



YMCA of Metropolitan Chicago

# YMCA Alliance Fact Sheet



## DESCRIPTION:

The YMCA Alliance of Metropolitan Chicago, established in 1975, prepares people for economic independence by providing educational, entrepreneurial and workforce training and support. The YMCA Alliance serves approximately 1,000 adults each year. Services are provided at the YMCA's downtown location, in the heart of Chicago's business district and at the Austin YMCA.

## SERVICES:

**Adult Education and Literacy** – Provides basic education and GED preparation classes for adults who lack the academic skills necessary to compete and succeed in the workforce.

**Employment Assistance** – Offers basic employability skills training, career planning, job search and placement assistance for adults. Those served include first-time workers, dislocated workers, single parents, homeless persons, and others needing support to enter or re-enter the workforce. The YMCA partners with area businesses and offers on-site employment testing, pre-screening, job matching and placement retention services.

**Small Business Services** – Provides business development training and assistance in obtaining business loans to low and moderate income adults on Chicago's west side through the Entrepreneurship Development Program (EDP). In addition, volunteer mentors and staff provide technical assistance to existing small businesses. Approximately 22% of EDP graduates have gone on to start their own businesses.

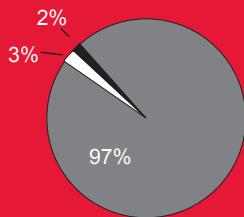
**Vocational Training** – Offers basic, intermediate and advanced office skills training to help the unemployed and underemployed enter and advance in many career fields. The YMCA Alliance offers customer service and cash register training to adults on Chicago's west side looking for entry-level jobs in the retail, health, security, banking and other industries.

## FUNDING:

Funded by grants from the Illinois Community College Board, the Illinois Department of Human Services, the Mayor's Office of Workforce Development, the City of Chicago Department of Planning and Development, JPMorgan Chase Foundation, the CNA Foundation, the Bank of America Foundation and many other private donors.

## CLIENT DEMOGRAPHICS

Total Served Annually: 1,000



- African American
- Latino
- Caucasian & Other