

BUILD At A Glance



WHAT WE DO: BUILD HOPE, LIVES, AND FUTURES

SINCE 1969, BUILD has sought to engage and serve youth facing the greatest systemic challenges. We wrap our young people in integrated services that help them stay safe, build healthy habits, discover their own gifts, and achieve their fullest potential.

We organize our work around six areas:

Intervention. Conflict mediation, violence interruption, and persistent engagement of gang and justice-involved youth by mentors who have overcome similar obstacles.

Prevention. After-school programs to help younger children develop the leadership skills, healthy relationships, and positive habits to resist risky behavior.

Education. Scholarships, workplace training, and academic support to help youth succeed in high school, prepare for college, and persist through graduation.

Enrichment. An array of positive opportunities to cultivate interests, build creativity, and discover talents: music, art, sports, podcasting, entrepreneurship, gardening, tech, and more.

Clinical and Community Wellness. Clinical treatment for trauma and mental health: individual and group therapy, on-call community violence crisis response, case management, and mobile mental health outreach.

Community Engagement. Proactive outreach to neighborhoods—walking streets, building trust, practicing Restorative Justice, and connecting community to resources supporting mental and physical health.



WHAT OUR SUCCESS LOOKS LIKE: YOUTH ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2021

BUILDing hope: INTERVENTION

96% of youth reported healthier conflict resolution skills

94% reported increased ability to handle emotions

77% reported a decrease in negative peer-to-peer interactions

82% of youth with prior court involvement did not recidivate
(Illinois youth average: 32%)

Intervention staff helped

26 youth detach from gangs

58% increased their attendance at school

BUILDing lives: PREVENTION

100% of youth were promoted to the next grade

100% avoided gang involvement

97% avoided addictive substances

93% of youth who had been either suspended or expelled from schools reported a decrease in further disciplinary actions

BUILDing futures: EDUCATION

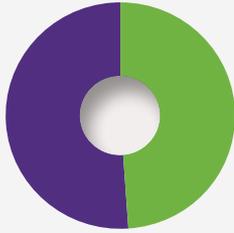
94% of BUILDing Futures youth were promoted to the next grade

87% of high school seniors graduated with a diploma
(city-wide average: 82%)

69% of youth completed FAFSA enrollment to prepare for college applications and admission

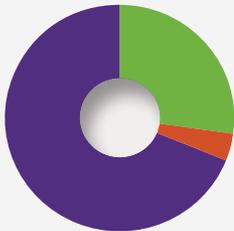
DEMOGRAPHICS

Gender



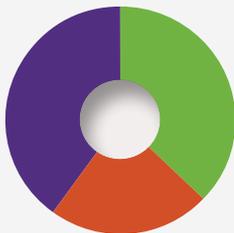
- 51% Young men
- 49% Young women

Ethnicity



- 69% African American
- 27% Latino
- 4% Biracial/Other

Age



- 40% 16 or younger
- 37% 17-19
- 23% 20 or older

YOUTH REFERRED TO BUILD BY:

- School principals and teachers
- Social workers
- Neighbors, friends, and family
- Street intervention and Crisis Response Teams
- Other BUILD youth
- Law enforcement
- Courts and probation officers

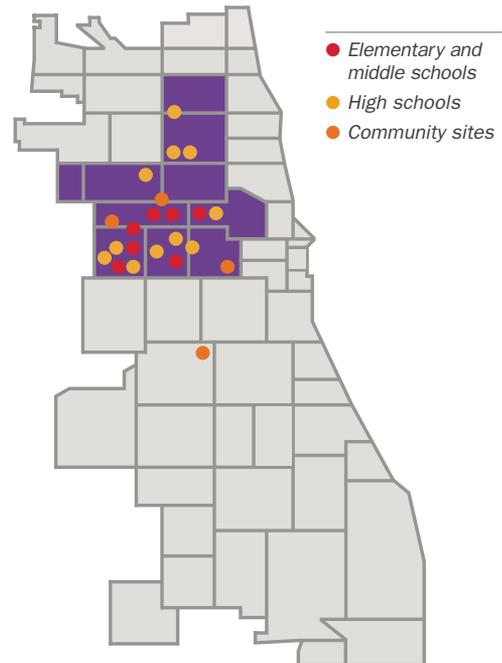
WHERE WE WORK AND WHO WE SERVE

1,087 youth steadily enrolled in programs

5,328 youth and extended families served overall

Chicago youth from:

- 33% Austin
- 19% Humboldt Park
- 18% East Garfield
- 18% Other
- 8% Logan Square
Belmont Cragin
Hermosa
- 4% Lawndale
Auburn Gresham



TREATING TRAUMA AND MENTAL HEALTH

Seventy-nine percent of BUILD youth have experienced community violence, 48% have witnessed a shooting; mental health care and social-emotional skills are part of all our work. BUILD therapists steadily see over 400 youth, and also pair with mentors for more intensive cases. Crisis Response and Mobile Mental Health counselors bring expertise directly into neighborhoods, supporting families in grief and educating others to recognize signs of trauma and mental illness. In our new youth and community center, therapy rooms are located alongside the youth lounges and game spaces, open and stigma-free. There is no health without mental health.

\$187,765

Annual cost per youth for incarceration in Illinois

< \$3,000

Annual cost per youth for intensive BUILD mentoring

HELP BUILD THE FUTURE
FOR CHICAGO'S YOUTH.
VISIT US ONLINE OR CALL TO:

LEARN MORE

GET BUILD SERVICES

DONATE

VOLUNTEER

ATTEND EVENTS

BUILD
HOPE · LIVES · FUTURES

5100 W. Harrison
Chicago, IL 60644
773.227.2880
build@buildchicago.org
www.buildchicago.org

FOLLOW US ON:

