

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.

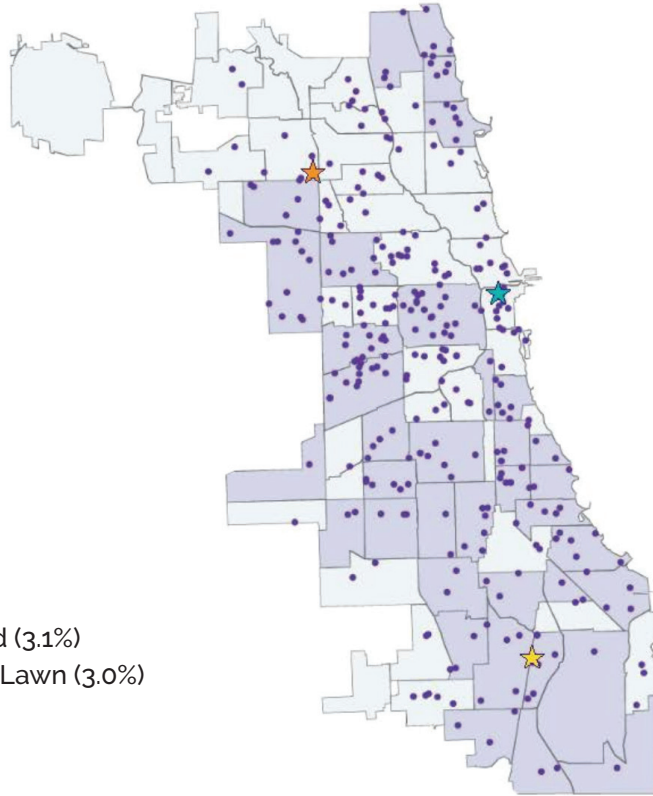




# After School Matters Reach in FY24

## 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**

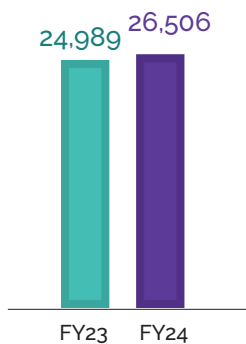
teens traveled outside of thier community to attend programs



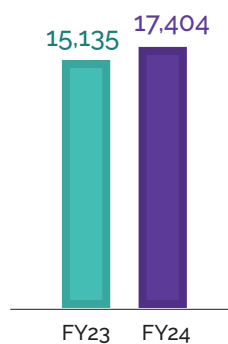
**3.6 miles**

is the average distance teens traveled to their program

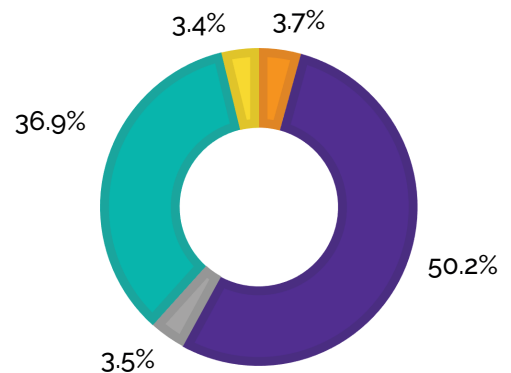
## Program Opportunities Filled



## 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.

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“ 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.

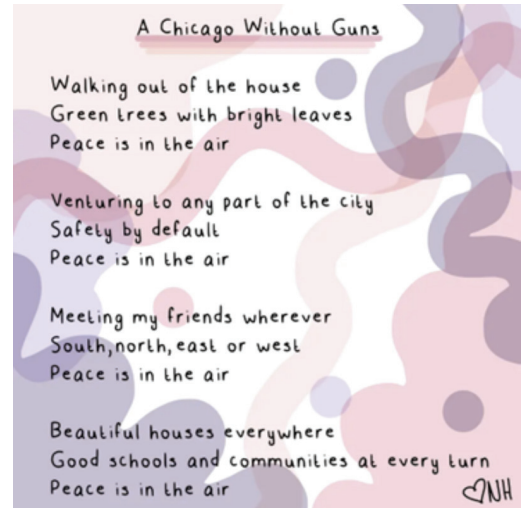
*"After School Matters is a model program in our city that gives our youth hope and opportunity, and the belief that they can follow dreams and achieve great heights beyond their communities," said **Mayor Johnson**. "But at the same time, ASM embodies the best our communities have to offer, which is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

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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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 Bettie's Chicago  
 C3 Presents  
 Chicago Bulls  
 Chicago Is..., A Global DMC  
 Partner  
 Chicago Park District  
 Chicago Public Schools

Chicago White Sox  
 City Club of Chicago  
 City of Chicago  
 Fleet Feet  
 Greater Chicago Food  
 Depository  
 Illinois Sports Facilities  
 Authority  
 Jared Levi  
 Jones Day  
 Katten  
 Kirkland & Ellis  
 Locke Lord  
 Museum of Ice Cream  
 Museum of Illusions  
 Nascar  
 Neal & Leroy, LLC  
 SpaDerma  
 Tawani Foundation  
 United Airlines, Official Airline  
 of After School Matters  
 Vans VF

### Tributes

In Honor of Mary Ellen Caron  
 Gerald W. Hollander  
  
 In Memory of Margaret C. Daley  
 John R. Daley  
 Justine Miele

In Honor of Amy S. Dolnick  
 William Blair  
 Dan Grant

In Honor of Stephen Grabo  
 Robert Duggan

In Honor of Mayor Lightfoot  
 Rodman Family Foundation

In Honor of Mellody L. Hobson  
 Kurt A. Hill  
 Kathleen Kennedy

In Honor of Mellody Hobson and  
 George Lucas  
 Stephen D. Arnold  
 Patricia J. Hamel  
 Janet S. Robbins

In Honor of Everest Lucas  
 Robert A. Judelson

In Honor of Karyn B. Lutz  
 William Blair  
 Dan Grant  
 Jonathan Lutz

In Honor of The Makris Family  
 Grace Yu

In Memory of Melvin E. Pearl  
 Robert A. Judelson

In Honor of David Shapiro  
 Beth Perlman

In Honor of Simon and Zahira  
 Simon Lough

In Honor of Lloyd Stein  
 Robert A. Judelson

In Honor of Anne Sullivan  
 Tiffany Miles

In Honor of Gregory A. Thompson  
 Greg Cameron

# Our Financial Statement

## 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		15,302,964		(15,666,311)		(363,347)
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