

TEECH FOUNDATION

July Newsletter



Chicago Struggle with Addiction and Crime FSSRI/TEECH Community Focus

Drug addiction often leads people into a life of crime and legal issues.

It is no secret that America has a drug problem. In fact, according to the National Center for Drug Abuse Statistics, 1.16 million Americans are arrested annually for drug-related offenses.

"Funded in whole or in part by the Illinois Department of Human Services, Division of Substance Use Prevention and Recovery."

www.teechfoundation1.org | 1750 W. 103 rd | Chicago, Illinois 60643



The National Institutes of Health (NIH) discusses extensive research on drugs, the brain, and how addiction impacts criminal behavior. Specifically, the long-term and even short-term use of drugs can cause extreme damage to the brain.



- Impaired judgment and decreased thought processes,
- Inability to understand the consequences of your actions,
- Lack of impulse control,
- Decreased inhibitions, and
- Increase in compulsive or aggressive behaviors.

CHICAGO AT ITS ALL-TIME HIGH

For Chicago, a city in the grips of a violent crime epidemic – more than 3,000 people were shot this year, with homicides topping over 500 – a quieter but just as lethal challenge looms. In the Chicago metropolitan area, the percentage of treatment admissions for heroin was more than double the national average in 2012, according to a study by the Illinois Consortium on Drug Policy at Roosevelt University.

HELP IS HERE



More drug users in Chicago are expected to get help for their addictions rather than go to jail now that the Chicago Police Department has expanded eligibility for diverting drug users into treatment instead of charging them with felonies for drug possession.

Under a change approved by police Supt. David Brown, people caught with up to two grams of narcotics are eligible – up from one gram under a previous policy.

In the past, the program included only those who were caught with heroin and cocaine. The revised policy also includes other substances, such as fentanyl. That drug often is mixed with heroin and cocaine to boost their potency and has caused thousands of overdoses in Cook County in recent years.

Strategies of Safety During this Addiction and Crime Epidemic

View this website for safety tips:
<https://home.chicagopolice.org/community-policing-group/safety-tips/>

AT HOME



- Use a door viewer before opening your door. Always demand identification from strangers (even repair or salespersons).
- Always lock up your home before leaving and don't hide your house keys outdoors anywhere.
- Have keys ready and in your hand for immediate use when you return home.
- Always use interior and exterior lighting.
- Do not let people inside your home (to use the bathroom, phone, etc.).
- Check out the Home Burglary Prevention Tips.
- Safeguard your home and yourself while you are away with Vacation Safety.

WALKING



- Plan your route ahead of time. Never walk alone at night; walk with a friend or your dog.
- Use well-lit streets, not dark alleys, or bushy areas.
- Carry signaling devices like shriek alarms or a whistle.
- Carry defensive devices such as pepper spray.
- Be alert to what's all around you! Look behind you occasionally.
- Never ask for or accept a ride from a stranger.
- Don't carry large sums of money or wear valuable jewelry.
- Don't resist an armed robber. Hand over whatever is demanded quickly and quietly.

PURSE/WALLET PROTECTION



- If possible, don't carry a purse. Never carry anything you can't afford to lose in it.
- Carry your purse across the front of your body, with your forearm across the front of the purse and your elbow held tightly against your side.
- Carry your keys, wallet, or other valuables in pockets in your clothes and not in your hand.

DRIVING

- Always look inside your vehicle before getting in.
- Lock all doors immediately after you are in the vehicle.
- Never pick up hitchhikers.
- If a stranger approaches while you are in a vehicle, keep the windows up, doors locked and engine running.
- Honk your horn if you need to attract attention.
- Park in well-lit areas at night.
- Always lock your car when leaving it.
- Consider installing an auto burglar alarm system.
- Don't leave anything valuable in your car if possible.





FSSRRI/TEECH Networking

CELEBRATING THE START OF THE FISCAL YEAR Highlight

Staff Robert Bufford RC, CPRS Successfully Distributed over 2,000.00 HIV Take home test with pilot program for the Center for Disease Control (CDC) - Partnered with Alliance care 360.



SAVE THE DATES

Recovery Month

Community Kickoff- FSSRI/TEECH
and Brighter Behavior Choices Inc., NFP

Speak - A- Thon and Back to School Book Bags and Supplies

Date:9/24/2023

Time: 10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.

Location: To Be Determined

Help Is Here!

THE ILLINOIS HELPLINE FOR OPIOIDS AND OTHER
SUBSTANCES

Call 833 - FINDHELP/ (833) 234-6343 or text "HELP to 833234.
Available 24/7, 365 days a year and is completely FREE.



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TEECH continues to distribute Narcan and host trainings.
In need of Narcan or training? Contact TEECH

988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline

People can call, text, or chat with the number, and be routed to
counselors of the National

We Want You to Know

Not only does Sudan have more pyramids than Egypt, but the
numbers aren't even close. While 138 pyramids have been discovered
in Egypt, Sudan boasts around 255.



Far Southside ROSC Initiative Community Meetings

We come together to address addiction, recovery, family, friends and the community concerns and issues and also to educate and network. You are invited to attend the monthly ROSC meetings every 4th Monday of the month from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Location: Bethany Union Church 1750 W 103rd Street, Chicago, Illinois 60643 or zoom.

Call to Action:

Chicago's violent crime rate is 164% above the US average. The murder rate is four times above the national average, with other violent crimes being more prevalent than in other average cities.

Crime in Chicago overall has increased during the past five years by nearly 20%, according to an official report by the Chicago Police Department. The year-over-year change in crime was even greater last year. Between 2021 and 2022, overall crime in Chicago increased by 41%, after overall crime had decreased each year in 2019 and 2020 and slightly increased in 2021.

Chicago's extreme gun violence has been described as an epidemic- where gang-related shootings are often spontaneous and unpredictable.

This call to action from TEECH emphasizes the need to treat enhancing the quality of life as a community epidemic. Please visit our website to view our community involvement and while you are there **please donate @ www.teechfoundation1.org.**

Please call or email TEECH for all donations (224) 406-3698 or email: svdbygraceandmercy@sbcglobal.net, or donate through our website www.teechfoundation1.org.



AND CONNECT WITH US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



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Vision

T.E.E.C.H Foundation's vision is to continue fighting the fight of addiction by building a platform of unity and resources through advocacy and education with the goal of sustaining long-term recovery. T.E.E.C.H strives to build communities that no longer fear or stigmatize the recovering or mentally challenged person but treats them with dignity and respect; therefore, offering services to make this vision a reality.

Mission

To dispel fear and enhance the love of self and others through the vehicle of education for the recovering person and community; embracing the philosophy, "If it's to be, it is up to me". T.E.E.C.H believes recovery is comprised of countless pathways that contribute to a healthy quality of life for those who are seeking long-term recovery.