Corporate Giving Guide

ABOUT YOUTH OUTREACH SERVICES

Youth Outreach Service (YOS) is a non-profit organization focused on helping at-risk youth in the Chicago area to reach their potential. For over 60 years, our focus has been on caring for teens that face challenges at home, in school and in the community.

YOS provides critical services in some of the highest need communities in Chicago and its western suburbs. For many clients, the severity of their struggles runs deep, including homelessness, substance addiction, mental health issues, family conflict, gang involvement, and delinquency. Our goal is to inspire positive development so clients and their families can face challenges with confidence with the ongoing support they need to thrive for a lifetime.

YOS responds to the needs of youth where they are at, both emotionally as well as physically, whether that be within programs in schools, at clients' homes and at our offices. We provide comprehensive services from our four service areas depending on each client's needs: Counseling, Prevention, Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice.

HISTORY

In 1959, Rev. Stan Davis of Galewood United Church of Christ established an outreach program for neighborhood youth of Chicago's Northwest side. Over the next 60 years, the organization expanded the area it serves and eventually changed its name to Youth Outreach Services in 1984. Youth services expanded into the western suburbs in the 1960's in Proviso and Leyden Townships. In 1971, we became one of Illinois' first adolescent substance abuse providers. YOS added a crisis intervention team to serve runaway and homeless youth, in 1977. By the 1980's, we added Prevention services to reach youth before they went too far down a negative path. In doing so, we saw a great need to work with youth involved in the juvenile justice system, so began offering community-based detention alternatives in 1995. We also added a foster care program for those youth abused or neglected, involved in the child welfare system. By the 2000's, YOS made strategic decisions to expand to more communities, and offering proven and effective interventions that put us on the map as one of the top social service agencies in Cook County and Illinois. Today, as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, we have a staff of 120 professionals, working in 23 Chicago communities and 43 suburban Cook neighborhoods, offering 20+ programs or services.

Youth Outreach Services
Administrative Office
2411 W. Congress Pkwy.
Chicago, Illinois 60612
773.777.7112
773.777.7611 (fax)
www.yos.org

WHY CORPORATE GIVING

Every year, Youth Outreach Services partners with companies, big and small, to connect generous people to worthy causes and families in need. Companies and individuals can give in various ways, including cash donations or grants, in-kind gifts, volunteer events, employee giving, sponsorships, cause-related marketing, and pro bono services.

Corporate philanthropy fosters employee engagement and generates business value. When businesses participate in corporate philanthropy, they are creating a positive public image for themselves, enhancing their relationships with consumers, and creating a positive work environment. YOS aligns with companies with similar values and missions to help our communities' youth succeed in life.

GIVING OPTIONS

Fundraising Matches
Community Grants
In-kind Product Donations
Volunteer Events
Annual Giving
Automatic Payroll Deductions
Workshops and Trainings
Youth Activity Sponsorship
Community Events

Fundraising Matches

Fundraising matches, such as matching gifts, provide YOS with your company's donations after YOS has reached a fundraising benchmark or goal. This is usually associated with a fundraising event or campaign. The participant employer will match the money we raise through sponsorships or other donations. YOS will recognize and promote your company's branding during events so that you get maximum exposure to our network of supporters.

Community Grants

Community grants from your company is a pre-established, agreed-upon set amount focused on one of YOS's specific youth programs, agency efforts or capital projects. This option offers your company a focused endeavor to see a direct positive impact in the community, with clear objectives, timelines, and goals. YOS is happy to align such a grant with your mission and values.

In-Kind Product Donations

Products or services that your company specializes in are great ways to give back to YOS. For instance, companies may donate computers, consulting services, food, or marketing strategies. This option allows YOS to benefit from valued and needed products and services, and your company can feel pride in knowing you've helped a worthy cause. YOS also has plenty of item ideas listed on our Amazon Charity Wish List too.

Volunteer Events

Volunteer events are great corporate giving programs that allow your company to give your time, in -person or virtually, to those in need. This is a great team building activity that can benefit all parties involved. YOS receives both volunteered time and money, while your employees feel accomplished by volunteering for a great cause, and the company, as a whole, gets to demonstrate their philanthropy and interest in bettering the community.

Annual Giving

Companies are encouraged to donate at certain times of the year. The most common time for companies to give is at the end of the year. This can be either a corporate donation and/or a compilation of employee gifts. YOS commonly has high-peak donation times throughout the year, such as around the holidays as well as during fall's back-to-school time.

Automatic Payroll Deductions

Automatic payroll deductions are one of the easiest corporate giving programs to take part in. Employees can arrange to have a portion of their paycheck regularly contributed to YOS. If your company already has a list of approved organizations, we can connect with your Finance department to be added to this. Alternatively, your staff can go to YOS's website and select a recurring donation frequency at https://www.yos.org/donate.

Workshops and Trainings

YOS is always looking to connect skilled volunteers with our staff and youth clients. If your company's staff can offer a workshop or training, YOS can set up either virtual or in-person sessions. Our youth can benefit from such trainings including resume workshops, workforce development, introductions to your industry and job opportunities, or interview practice.

Youth Activity Sponsorship

As a part of our youth programming across 20+ service offerings, YOS incorporates field trips and outings for the youth to gain experience, explore the world, and have fun. This may include trips to museums, the zoo, picnics or restaurants, recreational centers, movie nights, camping trips, and more. Your company can help by planning one of these fun gatherings, or sponsor a one-time or recurring event.

Community Events

Community fundraisers are events organized and hosted by you! There are a wide variety of ways to fundraise – you can host an event, or set up an online fundraising page. Such events may include a car wash, bake sale, sports tournament, 5K walk, or motorcycle ride event. You, as the event organizers, are fully responsible for organizing and hosting your fundraising event. YOS can provide guidance, answer questions, have staff members attend, and provide YOS materials. Giving to YOS's unrestricted fund allows money to rapidly flow to the areas that need it most.

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CASE STUDY 1

The First Congregational Church of La Grange selected the "Adopt a Room" project. Church parishioners and the confirmation class of youth fundraised, purchased furniture needs, and spent a weekend decorating the office space in Melrose Park, Illinois. The kids and church fundraised over $3,000, allowing for two of our therapy rooms to be revamped into beautiful, welcoming spaces.

Read more here: https://www.yos.org/newsroom/news/adopt-room

CASE STUDY 2

Two Chicago companies, Performics and PricewaterhouseCoopers, lent helping hands to YOS's community garden for a day full of service work. Volunteers built a garden sprinkler system, planted seedlings, and assembled snack packs for our clients. Volunteers also grilled out while assembling other garden structures. All supplies and food were donated by the companies, in addition to hours of their time.

Read more here: https://www.yos.org/newsroom/news/dayofservice

CASE STUDY 3

Burns & McDonnell planned and orchestrated a celebratory barbeque outing at Montrose Beach to commemorate the completion of the youth's summer jobs program. Volunteers brought food and games. The day culminated with a group circle, in which clients reflected on their experiences in their respective summer jobs and volunteers shared wise advice. For many youth, it was their first time outside of their neighborhood and to the beach.

Read more here: https://www.yos.org/newsroom/news/beach-blast

CASE STUDY 4

Annually, many companies come together to collect and donate school supplies for YOS's Back to School Drive. Items are selected from YOS's Amazon Wish List, then donors collect and drop off supplies right before each school year begins. One recent year, downtown digital marketing firm, Conversant, hosted a company-wide drive producing hundreds of items. The Girl Scouts of Greater Chicago and Northwest Indiana also came together, combining the efforts of multiple scout troops to collect needed supplies.

Read more here: https://www.yos.org/newsroom/news/all-geared-school-year

SO, LET'S GET STARTED!

Contact:

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Navigating our website:

https://www.yos.org/donate
https://www.yos.org/get-involved/volunteer
https://www.yos.org/get-involved/donate/our-wish-list

Connect with us on social media too. Be sure to tag your posts.

Facebook: Facebook.com/youthoutreachservices
Instagram: @YOSChicago
Twitter: @YOSChicago
LinkedIn: Youth Outreach Services

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