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YouthConnect Executive Partners
Boys & Girls Club
Girls Inc.
Friendly House
Worcester Youth Center
YMCA of Central MA
YWCA Central MA
YOU, Inc.

Supporting Partners

Goal: Provide high quality neighborhood-based recreational, educational and cultural activities to isolated and underserved Worcester youth aged 5-24 with focus on the middle school years. Establish a seamless, inclusive youth-serving system; a consortium modeled on best practices and built on a framework that delivers positive outcomes for health, education, and family stability.

Common Outcomes for Youth
Increase the High School Graduation Rate for at-risk youth: Increase youth participation in educational support activities, improve youth academic skills and achievements

Reduce the childhood obesity rate: Healthier youth through healthier eating habits and increased physical activity

Reduce the child poverty rate: Prevention and support for youth in low income neighborhoods and subsidized housing, to reduce youth violence and reduce childhood poverty through a better prepared workforce

Worcester’s Community Health Improvement Plan

Domain I: Healthy Eating and Active Living
- Physical Activity through 6-week summer program
- Year-round physical activity at YC agencies
- Project Bread
- Nutrition components at some agencies

Domain II: Behavioral Health
- Mentors, study groups
- High-yield learning activities
- Relationship-building
- Bullying prevention, peer mediation and conflict resolution
- Leadership development

Domain III: Primary Care and Wellness
Supporting Partner Services and Activities
- Compass Network – Homeless youth network
- EMK Health Center – Primary care and education
- Family Health Center – Pregnancy Prevention and Adult PREP
- 15-40 Connection – Cancer Awareness and Advocacy
- Planned Parenthood – Sexual Health, pregnancy prevention, education

Domain IV: Violence and Injury Prevention
Activities
- Targeted outreach
- Mentors
- Leadership skill development
- GPS Girls Promoting Safety

Supporting Partner Services and Activities
- HOPE Coalition – Civicism and Peer Leadership
- Worcester DPH
- Worcester Police Department
- Worcester Violence Prevention Coalition

Domain V: Health Equity and Health Disparities
Overarching and embedded values and purposeful activities
- Shared anti-racist values influence program development and implementation
- Racism addressed specifically and intentionally in staff development