Teen REACH afterschool + summer programs have not been funded since July 1. Programs have closed their doors, reduced the number of students served, cut hours, eliminated key program components, and laid off staff. Without immediate funding, all 15,000 students at 121 sites across the state served by Teen REACH risk permanently losing services.

Students are paying the price
- Students are losing high-quality tutoring and academic support that promotes graduation and college and career readiness
- Students are losing connections to mentors and professional role models
- Students are losing a safe, structured environment that keeps them safe from violence
- Parents are being forced to choose between working and making sure their kids are safe

Teen REACH Works
- High-quality and cost-effective model, with regular monitoring and evaluation
- Supports graduation: 99.3% of Teen REACH high school seniors who graduated, compared to 86% statewide average (For students participating 10/12-8/13). 93% of Teen REACH students tracked improved their grades.
- Keeps youth safe: 99.85% of Teen REACH youth were safe from violence during program hours. Studies have found that participants in afterschool programs may be 30% less likely to participate in criminal activities.
- Encourages positive growth and development: 77% of Teen REACH youth improved anger management and conflict resolution skills.

Teen REACH is part of the cure. Not every Teen REACH program has closed, but most programs have cut services. This means they’re not delivering the complete, comprehensive Teen REACH model that has proven effective. You’d never deny a sick patient treatment or give them only half of their medicine; youth shouldn’t be denied treatment for the epidemics of violence and dropping out that plagues them. That means they need the full course of Teen REACH!

Restore Teen REACH funding to $13.8M
Teen REACH afterschool programs have been closing while youth and parents are searching for safe, engaging places to go.

America After 3PM revealed 433,390 youth in Illinois are alone and unsupervised after school. More than 741,400 youth would be enrolled in a program if one were available to them.

84% of Illinois parents support public funding for afterschool programs while just 36% report receiving government assistance with the cost of afterschool.

73% of parents agree that afterschool programs help parents keep their jobs.

Source: America After 3PM, 2014.

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