

hopeful happenings

MAY 2026: SUMMER EDITION

Hello Summer!

Upcoming Groups

Summer 2026

Tuesdays 5-6:30pm

June 23
June 30
July 7
July 14
July 21
July 28

Jr. High Process Group

This group is offered to high school girls who are looking for a safe and supportive space to navigate the everyday challenges and connect with peers. The group provides the participants the opportunity for creative self-exploration and insight into new strategies to cope with stressors. The group meets on Tuesdays from 5:00 - 6:30PM.

High School Process Group

This group is offered to high school girls who are looking for a safe and supportive space to navigate the everyday challenges and connect with peers. The group provides the participants the opportunity for creative self-exploration and insight into new strategies to cope with stressors. The group meets on Tuesdays from 4:00 - 5:30PM.

Pride Groups Summer Session

Our weekly prideSUPPORT groups for all ages are open for new members! Rainbow Connection for grades 9-12 and Fruit Loops for grades 6-8 offer supportive spaces for LGBTQ+ youth to come together, do fun activities, and share what's going on in their lives. LGBTQ+ Dungeons & Dragons group will work together through gaming to identity and reach their goals. New and experienced players grades 8-12 welcome!

PrideCONNECT: Summer Events!

Focused on connecting youth and families through community and supportive relationships, prideCONNECT offers fun opportunities to build friendships and celebrate Pride together. This summer, join us for the Buffalo Grove Pride Parade, LGBTQ Tea Party at the Northbrook Public Library, Gayborhood field trips to Andersonville and North Halsted, and our all-ages Pride-Palooza Party!

Caring Connections

Caring Connections is a program for parents and children ages 2-5 that helps families build strong foundations for growth, learning, and connection. Each week includes a group parent discussion, a children's play-based learning group, and joint parent-child activities designed to strengthen bonds through shared play. Running from June 10-July 22, this group will meet on Wednesdays from 10:00 - 12:00PM.

For more information about the above groups or programs, or to schedule an intake, please email intake@ysgn.org or call 847-724-2620.

In the Spotlight

Find your PLACE

PLACE IS A PROCESS GROUP FOR EMERGING ADULTS (18-24) WHO ARE NAVIGATING LIFE'S TRANSITIONS.

- Personal Growth - explore your values, beliefs, and goals while working through about who you are and who you want to be.
- Life Transitions - navigate the challenges of school, work, independence, and other major life transitions.
- Authentic Relationships - build meaningful connections, improve communication, and practice emotional vulnerability in safe spaces.
- Confidence - strengthen self-esteem, learn to advocate for yourself, and build healthy boundaries in relationships.
- Intercultural Exploration - identify healthy ways to understand, manage, and express your feelings.

CONTACT JESS SALGADO, LICSW FOR MORE INFORMATION
JESS.SALGADO@YSGN.ORG | 847-724-2620 EXT. 102

Youth Services

NEW Find Your PLACE

This process group is offered to emerging adults (18-24-year-olds) and focuses on personal growth, life transitions, authentic relationships, confidence, and emotional expression. Group participants can connect with others facing similar challenges, while gaining encouragement, perspective, and thoughtful feedback. Now accepting referrals for our pilot group!

Apply to be a Pride Youth Leader!

Now recruiting rising 9th-12th grade LGBTQ+ youth who are:

- Passionate about LGBTQ+ community
- Interested in learning more about LGBTQ+ identities & social justice
- Ready to build leadership skills
- Excited to connect with a group of other amazing youth

Welcoming our Newest Board Member!

We are excited to welcome Mauro Garcia to the Youth Services Board of Directors. Mauro brings a deep commitment to community well-being and a wealth of professional experience that will help strengthen our organization as we continue expanding access to mental health care and youth programs. We are grateful for his willingness to serve and support the families and young people in our community

Support our Work

Youth Services is a non-profit organization and relies on donors and community support. Consider supporting us by attending these great fundraising events.

Friends of Youth Services Fashion

The FoYS Fashion Show returns for its 4th year on Thursday, June 18th at 6:30 PM at the Loyola Academy McGrath Family Performing Arts Center. Get ready for a fabulous night filled with fun, fashion, and community spirit. Featuring incredible designs from local student designers alongside stylish pieces from Margo Boutique, you'll leave inspired—and ready to refresh your wardrobe!

2026 Golf Outing

Join us for the 10th Annual Youth Services Golf Outing on Monday, September 14th at beautiful Sunset Ridge Country Club for a memorable day of golf, networking, and community — all while helping provide life-changing mental health services for local children.

