

Far Southside ROSC Initiative (TEECH Foundation)

Gap Analysis

A gap analysis is a process of comparing your current state to your desired future state.

Focus Areas: The Far Southside ROSC Council's goal is to bridge the gaps by providing education, support, and awareness for the community, and education and support for the person in active addiction, recovery and their family and friends. Many of the methodologies used during subsequent ROSC meetings have proved effective, as evidenced by the outcome of the ROSC Council and the collaboration with the community, stakeholders, family, and friends.

Current State:

Stagnation of youth's progress, pricing out in housing, crime, safety, substance use, and mental health.

Performance Measurement Used:

Round table discussions with youths and surveys

Strengths – Round table discussion included youths with lived experience who gave possible solutions to break down stigmas and fears of youths, identifying primary reasons for enhanced crime while emphasizing substance use and mental health issues. Advocate for seniors and low income individuals established committee.

Weaknesses – Limited community agencies in attendance.

Desired State:

Increase services and collaborations needed for youths. Work with those priced out to ensure they know their rights and seek housing to accept their vouchers or accommodate those on fixed incomes. Regarding crime and safety, provide safety training and work with law enforcement and legislators to ensure cameras are available at low to no cost, along with securing lots, stores, and businesses with additional police presence. Finally, continue to provide Narcan training, supplies, and education while collaborating with the Southside Opioid Task force, treatment centers, and other agencies that provide substance use and mental health services.

Gap:

Bridging the gap consists of education and community collaborations. To address the gap identified by the youths, we must solicit legislation, clergy, and community members to address the need to implement programs for youths instead of jails and juvenile detention centers. The programs should address substance use, mental health, peer pressure, and trauma. At the same time, speak with schools to bring addiction education and Narcan training into the schools weekly. In addition, continue to work with the alderman to stop the pricing out for the seniors and low-income. The crime continues, however, requesting face-to-face meetings with chiefs and sergeants for additional police visibility and offering community safety training throughout the Far Southside of Chicago.