

## Agency Overview & JAC Program

Cook County/JAC Press Conference — September 28, 2021



### LAWRENCE HALL OVERVIEW

Annually serving over 1,400 youth and families, Lawrence Hall is a social service agency that fosters resilience, healing, and hope in youth and families facing difficult circumstances. For more than 150 years, Lawrence Hall has been delivering high-quality, trauma-informed care throughout the Chicago metropolitan area through five core programs:

- Our Child and Family Treatment Center provides treatment intervention for youth experiencing acute emotional challenges and includes residential services as well as behavioral, expressive, and recreational therapies.
- Our Therapeutic Day School creates individualized educational programs for every student and fosters autonomy, skill mastery, and experiential learning.
- Our Foster Care program provides safe, nurturing homes for children who have been removed from their birth families due to neglect and/or abuse.
- Workforce Development initiatives based in South Shore serve our youth, families, and community through job training and placement, mentoring, restorative justice, and violence prevention.
- Transitional/Independent Living Programs serve youth ages 17-21 and teach independent living skills under the care of the around-the-clock case management team and Life Skills Educators.

Lawrence Hall's programs and services address the effects of childhood trauma in multiple ways – direct therapeutic treatment, restorative justice, personalized educational goals, family reunification plans, life skills development, and violence prevention programs.

#### Our Mission

Lawrence Hall is a community-based service agency embracing at-risk youth and their families by instilling resilience, healing and changing lives for good.

#### Our Vision

Hope, healing and resiliency for children.

### JAC PROGRAM AT LAWRENCE HALL

What is the Justice Advisory Council Recidivism Reduction Program (JAC)?

Lawrence Hall's JAC program aims to address and prevent high-risk behaviors and violence in our communities. For the teens and young adults enrolled in the program, participation includes case management, social/emotional groups rooted in restorative justice and Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT), individual therapy, and cultural immersion and service outings. Lawrence Hall takes a holistic approach to address the array of challenges individuals in South Shore face in preventing the cycle of repeated incarceration.

#### The Goal

The goal of JAC initiatives is to prevent teens and young adults from getting or being further involved with the justice system. Initiatives are meant to decrease violence and high-risk behaviors among youth and to help them navigate the unique barriers that stand in the way of their personal success and self-sufficiency.

#### Who Is Eligible?

- Cook County residents ages 14-24
- Has previous or current justice involvement
- In or out of school

#### Benefits of Youth Participation

- One-on-one case management opportunities
- Clinical services (Mentorship services and one-on-one and/or family therapeutic services)
- Support services (Employment services, community engagement opportunities, and educational support)