CHICAGO SURVIVORS

2024 Recap

Crisis Response

We arrive at the scene or the hospital within 2-4 hours of a homicide to help survivor families cope and take important next steps that include deescalating emotional responses that could cause additional harm, protecting the family's crime victim rights, and providing a liaison between the family of the victim and law enforcement.

Family Support

We provide proactive, field-based case management and support services for up to six months with our unique supportive counseling model which is an adaptation of the evidence-based intervention "Psychological Skill-Building," developed for homicide survivors

Youth Clinical Services

We provide supportive clinical counseling to children in the families of homicide victims which include evidence based therapeutics such as brain based modalities implementing trauma and grief informed therapy.

Community of Survivors

Before their six months of case management concludes, all families are invited to participate in our on-going community of survivors program which include support groups about grief, as well as fun, bonding activities and holiday events.

Criminal Justice Advocacy

We provide comprehensive support throughout the court process for the victim's family when an alleged offender is charged in a homicide.

School-based Programming

We provide students who have experienced the traumatic loss of a family member, friend, or peer with trauma and counseling support through our partnership with Chicago Public Schools (CPS).

2024 By The Numbers

425
Homicide notification responses

1,500
Youth and adults served

1,800
Total clinical hours provided to youth

2,632
Supportive counseling sessions provided to adults

$137K+
Crisis funds distributed

88%
Reduction in PTSD symptoms for adults who completed assessment

92%
Reduction in PTSD symptoms in youth who completed assessment

150
Emergency crisis funds provided for food, housing, and more

360
Survivors assisted with crime victim applications

- DHS - $1,649,728
- Individual Giving - $41,285.19
- DPA - $334,340
- Foundations - $211,031
- CDPH - $590,837
- Special Events - $45,222
- Corporations - $123,333

Open Hearts for Broken Hearts Gala

Chicago Survivors annual fundraiser gala, "Open Hearts for Broken Hearts," benefiting families living beyond violent loss raised $126,390.94. We extend a special thank you to our supporters and sponsors for your dedication to this organization and the healing you help provide to our families every day. With your support, the money we raised will greatly benefit our families and the future of Chicago Survivors.

'Back to School' Block Party

Chicago Survivors hosted their second annual 'Back-to-School' Block Party in 2024. This year, we were joined by U.S. Senator Dick Durbin, survivor Donna Pearson-Simmons, and representatives from Chicago Public Schools (CPS), Communities in School of Chicago, Michele Clark High School, and Arthur A. Libby Elementary School to announce the expansion of our School-Based Trauma Support Program. The press conference announced the impact Chicago Survivors had in 2023-2024 and discussed our plans to provide service to two additional CPS schools, resulting in a total of 16.

Featured Media Coverage

In 2024, we earned 53 media mentions across broadcast, print and radio. Among those features, we were highlighted in major publications, including all five of Chicago's main news television stations – ABC, CBS, FOX, WGN, and NBC – as well as a front cover story in The Chicago Tribune, and coverage in WBBM, WBEZ, Telemundo, The Trace, and WTTW. These stories helped us to spread the message and mission of Chicago Survivors to the greater community, while raising awareness for the impacts of gun violence on our community.