

## Continuing Care Services

*" I still get my mail at The Night Ministry, use the phone there, and participate in cultural events that The Night Ministry hosts. Continuing Care Services provides food to tide me over when I'm running just a little short of food money." - Former Female Resident of Open Door Shelter, age 19*

**PURPOSE:** To assist former residents of Open Door Youth Shelter – West Town housing programs in obtaining or retaining housing, employment, education, or additional supportive services to help them maintain stability.

**LOCATIONS:** Our Continuing Care Coordinator meets with youth at Open Door Youth Shelter – West Town, in the homes of former residents, and at our Drop-In program at the Broadway Youth Center in Chicago's Lakeview neighborhood.

**PROGRAM:** Residents of Open Door Youth Shelter face challenges that are not easily remedied. After their stay at Open Door Youth Shelter – West Town, youth frequently need continued assistance as they face issues stemming from chronic or acute situations such as lack of family support and/or education, inexperience with daily living skills, and social isolation.

**SERVICES:** Before leaving Open Door Youth Shelter – West Town, residents are strongly encouraged to meet with the Continuing Care Coordinator for information on the services available to them:

- counseling
- peer support
- referrals for medical & legal assistance
- employment assistance
- public aid assistance
- help obtaining identification documents
- help with educational needs
- phone use
- assistance in finding other housing programs
- use of mailing address
- hygiene kits
- transit fare
- use of laundry facilities
- food pantry bags
- safer sex education
- household set-up assistance
- home visits
- apartment hunting