Mission

Youth Guidance creates and implements school-based programs that enable at-risk children to overcome obstacles, focus on their education and, ultimately, to succeed in school and in life.

Vision

Youth Guidance sees a bright and successful future for every at-risk, inner-city elementary and high school student in Chicago. Because we believe that success in school is not only possible but should be achieved and celebrated, we are present in the schools to facilitate an environment that truly engages students in the learning process, and through careful guidance, enables them to realize their full potential and graduate with a meaningful plan for successfully managing life.

About Us

At Youth Guidance, we believe that no matter what challenges a young person faces, they are more likely to succeed when they have caring adults in their lives. Our highly-trained staff guides kids to overcome the life and academic challenges facing youth in some of Chicago’s toughest public schools. We meet kids where they are — physically and emotionally — to help them break cycles of violence, make positive choices, and remain on the right path toward life success.

Board of Directors Commitment

Youth Guidance’s Board of Directors impacts the success of the organization through governance, programmatic and financial supports. To deliver on our commitment to the Youth Guidance Team, all Board members agree to the following:

- Serve as advocates and ambassadors of goodwill, representing the organization to individuals and various constituency groups.
- Maintain knowledge of current agency programs and activities
- Hold in confidence agency information given to the board.
- Attend board meetings (5) per year
- Actively participate in one (1) Board committee. Committees on average meet 5 times per year. Committees include: Legal Affairs & Governance; Program Strategy; Finance; and Stewardship.
- Participate in engagement activities to include:
  - One (1) Youth Guidance program site visit per school year
  - Purchase of a minimum of 2 (two) individual tickets to annual Youth Guidance Gala
  - Exhibit financial leadership support:
  - Give/Get expectation is $10,000, with a $1,000 minimum personal gift.
  - Provide key skills, services, in-kind contributions or other resources necessary to promote the agency and its programs. These contributions could include public relations services, marketing communications, printing, legal services or similar goods and services.

As a Youth Guidance Board member, we are committed to Youth Guidance’s mission and recognize our leadership role and shared responsibility to meet agency’s annual goals.