

Since its inception SSHC continues to be guided by its Mission to provide comprehensive services to help people of all ages cope with, mental, physical and social problems by offering prevention and positive healthy alternatives so that at-risk individuals may live productive lives in their communities.

Vanessa Smith Executive Director

Our board, staff and local volunteers have made the personal investment of time and

resources to ensure provision of quality services to negate health and social challenges. In addition, we have provided training to other community based organizations, based on our experience so that they too can obtain the sustainability needed to provide social services throughout the city, state and nation.

Despite fiscal and social challenges and ever-changing political and public policies, our agency has weathered the storms of time and survived in order to continue to provide much-needed services. SSHC has a stellar reputation in the community, among government agencies and globally-respected foundations for our programs and service ethics.

# **Help Is Here**

The South Side Help Center Team works together with individuals and community organizations to address issues that inhibit the productivity of the community and hinder the greater-good of its residents.

Successfully resolving these issues takes the heartfelt dedication and hard work of people who know the community and possess the skills and passion to serve its people.

SSHC is structured so that it can effectively execute an array of community social services, while also broadening its influence and scope of services through capacity building and collaborations.

In essence, we provide HELP to individuals and organizations.



HIV/AIDS Education • Capacity Building Youth Services • Direct Services Outreach • Mobile Testing

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For Additional Information and to Make Donations, www.SouthSideHelp.org







### Youth Department Programs

B.R.I.T.E. (Building Responsible Intelligent Teens Everywhere)- This program was developed to encourage the participants to positively increase the distinction of their important identity. In a safe haven of nurturing and support, participants receive help with homework, enhance their computer skills, organize and plan special events and participate in group activities. From their one-on-one sessions with mentors they also learn time management skills, interpersonal and networking skills and how to be effective communicators.

#### Creatively Relating Entertainment and Arts To Education (C.R.E.A.T.E)This program

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Male/Female Mentoring- Creatively Relating Entertainment And Arts To Educate is an interactive peer leadership program for junior and senior year high schools students in African American communities that are not normally exposed to creative art programs. C.R.E.A.T.E. consists of three components: The Palette, Young Voice and Drama Squad. These programs focus on the prevention of substance abuse and violence using poetry, video production, newspapers, skits, and plays and helps prepare participants who are interested in pursuing careers in the arts.

## The Young Men For Community Advocacy Project (YMCA)-

This program was developed to encourage the participants to positively increase the distinction of their important identity. In a safe haven of nurturing and support, participants receive help with homework, enhance their computer skills, organize and plan special events and participate in group activities. From their one-on-one sessions with mentors they also learn time management skills, interpersonal and networking skills and how to be effective communicators.

**Botvin Life Skills Program-** Life Skills Programs focus on the development of effective social and problem-solving skills utilizing non-violent methods. Skill building activities are performed that help youth develop life skills to enhance their individual attitudes and behaviors to help meet the psychological, physical and social needs of youth.

**Family Violence and Prevention Programs-** This program focuses on the development of effective social and problem-solving skills utilizing non-violent methods. The workshops include topics such as conflict management, violence prevention, behavior modification, anger-management, leadership development, communication skills, value clarification, positive relationship building, and alcohol, tobacco and other drugs as they relate to violence.

The program also assists the youth in understanding norms, attitudes and values centered around community violence and how to identify, resist and communicate with persons exhibiting violent behavior. Specific problem-behavior skill building activities are performed that help youth develop life skills to enhance their individual attitudes and behaviors to address the challenges of day-to-day experiences in a constructive manner and offers alternatives to help meet the psychological, physical and social needs of youth.

# **Description Of Youth Development Department**

South Side Help Center's Youth Programs are a collection of locally based programs that provide youth ages 9-18 with comprehensive services to help them achieve success, inherit positive self-esteem, distinguish values important to them and enable them to thrive as a productive adult member of society.