

AT-RISK YOUTH

Briarpatch Runaway & Homeless Youth Program

One of YSOSW's core services, the Briarpatch Runaway & Homeless Youth Program provides counseling, case management crisis intervention, information, referral, and advocacy to teens and their families.

All services are accessible 24-hours a day, seven days a week, through YSOSW's Briarpatch help-line:

608.251.1126

800.798.1126
(toll-free)

Services are available on a walk-in basis Monday through Friday at YSOSW's offices, located at 2720 Rimrock Road. All services are confidential and provided at no cost to clients.

Street Outreach Program

The only service of its kind in South Central Wisconsin, YSOSW's Street Outreach Program provides education and prevention materials, information, referrals, access to shelter, counseling, and other services to street youth. Collaborating with a coalition of non-profit partners, Street Outreach Program staff and trained volunteers provide services to help street youth remain safe and healthy.

Children of Violent Homes Project

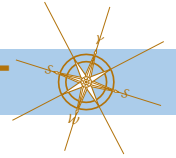
A joint project of Youth Services of Southern Wisconsin, the Rainbow Project, Domestic Abuse Intervention Services, and Family Service, the Children of Violent Homes Project provides services to children and teens who have witnessed domestic violence.

Project HUGS

Project HUGS provides advocacy and support services to parents who have children/teens involved in harmful behaviors including alcohol/drug use, truancy, and delinquency. Based on a philosophy of family empowerment, the services provided by Project HUGS are sensitive to the needs of each individual family and are delivered in a non-judgmental and compassionate manner.

- Project HUGS has helped thousands of Dane County families since 1985
- Project HUGS provides a unique service for parents that have been unable to get help elsewhere
- Project HUGS helps parents learn to effectively deal with their troubled children thus helping prevent the need for more expensive interventions with these youth
- Project HUGS helps connect parents to resources they were unaware of or had difficulty accessing on their own

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT



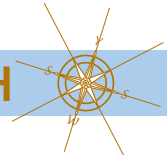
Teens Like Us

Teens Like Us is a weekly support, education and social group for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Questioning (LGBTQ) teens. Teens meet to socialize, share feelings and experiences, offer support, and build community with other LGBTQ teens. The group also offers leadership development opportunities and community events.

Choices

Choices is a weekly support and education group for teenage girls in grades 8 through 12. Choices provides a safe place to discuss feelings and issues such as: relationships, school performance, sexuality, drug and alcohol use/abuse, depression, self-esteem and body image. Emphasis is placed on respect and support for each participant.

COURT INVOLVED YOUTH



Intensive Supervision

Intensive Supervision provides an opportunity for adjudicated adolescents to remain in the community rather than being sent to a residential care center or juvenile correctional facility. Services provided include crisis-intervention, individual counseling, monitoring of school attendance, family meetings, mentoring, and curfew monitoring.

Youth Peer Court

An alternative to the traditional court system, Youth Peer Court is a program for first-time youthful offenders who pled guilty to a misdemeanor or ordinance violation. A volunteer jury of adolescents, with staff guidance, hear the facts of each case and provides offending youth with a restorative sanction. When successfully completed, the earlier conviction is expunged.

Youth Restitution Program

YRP provides adult supervised community service and work opportunities for youth with court-ordered community service and restitution obligations. Each year, program participants perform thousands of hours of community service and return tens of thousands of dollars to victims of juvenile crime.

YOUTH EMPLOYMENT



Madison Street Team

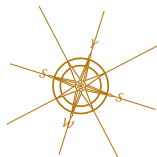
The Madison Street Team provides summer employment for 14 and 15 year old youth. While participating in activities to improve self-esteem and promote teamwork, the youth help maintain Madison's beauty by picking up litter and recyclable materials from designated areas.

Youth Job Center

The Youth Job Center (YJC) helps 14-18 year old youth eliminate barriers to employment and gain the skills necessary to succeed in private sector jobs. Staff provide youth with assistance in securing employment and with job site support.

TEMPORARY SHELTER

Our network of host-home volunteers provides temporary shelter for teens who need respite from their homes, or for runaway and homeless youth who urgently need a place to stay. Host-home providers are licensed by the state of Wisconsin to provide shelter for teens for up to 21 days, with most placements averaging one to two days.



**Serving South Central Wisconsin
for more than 40 years!**

Mission

Youth Services of Southern Wisconsin provides innovative services dedicated to strengthening and improving the lives of youth, their families and our community.

We believe:

1. Youth are valuable assets who represent the future of our community.
2. Teamwork, cultural competence, and a willingness to embrace change are the foundations of our success.
3. Collaboration and partnerships build strong communities.
4. Measuring the results of services promotes effectiveness and accountability.



About us

Founded in 1971, Youth Services of Southern Wisconsin (YSOSW) has a long and distinguished history of providing quality services to youth in need. The agency serves adolescent-aged youth and their families throughout Dane County. With the support of more than 100 volunteers, YSOSW serves approximately 2,000 at-risk and court-involved youth every year. YSOSW is a 501(c)3 tax-exempt, non-profit organization formed through the merger of Briarpatch and Community Adolescent Programs (CAP) on July 1, 2003.



Youth Services of Southern Wisconsin, Inc.

Guiding Youth Toward a Better Future

24-HOUR HELP-LINE

608.251.1126
800.798.1126
(Toll-Free)

WEB

www.youthsos.org

EMAIL

ysosw@youthsos.org



2720 Rimrock Road
Madison, Wisconsin 53713
Tel: 608.245.2550
Facsimile: 608.245.2551
Telecommunications Relay Service (711)



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Briarpatch & CAP

