Youth Guidance’s Career Readiness & Success (CRS) programs play a pivotal role in bridging the opportunity gap for youth from under-resourced communities.

By connecting participants to opportunities they might not have otherwise accessed, CRS programs empower these young individuals with essential life skills and resources to pursue meaningful postsecondary pathways of their choice.

**YOUTH GUIDANCE’S CAREER READINESS AND SUCCESS PROGRAMS:**

**PROJECT PREPARE®**
Through the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act investment in a skilled workforce, Project Prepare® supports juniors and seniors at three Chicago high schools in exploring their career interests, both for the present and the future. Through one-on-one guidance from Career Specialists, students engage in career exploration activities and receive coaching on developing job readiness skills, positioning them for success in college and career.

**@WORK**
@Work, a year-long program specially designed for high school students who have progressed through Youth Guidance’s BAM or WOW programs, builds on the core values of these programs. @Work empowers youth to cultivate and strengthen relationships that positively impact their postsecondary journey.

**THE FELLOWSHIP INITIATIVE (TFI)**
In collaboration with JP Morgan Chase, The Fellowship Initiative (TFI) is a transformative three-year leadership development program for young men of color. TFI equips students with the necessary skills and guidance to prepare for, enroll in, and successfully earn a degree from a four-year college or university, empowering them to unlock a brighter future.

**ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT INITIATIVE**
Grounded in the “Succeed, Engage, Lead” framework, the Alumni Engagement Initiative works to ensure that all Youth Guidance alumni have the necessary support to successfully navigate the transition into postsecondary, remain connected to Youth Guidance, and to serve as ambassadors for our programs in their communities. Project Prepare Blue addresses the unique needs of young adults who are out-of-school and out-of-work, particularly Youth Guidance Alumni who are interested in ongoing support to develop and implement their postsecondary plans. Participants engage in intensive two-week professional development training and receive one year of coaching from a Postsecondary Success Coach to execute their individual employment plan.

Youth Guidance’s Career Readiness & Success programs demonstrate a steadfast commitment to empowering youth, providing vital resources, and guiding young people towards academic and career success. Through these initiatives, Youth Guidance strives to create lasting positive change in the lives of young individuals, their families, and uplift entire communities towards brighter futures.