

Public Services

Safe Harbour Emergency Shelter Program

The Harbour's programs provide temporary shelter and/or transitional housing and comprehensive services for homeless and runaway girls age 12-21. The Safe Harbour Emergency Shelter provides short-term shelter and comprehensive services to adolescent girls in crisis while staff works with the girls and their families to stabilize their situations. The goal of the Shelter program is to insure that homeless youth are safe, receive necessary services, can continue their education, and will be discharged to a stable environment, preferably home. While in the Shelter, girls receive comprehensive services including counseling, social services, educational support, case management, and medical and mental health services.

The Transitional Living Program (TLP) serves 16-20 year old homeless girls while they complete high school and transition to self-sufficiency. The TLP provides for supervised living while the girls receive life skills training, educational support and employment skills development. While in the program, girls attend high school and also work 10-20 hours per week, banking 65% of their earnings for the future. The girls receive counseling, educational support, medical and mental health services, and individual case management and training.

The Independent Living Program (ILP) serves 17-21 year old girls as they transition to independent adulthood. This program assists homeless young women, including mothers, in acquiring a stable housing situation and achieving self-sufficiency. Young women live in their own apartments and work full-time. We provide start-up costs and a decreasing rent subsidy for up to 18 mos.

The Foundations of Living for Youth Program ("FLY") serves 17-21 year old homeless pregnant and parenting youth. Youth lack emotional and intellectual maturity, experience and resources to cope with the demands of parenting without substantial support. FLY provides intense social services and support to these youth, to ensure their ability to support and care for themselves and their children. They and their child(ren) live in their own apartments. We provide parenting support, training in parenting skills, counseling and case management, and decreasing financial assistance. Mentoring is provided by the Case Manager, who links the youth to community resources (child care, job training).

(Source: The Harbour, Inc.)

Contact Information: [Website](#)
Emergency Shelter at 847-297-8540 (press #1)
Transitional, Independent Living or Foundations of Living for Youth,
847-297-8540 (ext 129, Trina Cokel)

Child Care Subsidy Program

The CEDA Northwest Child Care Subsidy Program is designed for parents who are working full-time and have a child (or children) in day care. CEDA may be able to help pay for part of the childcare expenses. The program offers a subsidy for childcare payments to local licensed daycare providers for a limited time. After 6 months in the program, participants are evaluated to determine eligibility for future assistance. Families are responsible for finding their own providers.

Participants may be required to attend a 12-week self-sufficiency skills seminar that covers: budget/spending choices, checking accounts, understanding credit, handling credit problems, making money with money, avoiding money traps, understanding taxes, child support, mediation and conflict

resolution, stress management, parenting issues and career development. Must be a US Citizen or a legal resident.

(Source: CEDA Northwest)

Contact Information: [CEDA Northwest](#) at 847-392-2332.

Home Sharing and Homeless Prevention Program

The City of Des Plaines Department of Community and Economic Development is collaborating with The Center of Concern to administer the Home Sharing and Homeless Prevention Program.

The Home Sharing program matches homeowners having extra space in their homes with individuals who need affordable housing. Homeowners or condo/ apartment dwellers willing to share their homes do so in exchange for affordable rent and/or services. Homeowners benefit by continuing to live in their homes and in the community they know and feel comfortable in. It is cost effective for both parties: the homeowner receives income and/or help while the home-seeker finds housing that is more affordable than in the open market. This program is open to individuals of all ages: students, retirees, employed persons and single parents. The staff at The Center facilitates compatible home-sharing arrangements by interviewing, screening, arranging introductory visits and providing ongoing support.

The objective of the Homeless Prevention program is to avert homelessness by providing one-time emergency financial assistance with rent or mortgage arrears, utility bills or security deposits. A social worker assesses need and reviews applications to verify that eviction or utility shutoff is imminent and that the applicant has the capacity to pay future housing costs without assistance.

(Source: Center of Concern)

Contact Information: [The Center of Concern](#) at 847-823-0453.