

## Chicago Organizations Focused on Queer Youth Homelessness

*Howard Brown/Broadway Youth Center* [<http://howardbrown.org/byc/>]

### History:

- Howard Brown founded in 1974 in response to need for culturally competent STI testing and treatment for queer men
- Emergence of AIDS epidemic in 1980s drove expansion into culturally competent general medical care for queer men
- 1990s expansion into specific needs of queer women
- Opening of BYC in 2004 reflects another expansion of mission to provide all sexual minorities in need of culturally competent care

### BYC services

- "Today, more than twelve community partners and agencies collaborate to provide primary medical care, HIV and STI testing and counseling, confidential family planning, counseling, support groups, case management, housing assistance programs, GED educational and vocational training, and drop-in needs and services such as showers, laundry, and food to youth and young adults throughout Chicago and surrounding suburbs." [<http://howardbrown.org/about/mission-and-overview/>]
- Criticism of BYC has centered on its location in a white, affluent neighborhood that is unfriendly to the POC youth it serves and remote from their neighborhoods

### Funding [all information from 2014 annual report]

- Patient revenue 3.3 million
- Government contracts 4.3 million
- donations/"direct public support": 4.8 million
- 340B pharmacy revenue: 23.4 million [federal program that enables HBHC to purchase prescription drugs at a discount]
- Youth program expenses: \$923, 067 - 4% of expenses (85% of HBHC expenses are medical)

*El Rescate (Puerto Rican Cultural Center project)* [<http://elrescatechicago.org/>]

### History

- Founded March 2011 with purpose to provide "identity-affirming housing to homeless LGBTQ youth, some being HIV positive, and to provide support services to assist with their transition to independence." [<http://elrescatechicago.org/>]
- Building opened in March 2012

- February 2014 - 19 of 25 places filled  
[<http://chicagoreporter.com/tcr-talks-jackie-gonzalez-helps-homeless-youth-if-they-were-her-own/#.Uvk4k3zwKf9>]

#### Services:

- Transitional housing for LGBTQ Latinx youth, some who are living with HIV
- A program of Vida/SIDA, the HIV outreach program of the Puerto Rican Cultural Center  
[<http://www.prcc-chgo.org/initiatives/vidasida/>]

#### Funding:

- Funding appears to be primarily via the Puerto Rican Cultural Center, but also some direct fundraising
- donations/direct public support
- School-based projects - high school summer program raised funds for school supplies for residents  
[<http://elrescatechicago.org/post/96101566559/back2school-christmas-in-august-el-rescate>]
- Various grants aimed at HIV prevention/sexual health education  
[<http://www.prcc-chgo.org/2016/03/24/vidasida-is-pleased-to-announce-the-relaunch-of-generation-l/>]

*Project Fierce* [<http://projectfiercechicago.org/>]

#### History

- Creation and fundraising begun in 2013
- Purchased building on southwest side in August 2015
- Planned opening August 2016

#### Services:

- transitional housing and support services for LGBT youth

#### Funding sources [as stated in website FAQ unless otherwise noted]

- Rent from office space in house
- donations/direct public support - numerous fundraising events
- volunteer labor
- Leadership board contributions "Additionally, a significant portion of our budget comes from collective member pay-in"
- between \$10,000 to \$25,000 from the LGBT Community Fund ( the LGBT Fund ) at the Chicago Community Trust ( the Trust )  
[<http://www.windycitymediagroup.com/lgbt/LGBT-Community-Fund-awards-280000-to-local-groups-targeting-youth-aging-/52706.html>]