Youth Guidance’s Evolve initiative is a Tier 2 educator led social-emotional learning (SEL) program designed to provide training and implementation resources to 2-3 school-based staff per school to implement the most effective components of the organization’s evidence-based SEL programs — Becoming a Man (BAM) & Working on Womanhood (WOW).

EVOLVE CIRCLES
Relationship-centered safe spaces providing youth with the ability to see and be seen authentically, and the opportunity to learn, practice and internalize social-emotional skills.

COLLABORATIVE COMMUNITY OF SEL LEADERS
Direct collaboration between Evolve Team and School Behavioral Health Team empowering all school staff to become Circle Leaders.

EVIDENCE-INFORMED CURRICULUM
Schools are equipped with a SEL curriculum with 16 lessons focused on self-awareness, social awareness, relationship skills, self-management and responsible decision making.

ACCESS TO EVOLVE CENTRAL
An online learning community inclusive of the full Evolve curriculum, SEL resources, adult wellness activities, Facilitator coaching and PD opportunities.

COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAM EVALUATION
Tools and resources to assess program impacts on staff & youth well-being, engagement, and achievement.

UNIVERSAL TRAINING
Annual school-wide training to support a healing-centered approach to serving youth and enable success of Evolve Circles.

42% of high school students said they experienced persistent feelings of sadness or hopelessness during the past year
Source: (CDC, 2023)

The goals of Evolve Circles are to increase students’ social emotional well-being and sense of belonging; increase students’ utilization of safe and healthy behaviors; and foster a school ecosystem of supportive, emotionally attuned and culturally competent adults where youth can thrive.

WE TRULY APPRECIATE THIS PARTNERSHIP AND THE WAYS IN WHICH IT IS RELATIONSHIP-DRIVEN, PRIORITIZING EACH SCHOOL’S CIRCUMSTANCES AND UNDERSTANDING SUCCESS CAN FOLLOW MANY PATHWAYS.”
-DISTRICT LEADER
Staff & Youth Thrive within the Evolve Ecosystem:

**SCHOOL STAFF**
- Advance youth social emotional development as Evolve Circle Leaders
- Identify trauma-related symptoms that impact youth engagement
- Support youth healing from trauma and catalyze healthy social, emotional, and academic development
- Develop mindfulness skills to promote personal wellness

**YOUTH**
- Thrive in a school environment of support attuned and culturally competent adults
- Develop a sense of identity, agency, belonging, collaborative problem-solving and curiosity
- Demonstrate safe and healthy behaviors

Evolve's Yearly Launch Schedule:

- **WINTER**
  - Evolve Info Sessions Announced
  - Accepting District Applications

- **SPRING**
  - District Partners Announced
  - Circle Leader Selection Process

- **SUMMER**
  - Evolve Training Academy begins
  - Full Access to Evolve Central

- **FALL**
  - Program Launch at Selected Districts

To learn more about the Evolve program in Chicago, please scan the QR code or email info@youth-guidance.org.