and Family Services, or another state's child support agency. Modification reviews may requested if one of the following conditions exists: at least three years have passed since the establishment of the order or the last modification review; or there is a substantial change in the non-custodial parent's income; or the order does not address healthcare coverage for the child(ren); or a written request is received by DCSS from the custodial parent, non-custodial parent, or another state. Modifications may also be made when an Illinois National Guard or Reserve member is mobilized or activated to long-term continuous military active duty orders (defined as greater than 30 consecutive days).

For more information about child support policies and procedures in Illinois, please visit the Illinois Child Support Enforcement website at http://www.ilchildsupport.com/ or you may contact the Child Support Customer Service Call Center toll free at (800) 447-4278.

Debt assistance

Under Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services policy, a non-custodial parent can file for a modification of payment amount when the level does not match current earnings. To qualify for a modification review, the non-custodial parent must document a substantial change in circumstances or at least a 20 percent change in income. In Illinois, a new child support payment order cannot be established against a non-custodial parent while that parent is incarcerated. However, when parents go to prison, their child support orders are often not suspended or reduced. As a result, debt continues to accumulate. Thus, it is the individual's responsibility to file for modification of payment prior to the period of incarceration.

Rap Sheets

What is a rap sheet?

A rap sheet, also known as a criminal record, is a record of arrests and convictions made in the State of Illinois for a person 17 years or older. Rap sheets are maintained by the Illinois Department of State Police, Bureau of Identification. Each time a person is arrested and/or fingerprinted, the police department sends a report of the arrest to the Bureau. A rap sheet contains information only for a certain state, but the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) is notified of all arrests across the country. A rap sheet can serve as a roadblock for a person with a criminal record trying to re-integrate into the workforce. In order to file for expungement or sealing in the City of Chicago, you must have a copy of your Chicago rap sheet.

Where can I obtain my rap sheet?

Ex-offenders have both a court record and a criminal record that is maintained by the Illinois State Police. You can access your criminal record/rap sheet from a couple of places:

Chicago/Cook County
Chicago Police Department
Access and Review Division, 3510 S. Michigan Avenue, 1st Floor, Chicago, IL 60602
Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. for fingerprinting
Monday-Friday 2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. to pick up results
There is a $16.00 fee.
Return 1 week later to pick up your RAP sheet.

Illinois State Police (the entire state)
Illinois State Police, Division of Administration, Bureau of Identification
260 North Chicago Street, Joliet, IL 60431
815-740-5160, extension 2743
Fee for non-fingerprint conviction information: $16.00
Fee for fingerprint conviction information: $20.00
It typically takes about 2 weeks to receive by mail.

Expungement

How can I get my record expunged?

People with qualifying arrests and convictions may petition the court of their sentencing county to officially remove their court record from the system. This is called expungement. If your case is expunged, neither employers nor law enforcement will have information about your case. If you have questions regarding eligibility for expungement and sealing you may contact the Circuit Court Clerk's Office located in the Daley Center, Room 1006 or 26th and California, 5th Floor. Also, you can go online and download the procedure and forms at http://www.cookcountyclerkofcourt.org. Additionally, you can contact the Office of the Appellate Defender. They have information packets explaining the process and requirements for expunging/sealing of records. To contact them with questions, or to request a copy of the information packet, you may email, call or write them:

For Cook County cases:	**For all Illinois cases outside Cook County:**
P.O. Box 64895 Chicago, IL 60664-0895. Toll-Free: (866)787-1776 Fax:(312) 793-2278 Email: Expungement.Chicago@osad.state.il.us	P.O. Box 5240 Springfield, IL 62705-5240 Toll-Free: (866)431-4907 Fax:(217) 782-5385 Email: Expungement.Springfield@osad.state.il.us

If you have cases in both Cook and another county or counties, contact either office.

If you are seeking to have your criminal record from Cook County expunged or sealed, it is recommended that you use their forms and procedures. You may obtain them at the following website: http://www.cookcountyclerkofcourt.org/general_info/expundgeandsealing/expundge_sealing.htm

Attorney Source List – For Expungement

There are attorneys that may be able to provide legal services on your expungement case at low-cost or no cost to you in the state of Illinois. Attorneys are identified on a legal service list. This list is regularly updated. It is best to call the toll free number for the most up-to-date information: 1(866) 431-4907 or (217) 782-7203 for a current list.

Law Firms and Agencies

Cabrini Green Legal Aid
740 N. Milwaukee
Chicago, IL 60642
312-738-2452

Chicago Legal Clinic
2938 E. 91st St.
Chicago, IL 60617
Phone: 773-731-1762

EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

Illinois Department of Labor

Finding and maintaining a job can be difficult, particularly if you face hardships or if you have been convicted of a crime. The Illinois Department of Labor (IDOL) is established to make sure there is equal treatment and fairness in employment rights, pay, and safety. IDOL takes complaints if you feel you have been discriminated against due to age, race, family status, or disability. There are specific programs to address barriers in either finding or maintaining a job. For instance:

- The Victims' Economic Security and Safety Act (VESSA) is in place to respond to the needs of workers who are victims of domestic and sexual violation. VESSA allows the victim up to 12 weeks of unpaid leave to take care of issues related to the victimization, such as medical care, therapy, and legal assistance. VESSA allows the worker to take this time off without fear of job termination. To find out more information about VESSA go to IDOL website: www.state.il.us/agency/idol

- Illinois WorkNet is committed to helping ex-offenders reenter the workforce. The selected WorkNet partners have experience working with ex-offenders in programs that offer job readiness training and skill development alongside support services that help individuals achieve self-sufficiency. To find a WorkNet agency or receive additional information on programs for ex-offenders, contact the Mayor's Office of Department of Community Development at 312-746-7777. You may also obtain information by calling 311.

Other Cook County Links for Youth and Adult Job Assistance and Placement

Calumet Green Manufacturing Partnership (CGMP) is designed to help acquire the skills and credentials manufacturing companies are looking for. Trainees receive state-of-the-art training and facilities, industry-recognized certificates in manufacturing skills, and employment assistance. To qualify you must be at least 18 years old, be drug free, be interested in a manufacturing career, be physically fit to do the work, and have a valid state ID or drivers license. To apply contact OAI to schedule an appointment for intake at (708) 283-5020. For more information visit www.cgmp4u.org.

CAPS provides training, transportation assistance, etc. Call (773) 846-6383 for more information

CARA Program is a full service job training, placement and retention program. CARA Program accepts applicants with convictions except for sex-based offenses and seriously violent crimes. For more information call the Admissions Department at (312) 798-3309.

Community and Economic Development Association of Cook County, Inc (CEDA) is a not-for-profit organization that provides a wide range of services that include youth and adult job training and placement, education supports, and housing assistance. For more information about CEDA, go online to www.cedaorg.net.

Chicago Women in Trades works to help women prepare to enter into construction and manufacturing careers through free Technical Opportunities Program for women interested in a construction career and Fast-Track Welding Program with an emphasis on manufacturing careers. For more information or directions, call Meredith Thetford at (312) 942-1444, email mthetford@cwit2.org, or visit www.chicagowomenintrades.org to learn more.

Choice Acts NFP offers re-entry programs and services for returning citizens. For more information contact Anthony Nix, Chief Executive Officer at (888) 642-9990 or choiceactsfounder@sbcglobal.net.

Federal Bonding Program offers bonding to ex-offenders for the first six months of employment. For more information, call: (877) 872-5627.

GEO Reentry Services is the nation's leader in safe, secure alternatives to detention and reentry services for offenders released to community treatment and supervision. For more information call the Employment Education Coordinator on the main telephone line at (773) 638-5702 or visit www.georeentry.com.

Gateway provides a wide range of transitional services that include job training, housing support, and substance abuse treatment. Contact (877)-321-RECOVER for more information.

Heartland Alliance provides programs in housing, health care, legal protections, and economic opportunity. They provide a continuum of services designed to solve multiple challenges people face. For more information, visit the website at: www.heartlandalliance.org.

Inspiration Kitchens: (**Uptown at 4715 N. Sheridan Road or Inspiration Kitchens–Garfield Park at 3504 W. Lake Street)**

- The 13-week training program prepares participants for careers in the hospitality industry through hands-on and classroom training. Curriculum includes basic culinary skills and concepts, reading and converting recipes, nutrition education, following and taking direction, teamwork, sanitation and safety, restaurant service, employment and life skills classes, and the ServSafe® city and state foodservice sanitation course.
- Students get hands-on experience by training at one of our two social enterprise restaurants, where they work lunch, brunch and dinner shifts and learn a broad range of skills.
- To enrolling in the program is to attend an open orientation: every Wednesday at 1:00PM at Inspiration Cafe, 4554 N. Broadway, Suite 207, Chicago, IL. (773) 975-9898

Jane Addams Resource Corporation offers financial coaching, public benefits assistance, community technology center computer access, adult learners programs and services including Spanish-language GED assistance, and employment services including career management courses and a manufacturing skills program. To participate in services you must attend an orientation either Wednesday at 6pm or Thursday at 10am. For more information contact Patricia Arias at (773) 751-7104.

Ladder Up is a non-profit program that provides financial literacy education and workshops, tax assistance programs, and help with financial aid. Contact (312) 409-1555 for additional information.

National Lawndale Employment Network (U-Turn Permitted Program) provides job training. The agency also has a broad network base to support job placement and entrepreneurial opportunities. For more information call (773) 265-7944.

Safer Foundation is a full service re-entry program that provides pre-employment training, job referral and placement assistance, post-placement follow-up, as well as education supports. The agency also assists with connecting individuals to food, shelter, medical care, mental health services, and substance abuse treatment as well as providing continuing education and support groups for anger management, parenting skills and HIV prevention. Safer Foundation also offers pro bono services to assess for potential certificates of rehabilitation to lift statutory bars to jobs, licenses or other necessities such as employment that result from a conviction history. Contact (312) 922-2200 for additional information or (312) 913-5796 to schedule an appointment.

Salvation Army 07 – Correctional Service offers mental health services, vocational training, and life skills training for previously incarcerated men and women transitioning back into their communities. For more information, please visit 105 S. Ashland Ave., Chicago, IL 60607, or call (312) 421-2406

Westside Health Authority offers services in counseling, legal assistance, and employment training for previously incarcerated men and women and at-risk youth transitioning back into their communities. For more information, call (773) 786-0226.

WorkNet Chicago Workforce Development

Northside Workforce Center
4740 N. Sheridan
(773) 334-4747; TT: (773) 334-9804

Polish American Association
3815-3819 N. Cicero
(773) 282-1122 ext.413 or ext.414

Albany Park Community Center
3403 W. Lawrence, Suite 200
(773) 539-3828

Asian Human Services
4753 N. Broadway, Suite 518
(773) 293-8108

Howard Area Community Center
1623 W. Howard
(773) 262-3515

Ser Services Inc.
3948 W. 26th St., Suite 213
(773) 542-9030 ext. 250

Pyramid Partnership
3057 N. Lincoln Ave.
(773) 975-9898

Pilsen Workforce Center
1700 W. 18th St
(312) 994-8300; TTY: (312) 261-7983

Garfield Workforce Center
10 S. Kedzie, Room 134
(773) 722-3885: TTY: (773) 722-6081

CARES Chicago
3333 W. Arthington, Suite 139
(773) 265-3300

Chicago Career Center
11004 S. Michigan
(773) 233-4364

Chinese American Service League
2141 S. Tan Court
312-791-0418

Goodwill Industries
2435-37 W. 63rd St.
(773) 863-6030

Mid-South Workforce Center
4314 S. Cottage Grove Ave.
(773) 538-5627; TTY: (773) 538-8260

Southeast Chicago Development Commission
2938 E. 91st St., Room 304
(773) 731-8785

Southwest Workforce Center
7500 S. Pulaski, Bldg 100
(773) 884-7000; TTY: (773) 884-0269
For additional assistance with referrals, please call DFSS at 312-746-8545 (TTY: 312-746-5455).

Federation of Labor
130 W. Randolph
(312) 565-9431

YMCA of Metropolitan Chicago
11 E. Adams
(312) 913-2150

Greater West Town Development Corporation
790 N. Milwaukee
(312) 432-1300

Instituto del Progreso Latino
2570 S. Blue Island Ave.
(773) 890-0055

Easter Seals of Metropolitan Chicago
120 W. Madison Oak Park
(708) 524- 8700

Outside City Limits

The following list offers training and employment services for people outside the Chicago city limits.

Crittenton Centers
442 W. John Gwynn Jr. Ave
Peoria, IL 61605
(309) 674-0105

Prisoner Release Ministry
37 East Cass Street
Joliet, IL 60432
(815) 723-8998

Southern Illinois University Carbondale Rehab Institute
1025 Lincoln Drive, Rehn Hall
Carbondale, IL 62901
(618)536-7704

Urban League of Champaign County
314 South Neil Street
Champaign, IL 61820
(217) 363-3333

Unemployment Insurance

Unemployment Insurance (UI) provides unemployment benefits that include monetary benefits to workers who become unemployed through no fault of their own and who meet all requirements set forth in the UI Act. UI is based on a reserve fund, the Unemployment Trust Fund, which is maintained through contributions collected by IDES from employers (deducted from your paycheck) defined as liable under the Illinois Unemployment Insurance Act. Eligible individuals may receive benefits for the maximum number of weeks payable under the law, unless the worker finds employment or becomes ineligible through failure to meet a requirement. Eligibility requires to be unemployed for reasons not your fault, to be actively seeking work, and to be able and available to work. Job seekers can apply for benefits online at www.ides.state.il.us or in person at a local IDES office or Illinois Employment and Training Center.

VOTING RIGHTS

Voting is a way to get your issues and concerns heard by decision makers, such as political leaders, school boards, etc. When your concerns are similar to others, this creates a collective voice for change in a way that matters to you.

Can I vote in Illinois?

Individuals have the right to vote except for ex-offenders in many states. However in Illinois, the voting right for ex-offenders, as well as those detained in jail or prison awaiting trial, have been restored.

What are the Voter Registration requirements?

- Must be a US citizen;
- Must be at least 18 years of age by Election Day
- Must have been a resident of the precinct at least 30 days prior to Election Day.

When may I register to vote?

Registration is open year round except: During the 27-day period just prior to an election and during the 2-day period after each election (1 day after in Chicago)

Where can I register to vote?

- County Clerk's Office
- Board of election commissioner's Office
- City and Village Offices
- Township Offices
- Precinct committeemen
- Schools
- Public Libraries
- Military Recruitment Offices

When applying for service at the following:

- Driver's License Facilities
- Department of Healthcare & Family Services
- Department of Employment Security

Can I register to vote online?

You may visit any of the following websites and fill out and submit a registration form:

- www.RocktheVote.com
- www.DeclareYourself.com
- www.ProjectVote.org/Register

Can I register to vote by mailing an application to my election office?

Citizens may apply to register to vote by mailing in an application. The applications are available at some public and private facilities where you live. Also, applications can be downloaded from the Illinois State Board of Elections website at: www.elections.il.gov. When you apply for registration using the mail-in form, it must be postmarked prior to the close of registration.

When can I consider myself officially registered to vote?

As soon as you receive a voter ID card in the mail, you can consider yourself registered. If you do not receive an ID card within 3 weeks after you registered, contact your election authority.

EDUCATION

Financial Aid

Federal Student Aid
www.studentaid.ed.gov

For details on whether drug conviction(s) of a particular individual would limit aid eligibility, visit www.studentaid.ed.gov/pubs and view the "FAFSA Question 23 Student Aid Eligibility Worksheet" to establish if or when a conviction limits eligibility.

Education Services

Liberty High School
7739 S. Halstead St.
1-888-363-5556
Or call directly at (773) 901-9094 and ask for Ms. Venus
www.libertyhighschool.us

- Adult learners are able to use a home study, self-paced system that is supported by qualified high school teachers.
- Entrance requirements are to be 18 years old or older, complete all necessary enrollment forms, and provide a down payment by cash, check, or credit card.

City Colleges of Chicago
226 W. Jackson Blvd.
(773) 265-5343
www.ccc.edu

- Goals include increasing the number and share of adult basic education (ABE), high school equivalency degree (GED), and English as a second language (ESL) students who advance and succeed in college-level courses; drastically improve outcomes for students requiring remediation; increase the rate of transfer to bachelor's degree programs following CCC graduation; and increase the number of students earning college credentials of economic value.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

Common Roadblocks and Solutions

Identification/Documentation

Question: I don't have stable housing. So, how do I go about getting proof of residency when I'm asked to provide at least two forms of residency to get into a program, to get identification, etc.?

Logistics: Official mail from a local, state, or federal governmental agency is acceptable (i.e., release permit). Also, if you are on probation/parole, live in a transitional living home, or involved in social service agency, ask the staff assigned to you for a letter that verifies where you live. The letter should be on the agency's letterhead, dated, include your full name, and address. Additionally, a voter's registration card (issued within 90 days) is often an acceptable form of identification and proof of residency. Take advantage of the fact that Illinois is one of the few states that allow individuals with a conviction to vote.

Transition Tip: If you are in transition or move around often, it might be helpful to ask someone that you can rely on and trust to keep your important documents (e.g., birth certificate) so that you are sure to have important documents when you need them.

Basic Living

Question: I don't have a job or anyone in my life to help me out financially. What can I do to get by until I find a job?

Logistics: There are programs available to help in temporary situations, such as SNAP (see Financial Assistance Section).

Transition Tip: There is a difference between needs and wants. As you are starting to rebuild, use your resources to address your immediate needs; the wants can come later.

Housing

Question: I need to leave my transitional housing program soon. What do I need to know to secure housing if I have a conviction?

Logistics: It is important to understand that the current federal law allows public housing agencies to deny individuals with a criminal history access to housing. Further, landlords of private housing are allowed to use discretion in accepting tenants and in turn can deny anyone as long as denial is not discriminatory based on characteristics of protected classes (age, gender, race/ethnicity, religion). A former offender is not considered a protected class. Thus, there are no federal protections to safe guard discriminatory practices against ex-offenders. Important resources to use in gaining housing are tips from family and friends who can provide housing leads. Also, outreach to housing programs and access housing lists that support re-entry programs, such as City of Chicago Affordable Housing (www.cityofchicago.org), Direct2Housing.org, ILHousingSearch.org, and IllinoisWorkNet.com

Transition Tip: In deciding on a place to live, it is crucial to keep in mind the type of housing you can afford. Also, think of your housing as more than just a bed. Be aware of your triggers and select housing that can help you be at your best.

Job Hunting

Question: I have little job experience and the workforce is quite different today. How do I learn the basic skills to get a job?

Logistics: Search for community agencies that offer both job training (interviewing strategies, computer classes, etc.) and job placement services. Most of these agencies provide their services free of charge. Such agencies help you to develop the skills needed to secure a job. See Employment Service Section.

Transition Tip: Learn how to identify and talk about your strengths. Learn how to talk about lessons learned from bad choices that demonstrate your efforts to move forward and persevere. Remember, fast money comes at the cost of freedom where as legitimate money comes with the benefit of freedom.

Social Supports

Question: How do I stay committed to my successful transition when things are not going my way?

Logistics: It might be beneficial to seek out support groups composed of individuals and mentors that can relate to obstacles that you are experiencing and help you along your journey to a successful transition.

Transition Tip: Successful transitions take time and patience and many obstacles may ensue throughout this time. Try keeping the bigger picture in mind and accept there will be slips and dips along the way. Be committed to persevering.

FREE FUN, LEISURE, AND ESSENTIALS

Greater Chicago Food Depository
773-3663
www.chicagosfoodbank.org

After School Matters
66 W. Randolph Street
312-742-4182
www.afterschoolmatters.org

Broadway Youth Center
3179 N Broadway Street (near Belmont)
773-935-3151

- Youth 12-24 including gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered youth
- Safe place for youth experiencing homelessness
- Health education workshops, access to computers and telephones, free hygiene and safer sex products, case managers to help with housing or job resources, support groups, etc.
- Free anonymous HIV testing and STI screenings daily

Peace Corner Youth Center
5022 W Madison St. (Austin neighborhood)

- Youth ages 12-18
- Afterschool hours (2:30pm-6:30pm) for homework help or use of computer lab
- Recreational activities, gym
- Restorative justice program: legal services, transportation assistance, mediation support, conflict resolution support

Chicago Community Voice Mail

- Provides a limited number of homeless people with personal telephone numbers linked to free private voice mail boxes
- To apply, call Inspiration Corporation at 773-878-0981 or stop by 4554 N. Broadway to find out about other services such as job training and assistance finding housing

DuSable Museum of African American History
740 E. 56th Place
773-947-0600

Mexican Fine Arts Center Museum
1852 W. 19th Street
312-738-1503

Latino Cultural Center
University of Illinois at Chicago
803 S. Halsted Street, Lecture Center B2 (enter campus through 750 S. Halsted Street)
http://latinocultural.uic.edu/

Irish American Heritage Center
4626 N. Knox Avenue (at W. Wilson Avenue)
773-282-7035
http://irish-american.org/

Goethe-Institut Chicago German Cultural Center
150 N. Michigan Avenue
312-263-0472

Women & Children First Bookstore
5233 N. Clark Street (at W. Farragut Avenue)
773-769-9299
www.womenandchildrenfirst.com

- Regular book discussion groups and author readings
- Children's storytelling Wed. at 10:15-11am

Harold Washington Library
400 S. State Street
312-747-4300

- Free classes and lectures
- Internet and Wi-Fi connection

Chicago Cultural Center
78th E. Washington Street
312-346-3278

Jay Pritzker Pavilion in Millennium Park
100 N. Michigan Avenue (at E. Washington Street)
312-742-1168

Chicago Blues Festival in Grant Park
June 8-10, 2012

- Largest annual free blues festival in the world

SummerDance in Grant Park
During the summer months, free introductory one-hour lessons of diverse dance followed by live music and dancing.

Free Tours with Chicago Greeters
312-744-8000
www.chicagogreeter.com

- Local volunteers provide 204 hour walking and public transit tours
- Parties of six or fewer register seven business days in advance online or telephone Mon-Fri 9am–5pm

Indian Boundary Park Zoo
2500 W. Lunt Avenue (northwest corner of park in West Rogers Park neighborhood)

- Small open-air zoo with a cow, alpacas, goats, and sheep

Lincoln Park Zoo

2001 N. Clark Street

Street Level Youth Media
1637 N Ashland Ave
www.streetlevel.org

- Offers free media arts program for youth

YMCA of Metro Chicago
Locations: **West** 6235 S. Homan Ave., Chicago, IL 60629 (773-434-0300)
South 6330 S. Stony Island, Chicago, IL 60637 (773-947-0700)
McCormick Tribune 1834 N. Lawndale Ave., Chicago, IL 60647 (773-235-2525)

- Sliding scale membership fees for members that qualify
- Workout facility, pool, sauna, childcare

Chicago Public Library

- Cardholders can check out a **Kids Museum Passport**, which allows free admission to a family of four (with at least one child under the age of 18) at one of the 15 museums, including the **Museum of Science and Industry**. Available at all library locations on a first-come, first-served basis.

Jane Addams Hull-House Museum
800 S. Halsted Street

- This museum is dedicated to providing free to the public exhibits and programs that focus on policy efforts. The tribute to Jane Adams serves as an educational conduit to addressing issues that affect the sociological conditions of underserved communities.

Art Institute Chicago
111 S. Michigan Ave

- Free for all Illinois residents from 5-8 p.m. Thursdays. Kids 13 and under are always free.
- Free Winter Weekdays: Jan. 5-Feb. 10, free to Illinois residents every weekday.

Free Obama Care Phone Resource

- **To determine your eligibility please go to the following website:**
  - **http://www.obamaphone.com**
  - **Participating Cell Phone Providers include:**
    - **Access Wireless**
    - **American Assistance**
    - **Care Wireless**
    - **Life Wireless**
    - **Reachout Wireless**
    - **Safelink Wireless**
    - **Yortel Wireless**

Anklebiters Playgroup
4520 N. Western Ave.

- Every Monday the group meets in the Preschool Motor Skills room in the lower level. Let your little ones amble around with age-appropriate toys while you catch up with other parents. Use the north courtyard entrance and head to the lunchroom to sign in between 10-10:30 a.m.

- Meets every Monday, 10-11:30 a.m. Cost: Free Ages: Infant to 3 years

REFERENCES

Vital Records

http://ideph.state.il.us
http://cookcountyvitalrecord.com
http://www.dmv.org/il-illinois/locations-&-hours.php

Employments Services

http://www.cityofchicago.org/city/webportal
http://www.dhs.state.il.us
http://www.ides.state.il.us
http://tripsweb.rtachicago.com

Financial Assistance

http://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=30371

Housing

http://www.thechaorg.com
http://www.chacinc.com
http://www.hud.gov/offices/pih/pha/contacts/states/il.cfm
www.rentbetter.org

Health & Social Services

http://www.chicagonow.org

Parenting

http://www.dhs.state.il.us/chp/ofh/MIH/childcnp.asp
http://www.actforchildren.org

Citizen Rights

http://www.elections.state.il.us/Downloads/ElectionInformation/PDF/registervote.pdf
www.Projectvote.org
www.RocktheVote.com
www.DeclareYourself.com
www.elections.il.gov

Legal

http://www.ides.state.il.us/ExOffenders/rap.shtml
http://www.cookcountyclerkofcourt.org/generalinfo/expundeandsealing/expundgesealing.htm
http://www.ilchildsupport.com
http://www.state.il.us/agency/idol
http://www.cookcountyclerkofcourt.org.

Free Fun and Leisure

http://www.chipublib.org
http://www.afterschoolmatters.org