

WESTCARE WISCONSIN PROGRAMS

PRESENT



Face Forward – Juvenile Justice Reentry Program

The Face Forward program, sponsored by the Department of Labor, affords WestCare Wisconsin Harambee Community Involvement Center the opportunity to provide wraparound human services to individuals between the ages of 16 and 24, who has *never been* convicted within the adult Federal, State or local criminal justice system, nor has *never been* convicted of a sexual offense other than prostitution, but is currently or has been involved in the juvenile justice system or is currently a candidate for diversion under State guidelines for juvenile diversion programs. Our success is being made possible with the collaborative efforts of our community partnerships.



Power of Harambee – Youth Employment Collaborative

This successful private / public sector partnership is designed to uplift the human spirit in individuals who are ready to enhance their quality of life including job readiness, employment opportunities, and guidance in becoming a productive citizen. In this four-week Professional Development Enrichment program, students will develop professional skills / soft skills that will help them in the workplace. This program will cover topics which includes branding, professional communication, networking, time management skills, interviewing practice, financial literacy, and Résumé building techniques. Students will also explore their interests, values, and talents so they can be cognizant of their own abilities and apply them in the work place. There will be professional development team builders tailored made to help the students gain better team working skills.



HARAMBEE
COMMUNITY

Community Organizing – NSP Area 6



The historic Harambee neighborhood in the city of Milwaukee is known for its community pride, cultural significance, and progressive development. WestCare Wisconsin operates the Harambee Community Involvement Center through CDBG funding provided by the City of Milwaukee Community Development Grants Administration. We serve as the Neighborhood Strategic Planning (NSP) lead agency for Area 6 in the 6th Aldermanic District to address the issues of public safety, property values, economic vitality and quality of life through our presence in the Harambee community. As a community organizing agency we have established activities at the Harambee Community Involvement Center to uplift the community with our housing improvement program, community outreach and special events, as well as youth and family enrichment services. We collaborate with the City Alderwoman's office and local police department (District 5) to help *improve the quality of life* for area residents by bridging the service gaps that exist between community needs and available resources. We offer space (limited seating) for the area residents / businesses to use to hold non-political meetings and community events that will educate, enrich, encourage and positively engage the community.



Families Moving Forward – Family Crisis Prevention Services

WestCare Wisconsin Harambee Community Center is an active community partner in a league of concerned service providers that are dedicated to the empowerment of families and individuals by providing collaborative strength based services designed to improve their quality of life. Through a grant from the Milwaukee County Behavioral Health Division, the Families Moving Forward Providers Network is a coalition of compassionate and qualified service providers, along with WestCare Wisconsin, who are contracted to provide domestic violence prevention or child abuse & neglect prevention workshops to families or family advocates. Participants learn the rules, laws, and consequences of intervention by the authorities. They are then given strategies for proactive steps to correct problems and get help before situations reach a legal or medical crisis level.

PAST



**MILWAUKEE
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

MPS 1 CBT Project

WestCare Wisconsin provided Milwaukee Public Schools with an array of evidence-based Cognitive Behavior Therapy services targeted to address the behavior reassignment needs of male and female students, thereby reducing incidences of poor behavior through provision of a Cognitive Behavioral Therapy Program. The program of services included behavioral interventions to address antisocial thinking, substance abuse and/or dependence, anger and aggression, poor family relationships and other behavior reassignment needs. These services provided an effort to teach students cognitive skills and cognitive restructuring; facilitate acceptance of responsibility for poor behavior; and appropriately manage attitudes, thoughts, feelings and emotions responsibly for accountability and community protection. Our goal was to reduce incidences of poor behavior through cognitive restructuring, pro-social skill building and targeting dynamic behavioral risk factors.



Faith Builds Community – Housing Development Partnership

Rev. Dr. James G White and his team coordinated the collective interest of four Racine area congregations concerned about affordable housing options, the need for suitable living environment and decent housing in the neighborhoods surrounding their churches. Initially called the “Racine Area Council of Pastors”, the group met with several City officials about their concerns. The St. Paul Community Development Corporation joined forces with the Racine Area Council of Pastors to create “Faith Builds Community, Inc.”. The FBC Board also includes Racine area nonprofit leadership and officials from the City and County of Racine. With over 25 years of combined housing and community development experience, the Faith Builds Community team decided to pursue HUD Community Housing Development Corporation (CHDO) status. To qualify for CHDO status, the group is required to demonstrate the capability of either rehabilitating an existing property, or constructing a new home in the city. The group applied for and received 2010 and 2011 Block Grant funds, and developed and submitted plans for the construction of a new three-bedroom home at the 61 Riverside Drive location. The WestCare Wisconsin team serves as the Project Management Consultant providing professional services including coordinate administrative activities, prepare and submit funding applications and reports, coordinate board activity. In July 2013, FBC contracted construction team completed a brand new three-bedroom single family home in the 8th Aldermanic District in Racine, WI.



AmeriCorps Wisconsin

WestCare Wisconsin participated in the AmeriCorps Program’s “United By Service” Veterans Service Support Initiative. National Service Members served through our Harambee Community Involvement Center conducting outreach in financial, educational, employment and family crisis prevention to local area veterans and their families.

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