

Who Are The Crossover Youth in the Juvenile Justice System?

Of the 1,850 in the state Juvenile Justice about 70 are guardians of the state. Over the course of a year 100 to 120 crossover youth are or have been DJJ residents.

Statistically,

42% are under the age of 16

54% are 16-17 years old

4% are 18-20 years of age

65% have not completed grade school

65% have a DSM diagnosis and should have an IEP

50% have a dual diagnosis

70% have a chemical or substance abuse issue.

In Illinois incarcerated youth offenders are:

52% African American

36% Caucasian

12% are Hispanic



“ An essential measurement of any juvenile 'reentry' system is whether youth returning from incarceration remain safe and successful with their communities. By this fundamental measure, Illinois is failing.”

Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission
Youth Reentry Improvement Report

What's Next?

To create a new community will take two to four years to implement. Here are some key steps:

- A financial plan for design and construction
- A financial plan for operations
- Exploration of the 15 or so government funding sources
- Siting (St Charles?) and design
- Detailed policy and policy/documents
- Operation of the community
- Selection and screening in all people in the community
- Operation of the Charter School
- Transition of youth into the larger community
- Staff selction
- Capital and Operational Fund Raising
- National Replication strategies



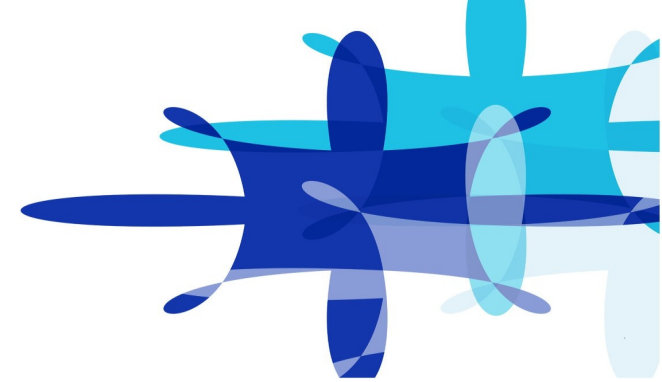
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A Generation of Hope Community

Juvenile Justice: An
Intergenerational Community
Solution



Generations of Hope Development Corporation
is a non for profit that promotes the replication of
intergenerational communities.

A GHC Community is a Planned Operated by a Non-Profit Organization

The new community will have housing for seniors, families and transitional living designed for the needs of three generations.

Host Family Housing (10) units will have four/five bedrooms and accommodate, a licensed trained host family and Crossover foster youth and siblings.

**Crossover youth are identified as foster children who have been in the juvenile system*

Senior Housing (40) units universally designed and may house retired couples, singles or in some circumstances non seniors with expertise in youth services.

Senior housing will be provided at a discounted rent with the agreement to provide community services.

Intergenerational Community

Transitional Apartment (15) units will be provided to Crossover youth that are able to be semi-independent in school and developing work experience.

On site will be a community Center, administrative offices and space for contracted, health, mental health, and substance abuse services.

The GHC Community Will be Anchored With Unique Host Families

A Host Family is a licensed foster family that has been trained as a professional or lay service provider in an approach such as:

- Functional Family Therapy
- Multi-systems Family Therapy
- Intensive Wraparound
- CBT Skills Development

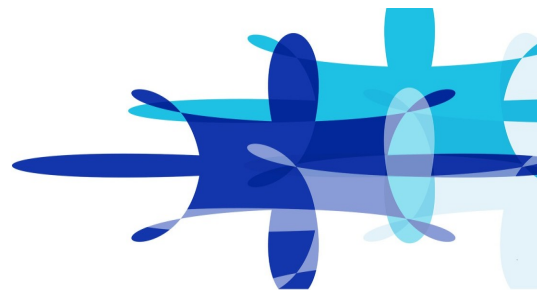
The host family will be provided discounted rent and compensation for experience and knowledge.

One or both of the families is expected to work outside the home, although this will not be a requirement. The host family may have biological or adopted children as part of the home. Additionally, the host family is expected to provide a level of permanence by providing a safe home and stability for the

crossover youth for up to five years.

Families will be supported by professional services such as:

- Mental Health and Substances
- Abuse Services
- Pharmacological consultation and management
- Tobacco cessation programs
- HIV/STD Prevention



GHC Will Provided a School Tailored for Success

Most Crossover youth have or need an individual education plan(IEP). Individual educational deficit s mean that a successful education program must be tailored to specific needs. Working with ages 16-21 means a successful program needs to be integrated with work and vocational experience.

The GHC Program will include an alternative public charter school. The school will be a nonprofit 501(c)(3) tuition free school dedicated to the educational needs of the students. The school will be fashioned after the “best practices” of the Youth Build USA. The school is planned for a student census of 200 youth from 16-22 years of age.

As a special, non-profit Charter School, the program will bridge the gap between traditional high school and the world of work.

Where appropriate, the school will be a conduit for accessing Vocational Rehabilitation programs and state and federal job training programs. Modeled after other special education transitional programs, business and government partnerships will allow students to train on the work site. Funding- The projected cost will be similar to other Charter Schools specializing in IEP based education. Resources from the Child Welfare system and the State/local/Federal Part C and regular education will cover the costs of education and transition to independence.

