

fact sheet

Youth Development

eliminating racism
empowering women

ywca

St. Paul



A United Way Community Partner

Community Issue: Youth At-Risk

- Young people spend about 2,000 hours each year without structure or supervision. (Minnesota Commission on Out-of-School Time, 2005)
- Forty-two percent of Minnesota children ages 10 to 12 are home alone after school — the highest percentage in the nation. (Urban Institute, 1999)
- Each year in Minnesota, 10,000 students drop out of high school. Students of color are two to five times more likely to drop out of school than their white peers. (Minnesota 2020, 2007; Minnesota Minority Education Partnership, Inc., 2009)
- Over a lifetime of working, high school dropouts are estimated to earn \$400,000 less than those who graduated from high school. For males, the lifetime earnings loss is nearly \$485,000. (Northeastern University: Center for Labor Market Studies, 2009)
- Ninety percent of the fastest growing jobs in America require post-secondary credentials or training. (U.S. Department of Education, 2007)
- Quality after school programs have been shown to improve school attendance, test scores and grades, and reduce juvenile violent crime, substance abuse and sexual activity. (After School Alliance, 2009)

changing minds, bodies & lives



Our Response: Empowering At-Risk Youth to Reach Their Full Potential

Our Youth Development programs empower youth ages 8-24 to build bright futures. Within our walls, youth are safe and supported as they overcome challenges, build new skills, gain experiences and develop the habits and attitudes that will help them to achieve success in the classroom, workplace and community.

Core Programs

Promoting Positive Choices

Youth Achievers Program (YAP): Equips at-risk youth ages 8-14 with the skills, attitudes and experiences they will need to succeed and grow. After school and summer programming focuses on life skills, academic enrichment and healthy minds/bodies.

Keeping Teens in School & Focused on the Future

IMPACT Program: Prepares at-risk youth ages 15-24 for high school graduation, post-secondary education, training and work. Activities focus on expanding aspirations, building academic skills, fostering personal/social responsibility and improving work readiness.

What You Can Do to Help

Volunteer your time to support the healthy development of youth. Group and individual opportunities are available after school and all-day during summer and release

days. Whether providing homework assistance, sharing a skill or hobby, helping run a special event, preparing teens for their first job interview or making a financial contribution — **you can make a difference!** Ninety-two cents of every dollar goes directly to services for women, children and families.

Youth Development by the Numbers:*

Total Served: 402 young people

Demographics:

People of Color	Low-Income
93%	81%
Single Parent Household	At-Risk
79%	100%

Total Annual Investment in Empowering At-Risk Youth: \$1,078,820

*Based on 2009 Program Data