More than Lockers:
Chicago’s Plan to Promote Health, Safety & Connection through Storage

Chicago Youth Storage Initiative
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Chicago Youth Summit 2014

LGBT

Resilience
Engelwood

Courageous

Hopeful

Optimistic

Perserverance

Dream it, Speak it, Do IT!

Lake View
Participatory Action Research.
Stand-Alone & Satellite Storage Options
Solutions.
Recommendations + Key Findings

• Proximity + Connection
• Plan 2.0 Menu Item
• Technology Access
• Creative Youth Responses
• Adultism/Safety + Security
• Stigma and “Service Transactions”
Mission:
The Chicago Youth Storage Initiative seeks to improve the lives of young people experiencing homelessness through the provision of physical and virtual storage access options that serve a wide range of experiences and needs.
Public Health Implications
How might storage access support health outcomes?
What are the health benefits?
2016–2017 Focus

Storage Types:
- Medium/Long-Term
- Temporary (Daily, Overnight)
- School-Based
- Google Drive

Environments:
- Low Threshold Youth Shelters
- Transitional Housing Programs
- Drop In Centers
- Churches
- Schools
- Outreach
Tensions & Challenges

• Confidentiality
• Privacy
• Safety
• Security
• Adultism
• Options
• Trust
• Disorganization
Getting to Work

• What storage solutions exist in your community now?
• What can you do in your community to enhance a community-wide storage network?
• If you have time, how would it work? How would it address some of the challenges?