



# Module 8: Site-Specific Education ~ Chicago

## Chicago, Illinois, Youth in Mission Youth Center

### Contact information:

Site Supervisor (if applicable): Team and other leaders serve as site supervisors

Other important local contacts: coordinator of Lutheran Youth in Mission Youth Center, see website for current information @ [http://yim.lstc.edu/youth\\_center/](http://yim.lstc.edu/youth_center/)

### Travel information:

Booking flights: If arriving by air, use O'Hare International Airport

Internal travel: will need transportation to and from the retreat center

Any limitations on baggage or items to be carried: as per carrier if fly into O'Hare Airport

Hotel and housing information: Accommodations provided at Lutheran Youth Service Retreat Center.

Visit their website to obtain the most up to date information about availability and expenses

### Health concerns and requirements:

Clean water concerns: can drink tap water at site, bring water bottles

Check the CDC website for most up to date information.

### Socio-economic context:

Poverty issues: The effects of poverty are experienced through the service sites and in areas where homeless are present

Demographics: Very diverse local population as well as at service sites

### Local church information:

Service is typically during the week because that is the time when the majority of service opportunities are offered to assist the homeless or in need. Each team is encouraged to develop programming for their teams. The BWM has resources available to assist the team with that piece.

## General Daily Life Details:

### Accommodations:

- Lutheran School of Theology has converted one of their dorms into a Youth in Mission Retreat Center. Site offers comfortable lodging for up to 22 persons. Participants can provide their own bedding or pay a fee to use the center's bedding. Beds are bunks.
- Galley kitchen has a refrigerator, full stove w/oven, coffee maker, dishes, silverware, pots & pans, cooking utensils, paper towels, dish soap.
- There are showers in each of the boy's and girl's dorm areas.
- Lower level space for additional rent provides foosball and another kitchen set up

### Climate concerns:

January – April = blustery, cold, variety of precipitation

March - May = warming temperatures however can be chilly and typically windy

June – September = typically quite warm to hot and humid. Winds off the lake help to cool air

October – December = temperatures fluctuate, increased possibility of snow, windy

### Clothing:

Dependent on time of year, come with clothes to layer in the event of a variety of weather conditions. Spend time outdoors walking so be prepared.

Work: casual, shorts not recommended unless very hot, closed, comfortable shoes (lots of walking)

On the street or about town: casual, prepare for windy, cold weather in fall, winter, & spring months

Running, relaxing, around the house, etc.: casual

### Communication issues:

Phone contact: phone service is good due to the variety of providers in the area

Internet: Youth in Mission Youth Center does have Internet

### Food / dietary matters:

Normal daily meals and routine: Team will provide own food items and prepare meals on site

Snack items to bring along: there is storage and refrigeration available at center

### Taboos and cultural information:

When serving at sites respect for the site coordinators, other volunteers, and those being served is of the utmost importance.

### **Additional Notes:**

- O'Hare International Airport is approximately 1 hour drive from the retreat center.