



metropolitan
family services



COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

Community Schools operate during non-school hours to expand positive choices and opportunities for youth while achieving academic success.

Commitment to Community Schools Partnerships

Metropolitan Family Services has been at the forefront of the community schools movement since it began in Chicago in 1996, and the agency continues to play a leading role in city-wide development of the model. Metropolitan has embraced community schools as a key strategy for fulfilling its mission of providing and mobilizing services needed to strengthen families and communities.

Metropolitan Midway Partners

Metropolitan Midway Partners with 13 Chicago Public Schools on the southwest side:

- Ashburn Elementary in Ashburn
- Dawes Elementary in Ashburn
- Dore Elementary in Clearing West
- Durkin Park Elementary in Scottsdale
- Fairfield Elementary in Chicago Lawn
- Hale Elementary in Clearing
- Hernandez Middle in Gage Park
- Hubbard High School in West Lawn
- Kennedy High School in Garfield Ridge
- Pasteur Elementary in West Elsdon
- Stevenson Elementary in Ashburn
- Talman Elementary in Gage Park
- Tonti Elementary in Gage Park

A Focus on Results

Metropolitan conducts a comprehensive evaluation at each of our community schools annually. Evaluation tools include pre/post tests; surveys of students, teachers and parents; tracking student grades, attendance and standardized test scores; and qualitative evaluation through case studies. Results to date indicate strong outcomes for students, including improved academic performance, better relationships for youth with peers and adults and stronger parent and caregiver involvement in students' education.

Making A Difference

Community School partners (the agency, the school and the families) identify needs and Metropolitan organizes programs, resources and supports at the school:

- **Academics** – Out-of-school time programs link to classroom learning, giving students an opportunity to master or build on the school-day. Community schools promote life-long learning by providing enrichment programs for youth as well as exposure to college and career readiness.
- **Health** – Community Schools address physical and mental health and social emotional development; life skills and wellness programs, resources, and services ranging from organized physical education classes and nutrition workshops to school-based health clinics.
- **Family** – Opportunities are created for adult education and skill-building, meaningful parent involvement and engagement, and parent leadership development.
- **Community** – Community Schools act as hubs of their communities, connect resources and support for community members, and bring community assets into the school. Youth and families also profit from enrichment opportunities in fine arts, cultural experiences and technology.

Metropolitan Family Services empowers families to learn, to earn, to heal, to thrive. Part mentor, part motivator, part advocate, since 1857 Metropolitan Family Services has been the engine of change that empowers Chicago-area families to reach their greatest potential and positively impact their communities. **Learn more at www.metrofamily.org.**