



MOVING FORWARD:

Embracing Safety, Resiliency, and Supporting Best Practices throughout our Child Welfare Community



LATINO ADVISORY COUNCIL **6TH ANNUAL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY**

FRIDAY, MAY 20, 2022

(A Latino Advisory Council Online Event)

SPONSORED BY

THE ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

IN COLLABORATION WITH

THE LATINO ADVISORY COUNCIL

Marc D. Smith, Director – The Illinois Department of Children and Family Services

Yeni Rojas, Chairperson – DCFS Latino Advisory Council

Jennifer Contreras, Chairperson – LAC Family Institute/Professional Day Planning Committee

Daniel L. Fitzgerald – DCFS Deputy Director, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

José Javier López, Chief – DCFS Office of Latino Services





ETHEREAL
LIFESTYLE

ETHEREAL L I F E S T Y L E MAGAZINE

The 2022 Cover is AVAILABLE!

WANT TO BE OUR NEXT
COVER FEATURE
We Released Our
2022 COVERS...

OUR COVERS GO FAST!
Don't Miss Out!



ETHEREAL
L I F E S T Y L E

We released for the first time in January
to the public predict we will SELL OUT!

Don't miss this "INCREDIBLE"
opportunity LEVEL-UP!

Are you ready to be spoiled? Are You
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to Level-up in Your life!

Let's Talk!

You may be the next
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MAGAZINE
COVER GIRL OR COVER GUY!

At OWN It! Magazine & Publishing,
we spoil our features.

We are now interviewing for 2022
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important month of the year today
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Our Covers Go Quickly!

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podcast

The **FACE** of a **HERO**



Hosts: Eve Gomez and Augustine Marron

The Gastons Keynote Panel

**A Forever
Family**





OUR FAC FAMILY ADVOCACY CENTER



WE ARE A PROFESSIONAL TEAM

Serving the community to keep their families together, connecting with the services available in Illinois and helping to stop the spread of COVID-19

WANT TO KNOW MORE? CONTACT US



PHONE
(773) 356 - 5923



OFFICE ADDRESS
8910 S. Commercial Ave.
Chicago, IL 60617

OUR SERVICES



12 WEEK LONG PROGRAM
PARENTING CLASSES



PER CLIENT'S NEED
COUNSELING



12WEEK LONG PROGRAM
ANGER MANAGEMENT



15 SESSIONS 2 HOUR LONG CLASSES
SUBSTANCE ABUSE



26 WEEK LONG PROGRAM
DV PROGRAM



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OUR
IWC

**Illinois
Welcoming
Center**



The One-Stop

A comprehensive and holistic case management and service coordination to immigrants and refugee in a linguistically, culturally sensitive manner.



Familiar With Benefits

And services provided by state and federal agencies as well as social service agencies and connect individuals to appropriate services



Provide Workshops

To help immigrants and refugees learn about resources and information that can advance their successful integration and build the capacity

**Connecting you
With Services
Available in Illinois**

The Illinois Welcoming Center's innovative model eliminates systemic barriers that immigrants may have in approaching state services

Why You Choose Us ?

Our staff is trained in locating available services, identifying program availability and eligibility requirements, providing short term case management, because we are:

- Customer Focused
- Culturally Competent
- Outcome Oriented
- Informed by Best Practices
- Linguistically Appropriate
- Innovative and Flexible

Contact Us

☎ (773) 495 -0870 / (708) 446 -9173

📍 8910 S. Commercial Ave.
Chicago, IL 60617



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Welcome to our

IWC Illinois Welcoming Center

The one-stop human service center that provides comprehensive and holistic case management and service coordination to immigrants and refugees in a linguistically, culturally sensitive manner.

Learn more about our
services

Visit Us



www.lrii.org



For More Information

(773) 495 0870

(708) 446 9173





*Foster Parenting is not
what you do for a living*

**IT'S WHAT YOU
DO FOR A LIFE**

ucpseguin.org | 708.222.3564





*Ser padre de crianza no
es lo que haces para vivir*

**ES LO QUE HACES
PARA UNA VIDA**

ucpseguin.org | 708.222.3564



CHILDREN'S FOSTER CARE

**Looking for a career in foster parenting?
Is this the opportunity you have been waiting for?**



GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS & STEPS TO A FOSTER CAREER:

- Single | Married | Civil Union
- 21+ Mature Individuals
- Rent (must have Landlord approval) | Own
- Driver License & Insurance
- DCFS Fingerprinting
- DCFS Home Study | Family Interview | Reference Checks
- Adequate Supervision Plan for Working Foster Parents
- UCP Seguin training | DCFS PRIDE training
- Compliance with DCFS 402 Licensing Standards
- Drug Screening
- Complete Adult, Infant and Child CPR, First Aid and Safety Care for Families
- Pass a Physical Examination

**Generous monthly stipend
and ongoing training!**

WE'RE WITH YOU EVERY STEP OF THE WAY

UCP Seguin's professional staff support team is available to you 24 hours a day, including:

- Registered Nurse
- Case Manager
- In-Home Family Therapist
- Behavior Specialist
- Licensing Representative
- Education Services
- Staff Trained Respite Worker for assistance and relief

CONTACT US

Luis D. Carreño
708.222.3259
lcarreno@seguin.org

CUIDADO DE CRIANZA PARA NIÑOS

**¿Buscas una carrera en el cuidado de crianza?
¿Es esta la oportunidad que estabas esperando?**



CUALIFICACIONES GENERALES Y PASOS PARA UNA CARRERA DE CRIANZA:

- Soltero | Casado | Unión Civil
- 21+ Personas Responsables
- Alquiler (con aprobación del dueño) | Dueño de casa
- Licencia de conducir y Seguro de auto
- Huellas dactilares por DCFS
- Estudio de Hogar | Entrevista Familiar | Verificación de Referencias por DCFS
- Plan de supervisión adecuado para padres de crianza que trabajan
- Entrenamiento por UCP Seguin | Entrenamiento de PRIDE por DCFS
- Cumplir con los Estándares de Licencia 402 por DCFS
- Examen de Drogas
- Pasar Examen Físico
- Completar cursos de Primeros Auxilios, Cuidados de Seguridad para Familias, y CPR para Adultos, Infantes y Niños

**¡Generoso estipendio mensual y
continuación de entrenamientos!**

ESTAMOS CONTIGO EN CADA PASO

El equipo de soporte profesional de UCP Seguin está disponible para usted las 24 horas del día, incluyendo:

- Enfermera/o
- Administrador de caso
- Terapeuta familiar en el hogar
- Especialista en comportamiento
- Representante de licencias
- Servicios de educación
- Trabajador de relevo calificado para asistencia y alivio

CONTACTO

Luis D. Carreño
708.222.3259
lcarreno@seguin.org



Latino Youth Advisory Affinity Group Meetings

LET YOUR VOICES BE HEARD

The Statewide Youth Advisory Board invites youth in care ages 14–21 to join the next Latino Youth Advisory Affinity Group (YAAG).

The purpose of this group is to organize Illinois youth in care that identify as Latino through Support, Education, Coaching and Advocacy.

Caseworkers and caregivers please spread the word and encourage youth to join this newly formed group.

Questions, contact: alyssa@beststrongfamilies.net

Event	Date	Time	Registration Link
Latino	May 24, 2022	5 PM	https://beststrongfamilies.net/zoom.us/join/zoom/register?trk=Grp%2FVw%2F4oDzR_oj6vP668B9

Reuniones del Grupo Asesor de Afinidad de Jóvenes Latinos

¡DEJA QUE SUS VOCES SEAN ESCUCHADAS!

La Junta Asesora de Jóvenes del Estado invita a los jóvenes bajo cuidado de 14 a 21 años de edad a unirse al próximo Grupo Asesor de Afinidad de Jóvenes Latinos (YAAG).

El propósito de este grupo es organizar a los jóvenes de Illinois bajo cuidado que se identifican como latinos a través del apoyo, la educación, el entrenamiento y la defensa.

Trabajadores sociales y cuidadores, por favor, corra la voz y anime a los jóvenes a unirse a este grupo recién formado.



The Youth Advisory Board is committed to creating a caring and supportive environment for all youth in care regardless of race, color, sex, national origin, ancestry, language, handicap/disability, religion, or authentic self to the YAB as we work to educate, advocate for and empower youth in care across Illinois.





LGBTQI+ Youth Advisory Affinity Group Meetings

LET YOUR VOICES BE HEARD

The Statewide Youth Advisory Board invites youth in care ages 14-21 to join the next LGBTQI+ Youth Advisory Affinity Group meeting.

The purpose of the LGBTQI+ YAAG is to organize Illinois youth in care that identify as part of the LGBTQI+ and/or those youth in care who identify as allies to the LGBTQI+ community through Support, Education, Coaching, and Advocacy.

Caseworkers and caregivers please spread the word and encourage youth to participate.
Questions, contact: alyssa@bestrongfamilies.net

Event	Date	Time	Registration Link
LGBTQI+	May 26, 2022	5 PM	https://bestrongfamilies-net.zoom.us/j/92564548988



The Youth Advisory Board is committed to creating a caring and supportive environment for all youth in care regardless of race, color, sex, national origin, ancestry, language, handicap/disability, religion, or authentic self to the YAB as we work to educate, advocate for and empower youth in care across Illinois.





African American Youth Advisory Affinity Group Meetings

LET YOUR VOICES BE HEARD

The Statewide Youth Advisory Board invites youth in care ages 14–21 to join the next African Youth Advisory Affinity Group (YAAG).

The purpose of this group is to organize Illinois youth in care that identify as African American through Support, Education, Coaching, and Advocacy.

Caseworkers and caregivers please spread the word and encourage youth to join this newly formed group.

Questions, contact: alysa@beststrongfamilies.net

Event	Date	Time	Registration Link
African American	May 25, 2022	5 PM	https://beststrongfamilies-net.zoom.us/j/9876543210



The Youth Advisory Board is committed to creating a caring and supportive environment for all youth in care regardless of race, color, sex, national origin, ancestry, language, handicap/ disability, religion, or authentic self in the YAB as we work to educate, advocate for and empower youth in care across Illinois.





Job Opportunities for Youth-in-Care!

**Added Chance Employment Services are Online!
Refer Your DCFS Youth Now!**

SPRINGTIME & SUMMER JOBS ARE COMING, ENROLL YOUR YOUTH WITH ADDED CHANCE TODAY!

The Added Chance program is offering all of its customary services to DCFS youth-in-care online. Once participants have been referred to the program they will be contacted and walked through the entire process, including:

A brief online orientation will be presented at the youth's convenience that provides valuable job readiness skills.

Employment counselors will then provide *One-on-One* counseling including:

Job Application Assistance
Mock Interview

Resume Building
Job Opportunities

Please complete the attached *fillable PDF DCFS referral form* and email to addedchanceasn@gmail.com. Once staff receives the referral form, we will contact the referred DCFS youth-in-care to schedule a workshop meeting time.

ADDED CHANCE PROGRAM CONTACTS

David Guttman, Program Manager | dguttman@asnchicago.org | 773.418.9165
Chris Luecke, Program Director | cluecke@asnchicago.org | 312.771.6770



Added Chance Program
1122 N Milwaukee Ave, Chicago, IL 60642
Phone: (773) 257-3290



*Latino Social Work
Organization Excellence
in Social Work Education
2018 <http://lsw.org>*

*The SAC Social Work Program was Awarded
the **2016 Baccalaureate Level Example
of Excelencia!***

<http://www.edexcelencia.org/examples-of-excelencia/2016>

Sarah's Inn

Services for survivors of domestic violence

sarah's inn  together strong

24-hour Crisis Line: **708-386-4225**

Text Line: **708-669-6149**

info@sarahsinn.org

Who we are

The Mission of Sarah's Inn is *to improve the lives of those affected by domestic violence and to break the cycle of violence for future generations.*

We are located in Forest Park. We also have several community advocates who are able to provide services in **Melrose Park (Casa Esperanza) and Little Village (Taller de José).**

Our services

Survivor Services:

- 24-hour Crisis Line and Text Line
- Advocacy
- Individual and group counseling for adults and youth
- Legal advocacy for orders of protections (Maybrook Courthouse and Daley Center)
- Limited pantry and emergency financial assistance

Other Services:

- PAIP (Partner Abuse Intervention Program) for individuals who have perpetrated abuse
- Prevention Program for youth
- Sarah's Inn Podcast:
<https://www.sarahsinntv.org/all>
- Domestic violence training and education

Who can receive services?

**All domestic violence victim services are FREE and CONFIDENTIAL.*

**All services are provided in both English and Spanish. We will use the language resources as needed to serve clients who speak other languages.*

**We provide to services to anyone, inclusive of all gender identities. The only "eligibility requirement" is that the person identifies as having experienced a form of domestic/relationship violence.*

Thank you!

24-hour Crisis Line: **708-386-4225**

Text Line: **708-669-6149**

info@sarahsinn.org

sarah's inn



together strong

Sarah's Inn

Servicios para sobrevivientes de la violencia doméstica



Línea de crisis (24 horas): **708-386-4225**

Línea de texto: **708-669-6149**

info@sarahsinn.org

¿Quiénes somos?

La misión de Sarah's Inn es mejorar las vidas de las personas afectadas por la violencia doméstica y romper el ciclo de violencia para generaciones futuras.

Estámos ubicados en Forest Park. También tenemos a nuestras asesoras comunitarias que proveen servicios desde **Melrose Park (Casa Esperanza), La Villita (Taller de José), y Austin (Institute for Nonviolence Chicago).**

Nuestros servicios

Servicios para víctimas y sobrevivientes de abuso:

- Línea de crisis de las 24 horas
- Asesoría
- La consejería individual y los grupos de apoyo para adultos y niños
- Asesoría legal para las órdenes de protección (La Corte de Maybrook y el Daley Center)
- Asistencia de emergencia limitada y una dispensa para nuestros clientes

Otros servicios:

- Las clases de PAIP (El Programa de Intervención del Abuso de Pareja) para los que han perpetrado el abuso
- El programa de prevención para los jóvenes
- Los entrenamientos sobre la violencia doméstica
- Sarah's Inn Podcast:
<https://www.sarahsinntv.org/all>

Más información importante

sarah's inn



together strong

**Todos los servicios para víctimas son completamente gratuitos y confidenciales.*

**Todos nuestros servicios son brindados en inglés y español.*

**Proveemos los servicios a cualquier persona y de cualquier género. El único "requisito" es que la persona se identifica que ha experimentado el abuso doméstico.*

¡Gracias por su atención!

Línea de 24 horas: **708-386-4225**

Texto: **708-669-6149**

info@sarahsinn.org

sarah's inn  **together strong**



COOK COUNTY HEALTH

COMMUNITY BASED PRIMARY & SPECIALTY CARE

Services Offered

- Primary Care
- Cancer Care
- Diabetic Care
- Health Care for Seniors
- Laboratory Services
- Dental Services
- Behavioral Health Services
- Mammograms
- Cardiac Care
- Prenatal Care
- Women, Infants, & Children (WIC)
- Immunizations
- X-Rays
- Convenient Evening & Weekend Hours

RUTH M. ROTHSTEIN CORE CENTER

- A clinic for the prevention, care and research of HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases
- Largest provider of HIV care in the Midwest
- Services include: primary and specialty medical care, testing for HIV, sexually transmitted infections and tuberculosis (TB), dental care, social and support services, prevention and education programs

COOK COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH (CCDPH)

- CCDPH is the certified public health agency for most of suburban Cook County
- Addresses issues facing communities and works to prevent the spread of about 70 reportable communicable diseases, enforces the Cook County and Illinois public health laws, rules and regulations

JOHN H. STROGER, JR. HOSPITAL

- Joint Commission accredited hospital with Level 1 Trauma Center
- Joint Commission certified Advanced Primary Stroke Center
- American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer-certified Cancer center
- U.S. News & World Report recognition as a High Performing Hospital in Heart Failure, Neurology & Neurosurgery and Gastroenterology & GI Surgery

PROVIDENT HOSPITAL

- Joint Commission accredited hospital with emergency care, same-day surgery and a full service pharmacy
- New free-standing Dialysis Center located on the north side of the Provident complex (former pharmacy building)
- Two new state-of-the-art digital mammography suites
- Ophthalmology clinic that provides expert surgical and medical eye care with special emphasis on diabetes, glaucoma and cataracts

CALL OUR PATIENT SUPPORT CENTER AND FIND A LOCATION THAT IS CONVENIENT AND CLOSE TO HOME.

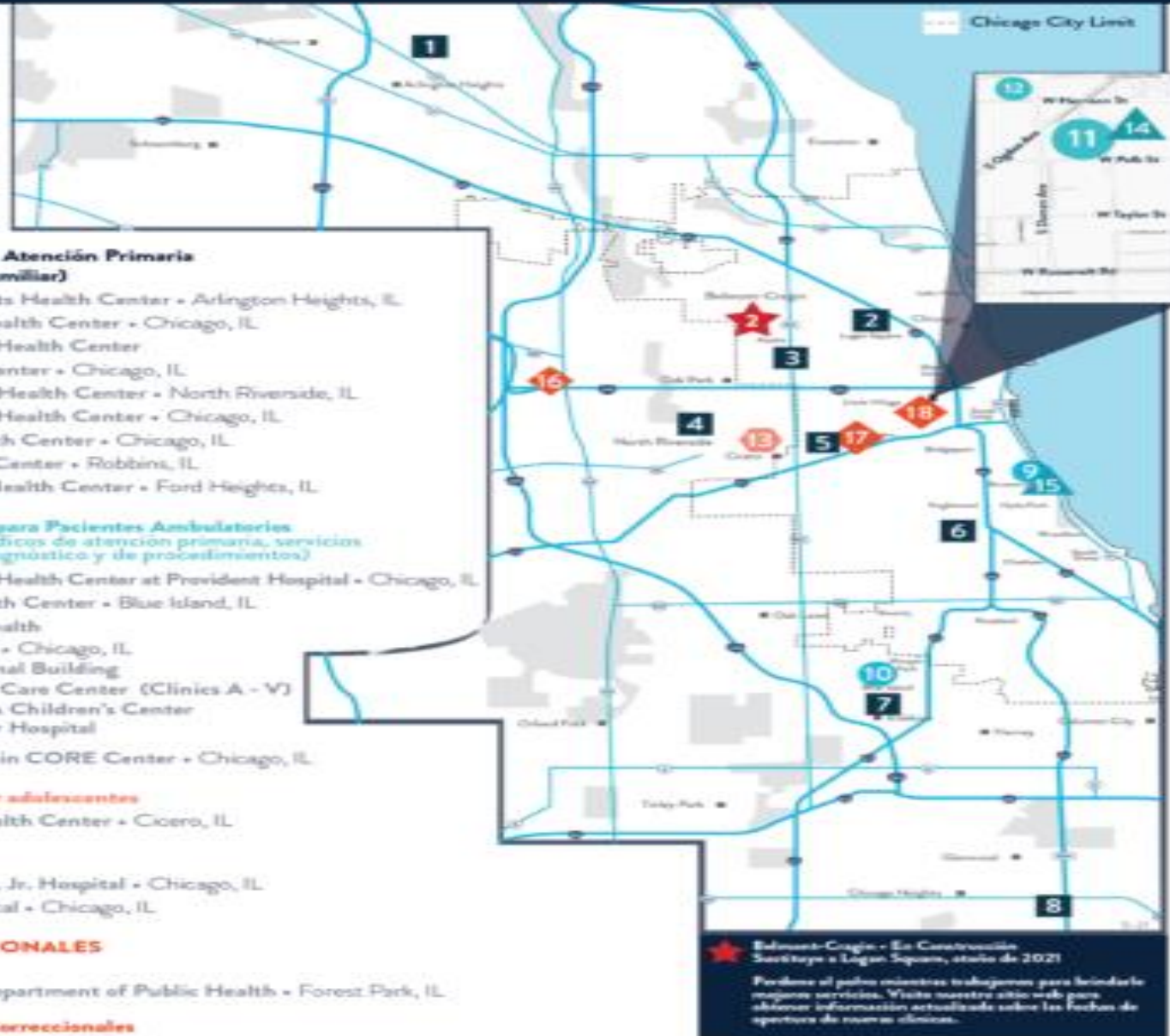
312-864-0200



COOK COUNTY
HEALTH

COOK COUNTY HEALTH • MAPA DE SERVICIOS

Nota: No todos los servicios se ofrecen en todas las instalaciones y los servicios están sujetos a cambios. Llame a su proveedor o al Centro de Apoyo al Paciente para obtener más información.



Hogares Médicos de Atención Primaria (Cuidado Médico Familiar)

1. Arlington Heights Health Center • Arlington Heights, IL
2. Logan Square Health Center • Chicago, IL
- ★ Belmont-Cragin Health Center
3. Austin Health Center • Chicago, IL
4. North Riverside Health Center • North Riverside, IL
5. Dr. Jorge Prieto Health Center • Chicago, IL
6. Englewood Health Center • Chicago, IL
7. Robbins Health Center • Robbins, IL
8. Cottage Grove Health Center • Ford Heights, IL

Centros Regionales para Pacientes Ambulatorios (Incluye hogares médicos de atención primaria, servicios especializados, de diagnóstico y de procedimientos)

9. John Sengstacke Health Center at Provident Hospital • Chicago, IL
10. Blue Island Health Center • Blue Island, IL
11. Cook County Health
 - Central Campus • Chicago, IL
 - Professional Building
 - Specialty Care Center (Clinics A - V)
 - Women & Children's Center at Stroger Hospital
12. Ruth M. Rothstein CORE Center • Chicago, IL

Servicio para niños y adolescentes

13. Morton East Health Center • Cicero, IL

HOSPITALES

14. John H. Stroger, Jr. Hospital • Chicago, IL
15. Provident Hospital • Chicago, IL

SERVICIOS ADICIONALES

Salud Pública

16. Cook County Department of Public Health • Forest Park, IL

Servicios de Salud Correccionales

17. Cook County Jail • Chicago, IL
18. Juvenile Temporary Detention Center • Chicago, IL

★ Belmont-Cragin - En Construcción
 Sustrata y Logan Square, inicio de 2021

Perdona el polvo mientras trabajamos para brindarte mejores servicios. Visita nuestro sitio web para obtener información actualizada sobre las fechas de apertura de nuevas clínicas.



COOK COUNTY HEALTH
 cookcountyhealth.org

Be healthy with CountyCare, an Illinois Medicaid health plan for Cook County residents.

WHY COUNTYCARE?

As a CountyCare member, you have access to:

- Expert care from more than 70 hospitals, 4,500 primary care providers and 15,000 specialists in Chicago and across Cook County
- Dental care, Vision care, Mental Health services and more
- 24-hour Nurse Advice Line
- A member rewards program that rewards you for promoting a healthy lifestyle

WHAT IS COVERED?

- Routine Doctor Visits
- Hospital Visits
- Dental Care
- Vision Care
- Women's Health
- Children and Family Health
- Specialty Care
- Surgery
- Mental Health Care
- Addiction Treatment
- Lab Tests and X-rays
- Pharmacy Services, including Prescriptions
- Transportation to and from Doctor Visits
- Adult Day Service
- Occupational, Physical and Speech Therapy
- Behavioral Services
- Assisted Living
- AND MORE!



CALL NOW! 312-864-8200
COUNTYCARE.COM

The Illinois Medicaid Enrollment Services will assist you with information about your health plan choice when it is time for you to make a health plan choice and during your renewal period. For complete details please refer to the Illinois Medicaid Enrollment Services website at www.illinois.gov for updates on the latest enrollment dates, changes in plan availability, and other program-related information.

CountyCare enrollment is only available to Cook County residents who are Medicaid-eligible and who are currently enrolled in a Medicaid plan. For more information, please call 312-864-8200 (312-864-8200) or visit www.countycare.com.

ENROLLMENT: Enrollment is available to eligible individuals who are currently enrolled in a Medicaid plan. For more information, please call 312-864-8200 (312-864-8200) or visit www.countycare.com.

RENEWAL: Renewal is available to eligible individuals who are currently enrolled in a Medicaid plan. For more information, please call 312-864-8200 (312-864-8200) or visit www.countycare.com.

This document is also available in other languages. Please contact us at 312-864-8200 to request this document in another language.

Problemas de las Apuestas y Violencia Doméstica

Problemas financieros causados por el juego y las apuestas pueden aumentar el estrés que uno tiene en la casa.



- Para muchas mujeres, lugares donde uno puede apostar son un refugio de la violencia, y el juego se pone como una forma de escape de los problemas.
- Personas que apuestan y son adictos al juego pueden ser víctimas de la violencia doméstica cuando su pareja u otras familiares se dan cuenta de todo el dinero que han perdido.
- Abuso financiero puede pasar cuando una persona con problemas de apostar busca más dinero para jugar.

25-50% de los esposos de personas que son adictos al juego han sido abusados.

-National Resource Council, 1999

Investigaciones en salas de emergencia muestran que el riesgo de violencia doméstica entre esposos o parejas crece cuando uno de las personas está adicto al juego.

-Mullinas et. al, 2002

Señales de Problemas con el Juego:

- Pasando mucho tiempo pensando en el juego y sus próximas apuestas
- La necesidad de subir sus apuestas para sentir la misma emoción que antes
- Mintiendo a los amigos o la familia sobre su participación en el juego y la cantidad de sus apuestas
- Sigue jugando aunque ha perdido, el ciclo de pérdidas
- Necesita que otras personas le ayuden con problemas financieros que resulten por su participación en el juego
- Tiene dificultades en bajar la frecuencia de jugar o dejar de apostar completamente
- Aposta para evitar problemas personales
- Las apuestas causan problemas en el trabajo o la casa
- Usted es inquieto, nervioso, e irritable cuando no está apostando

¡Hay Servicios y Ayuda! Nicasa Behavioral Health Services ofrece consultas gratis para cualquier persona que está preocupada por su propio comportamiento con las apuestas y el juego, o para alguien familiar. Puede llamar para la consulta y servicios a **847-546-6450**.

Otro recurso es **1(800) GAMBLER**, una línea de ayuda que está disponible 24 horas al día para ayudar a las personas que son adictos al juego y las apuestas, o sus familiares, con tratamiento, apoyo, y otros recursos. También puede contactar la línea de ayuda por mandar un mensaje de texto con **ILGAMB** a 53342, o por empezar una conversación en vivo cuando visita www.ilnissafinance.org

¿Cree que los Adolescentes No Apostan? ¡Piénselo Mejor!

Los adolescentes apostan más que:

- **Toman alcohol**
- **Usan drogas**
- **Fuman cigarrillos**

(Gupta & Derevensky, 2000)



**El índice de
adolescentes que
tienen problemas
con las apuestas
es 2 a 4 veces más
que adultos.**

(Volberg, et al., 2010)

La Realidad de Los Menores de Edad que Apostan:

- Adolescentes pueden fingir que son cualquier edad para apostar en el internet
- La tecnología y cambios al juego han creado situaciones más *accesibles* y *aceptables* para los adolescentes
- Adolescentes, padres, y consejeros perciben que el riesgo es muy bajo para los menores de edad que apostan
- Los estudiantes que juegan deportes son de alto riesgo cuando tiene que ver con la apuestas
- El juego y las apuestas son parte de muchos juegos de video y del internet

Pero, los adolescentes que apostan:

- Se ponen adictos al juego más rápido que adultos
- Tienen más problemas legales, menos habilidades de salir adelante, y baja autoestima
- Son de alto riesgo para meterse en otras adicciones
- Tienen más posibilidades de estar deprimidos y suicidas

**¡Ayúdenos en prevenir los problemas del
juego y las apuestas con los adolescentes!**

¡Hay Servicios y Ayuda! Nicasa Behavioral Health Services ofrece consultas gratis para cualquier persona que está preocupada por su propio comportamiento con las apuestas y el juego, o para alguien familiar. También provee seminarios educativos y gratis para cualquier grupo que tiene interés en aprender más. Puede llamar para la consulta, servicios, y presentaciones a **847-546-6450**.

Otro recurso es **1(800) GAMBLER**, una línea de ayuda que está disponible 24 horas al día para ayudar a las personas que son adictas al juego y las apuestas, o sus familiares, con tratamiento, apoyo, y otros recursos. También puede contactar la línea de ayuda por mandar un mensaje de texto con **ELGAMB** a 53342, o por empezar una conversación en vivo cuando visita www.illinoisalliance.org

COMMUNITY BUSINESS ACADEMY GRADUATES CONTRIBUTE TO CHICAGOLAND'S ENTREPRENEURIAL ECOSYSTEM



By Nadya Henriquez, Community Business Academy Director

On Tuesday, April 12 2022, the Project The Aux was approved for a 1 million dollar grant by the City Council of Evanston. The project is being led by several African American entrepreneurs, including three graduates from Sunshine Enterprises' Community Business Academy (CBA) – Tiffini Holmes, Jaqui White, and Tosha Wilson – in conjunction with The Growing Season, a non-profit organization dedicated to community wellness that supports holistic health-focused community redevelopment projects. The Aux will be a place led by and for the Black community of Evanston and it will be first of its kind due to its innovative holistic approach to wellness from the inside out. Most importantly, this project will be a community driven project, owned by the community.

Sunshine Enterprises is extremely excited about the City Council's decision, not only because The Aux is one of the first projects in Evanston to be dedicated to the Black and Brown community, but also because it will be one of Sunshine Enterprises' Hubs for its 12-week Community Business Academy cohorts. The partnership with The Aux will allow Sunshine to increase its footprint on the north side of Chicago to continue helping entrepreneurs make their dreams a reality.



Humita Express Owners, Correa Brothers

Another CBA graduate success story happened on April 5, 2022, the official date when Humita Expressed, an Ecuadorian Fast Food Restaurant located at 3466 N Pulaski Rd., opened its doors to the public, this time with a brand new look. The Correa brothers, the owners, graduated from Sunshine's first CBA Spanish cohort in the Fall of 2020.

Even though the Correa brothers had 30 years of experience in the food & beverage industry, the Covid-19 pandemic hit them hard to the point where they had to close their 20 year old restaurant. However, thanks to Sunshine's training and business coaching sessions, the Correa brothers were able to quickly re-invent themselves and change to a food truck revenue model, which allowed them to make food deliveries during Covid-19 most restrictive phases. They also applied to different grants and federal loans which helped them stay in business. Lastly, they used some funds to remodel the establishment on Pulaski Rd., which now is called Humita Express.

"Sunshine Enterprises has been a tremendous support for me and my family to be able to overcome the economic impact of the pandemia. Now I am able to open Humita Express. I am very thankful for all that Sunshine Enterprises did for me", said Nestor Correa, one of the owners.

Sunshine Enterprises is a non-profit organization whose mission is to empower highly potential entrepreneurs to build and scale their business in their communities. The organization offers three programs: the Community Business Academy (CBA), Business Acceleration Services (BAS), and Access to Capital. For more information about our programs please visit:

[sunshineenterprises.com](https://www.sunshineenterprises.com)

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