

AFTER SCHOOL matters®

Building Community, Our City, Our Future



Fiscal Year 2024 Annual Report

Building Community, Our City, Our Future

With **more than 400,000** alumni out in the world, the After School Matters community is woven into the fabric of Chicago.

Through our hands-on, paid programs in the arts, communications and leadership, sports, and STEM, After School Matters teens meet and connect with youth from different neighborhoods, ethnicities, races, identities, and abilities.

All teens in ASM programs earn a stipend or hourly wages for their participation in programs. They bond over shared interests and talents as they create a sense of community and belonging together.



After School Matters Reach in FY24

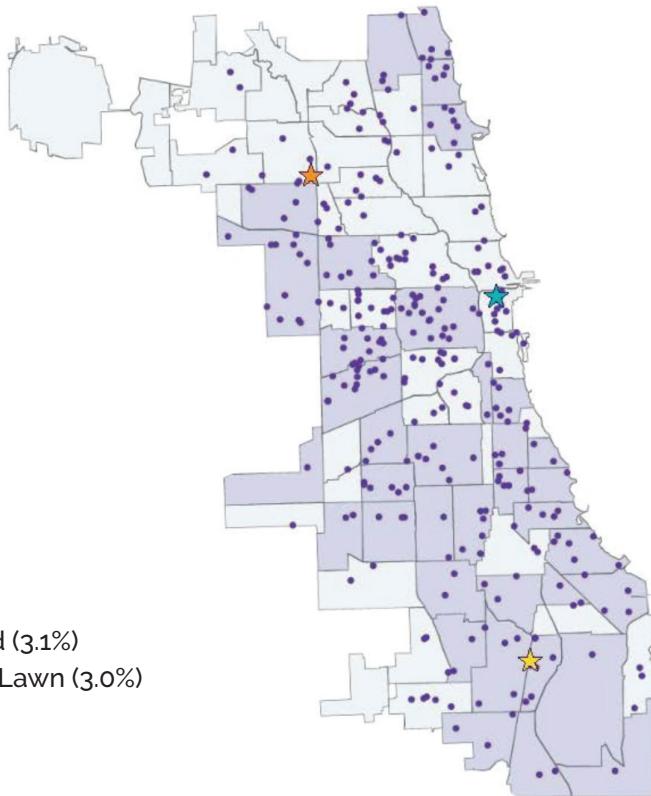
FY24 Program Sites Map

★ The Michael and Karyn Lutz Center
3435 N. Cicero Ave.

★ Gallery 37 Center for the Arts
66 E. Randolph St.

★ After School Matters at Gately Park
10201 S. Cottage Grove Ave.

● Program Sites



►324 Program Sites in FY24

While teens live across the city, the top community areas teens live in are:

- Austin (5.7%)
- South Lawndale (3.7%)
- Belmont Cragin (3.2%)
- Roseland (3.1%)
- Chicago Lawn (3.0%)

Teens Travel to Programming:



1 in 2

teens use public transit to get to their program



9 in 10

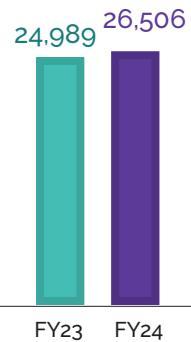
teens traveled outside of their community to attend programs



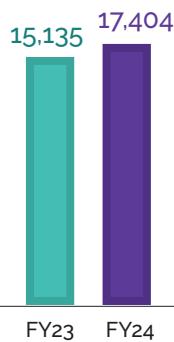
3.6 miles

is the average distance teens traveled to their program

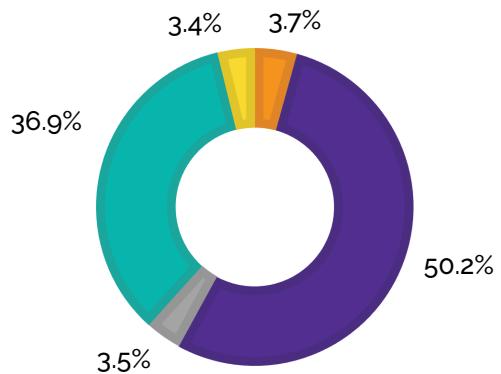
Program Opportunities Filled



Chicago Teens Served



Teen Race/Ethnicity



►26,506 Program Opportunities in FY24

- Asian
- Black/African American
- Caucasian
- Hispanic/Latinx
- Two or More Races

ASM offers teens a safe and supportive community.

“ Having a place like this makes you feel like you’re **part of a community**. My program is so fun and informative. ”

- ASM Teen

“ I’ve been in ASM for about four years. It’s been impactful in my life throughout each year. I learned new skills. I discovered that I want to become an art teacher, which is going to be my career in college. **This program helped me to see what I want to pursue in the future.** ”

-ASM Teen





72%

of teens said their program showed them new college/career pathways

90%

of teens felt safe in their program



88%

of teens felt a sense of belonging

93%

of teens felt more hopeful about their future after participating in ASM programs



Highlights from a Year of Building Community Across Chicago



Annual Gala Raises Over \$2.6 Million Towards Empowering Chicago Teens

In an inspiring display of community support and dedication to the future of Chicago's teens, After School Matters' Gala raised **more than \$2.6 million** towards ASM programming in September 2023. The annual Gala and funds raised yearly are a testament to the commitment of the ASM community to supporting opportunities for young people across the city.

*"After School Matters is a model program in our city that gives our youth hope and opportunity, and the belief that they can follow dreams and achieve great heights beyond their communities," said **Mayor Johnson**. "But at the same time, ASM embodies the best our communities have to offer, which is our young people, and is a vital partner in helping them grow and fulfill their vision year after year."*



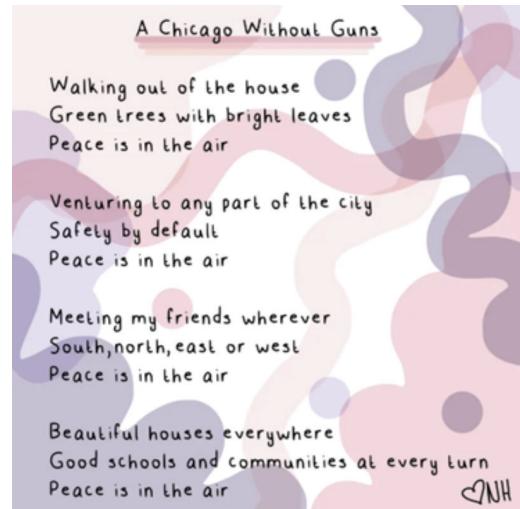
Empowering Change on Gun Violence Through Art

In a world where gun violence continues to impact communities and individuals,

After School Matters teens partnered with **Project Unloaded**, an organization dedicated to changing the narrative around guns.

Young people used their creativity, the power of art, and their voices to help shift the views around guns in Chicago and how they actually make people less safe.

Hundreds of ASM teens participated in a virtual Teen Table Talk and learned about the risks of having guns. Participants then developed content to address the issue of gun violence and how these weapons cause more harm than good. Teens created poetry, art, and even thoughtful social media posts, to explore how they can change gun culture in their neighborhoods.



By ASM teen Nayereh H.

Party for a Purpose: Sneaker Ball 2024



The fourth annual Sneaker Ball, hosted by the After School Matters Associate Board, was a huge success. Hundreds of guests came out in their freshest outfits paired with their most coveted kicks in support of Chicago teens on Saturday, April 13, at the Chicago Sports Museum. Together, **more than \$150,000 was raised** for the After School Matters Stipend Fund, ensuring young people in our programs are paid for the amazing work they do all year round!

Emcees Tre Ward, ABC7 Chicago Anchor, and Ciara Evans, ASM alum, kicked off the night with a warm welcome to guests. The Latinos Juntos Dance program started the dance party with a riveting performance that combined Chicago House Music with Latin dance. After the talented teens' performance, Tatiana Torres, Latinos Juntos Dance Instructor, taught guests how to dance merengue.

Unveiling the Lutz Family Annex: A Place of Innovation and Opportunity for Teens

The new Lutz Family Annex in the Belmont Cragin community opened in Spring 2024. The innovative space, next to the Michael and Karyn Lutz Center, offers state-of-the-art equipment for teens to learn welding, bike repair, and urban gardening skills.

For Karyn Lutz, the Annex represents more than just a building; it embodies the essence of After School Matters' mission—to equip teens with the skills and confidence they need to succeed in life.

“Our partnership with After School Matters is very special and our family calls this our ‘happy place.’ This is a perfect example of what After School Matters does best, teaching teens skills to provide extensive job opportunities that will enable our youth to live a fulfilling life with a sense of purpose and joy,” shared Karyn Lutz.

The transformation of the **nearly 2,000-square-foot space** was made possible through the generosity of supporters including the State of Illinois, The Michael and Karyn Lutz Family Foundation, ITW and Miller Electric, City of Chicago Department of Planning and Development, the Exelon Museum of Science and Industry Green Lab Grant, and an anonymous donor.





ASM Teens Train to be Emergency Medical Responders

After School Matters partnered with **Superior Ambulance** in the summer to provide teens with training to become emergency medical responders (EMR) at ASM's Gately Park facility. Teens explored potential careers in the medical field and gained hands-on training, learning CPR and triaging "injuries" with their peers. The program was led by Bianca Goolsby, a licensed EMT and ASM instructor/mentor.

After completing the program, teens 17-18 are eligible to take a test with the Illinois Department of Public Health to become certified EMRs, and Superior Ambulance has committed to hiring them. Superior will also provide certified teens with free classes toward becoming Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT).

"I want to become a pediatrician when I grow up and this program allows me to learn skills I can apply to college and my future career as a doctor," said Morgan M. an ASM teen in the EMR program.



Teen Spotlight: Erica S.

Erica S., After School Matters teen and recent Art in Motion High School graduate, has been making waves as a youth leader. Erica was selected by Every Hour Counts to represent ASM at the **Cultivating Possibilities: White House Youth Policy Summit 2024** in Washington, D.C.

Among nearly 90 young participants from across the country, Erica contributed her voice to discussions on the state of the country. Throughout the day-long Youth Summit at the U.S. Department of Education, she engaged in breakout sessions and panel discussions, focusing on youth-led solutions for mental health issues and education. Erica toured the White House, hearing from notable speakers like **First Lady Dr. Jill Biden** and **U.S. Secretary of Education Miguel A. Cardona, Ed.D.**

For Erica, this opportunity was more than just a trip—it was a chance to amplify her advocacy on a national stage. From her high school in Chicago to the halls of the White House, Erica's journey exemplifies the power of youth leadership. As she continues to use her voice to advocate for other young people, her impact extends far beyond her city.



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CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

2024

Revenue and Support

	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total
Government grants and support	\$ 30,057,359	\$ -	\$ 30,057,359
In-kind donations	4,783,626	62,550	4,846,176
Contributions and foundation grants	1,229,133	3,127,487	4,356,620
Gallery 37 retail sales	23,316	-	23,316
Special event revenue - Annual gala	2,761,090	-	2,761,090
Interest income	721,698	-	721,698
Investment income - Net of investment expenses	-	307,677	307,677
Miscellaneous income	138,643	-	138,643
Total revenue and support	39,714,865	3,497,714	43,212,579
Net Assets Released from Restrictions	19,164,025	(19,164,025)	-

Total revenue, support, and net assets released from restrictions 58,878,890 (15,666,311) 43,212,579

Expenses

Program services	36,859,293	-	36,859,293
Support services:			
Management and general	5,859,117	-	5,859,117
Fundraising	2,472,797	-	2,472,797
Total expenses	45,191,207	-	45,191,207

Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets - Before nonoperating income (loss) 13,687,683 (15,666,311) (1,978,628)

Nonoperating Income (Loss)

Gain on New Markets Tax Credit transaction	1,787,000	-	1,787,000
Loss on disposal of property and equipment	(171,719)	-	(171,719)
Total nonoperating income	1,615,281	-	1,615,281

Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets

Net Assets - Beginning of year	27,859,233	35,770,845	63,630,078
Net Assets - End of year	\$ 43,162,197	\$ 20,104,534	\$ 63,266,731