



June 2010

TLP e-newsletter

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Get Involved

Want to attend one of the meetings or events below? Please contact [Emily Krisciunas](#) for more information!

[Golf Outing Committee](#)

Help plan the 3rd Annual Chairman's Golf Outing on **Tuesday, June 8th at 3:00 p.m.**

[Community Meeting](#)

Join us for our monthly community meeting on **Thursday, June 17th at 5:00 p.m. at Belfort House.**

[Youth Graduation](#)

Join us as we celebrate two amazing youth, Kathy and Arsenio, as they graduate into TLP's independent living program. **Wednesday, June 23rd at 5:30 p.m. at Belfort House.**

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

Dear Emily,

In this issue: read about TLP's feature in a national report on homelessness, celebrate Shantae's graduation, donate art supplies, and buy your tickets for TLP on Tap!

From the Executive Director's Desk

By Jeri Linas

Dear Friends,

With non-profit organizations across the city facing another year of steep budget cuts, Teen Living Programs is showing its support for strengthening the Illinois human service system.



Through a partnership with the [Donors Forum](#), TLP and other agencies are advocating for more transparent contracting practices, and a commitment to backing funding that has been pledged.

TLP provides critical services to Chicago's youth who are homeless, and reliable funding from our state government is an important part of our ability to do so. By collaborating with the Donors Forum and other social service agencies, we are doing our part to ensure that there is a fair and mutually accountable system guiding this important work.

Thank you for your dedicated support of Teen Living Programs, especially considering the economic hardships we have all experienced over the recent years.

Warmly,
Jeri Lynch Linas
Executive Director

PS: Think ahead! Father's Day is coming up on June 20th! Honor an important father figure in your life by making a donation to Teen Living. For so many of Chicago's youth who are homeless, TLP is a family. Your gift makes a difference.

Youth Graduates into Independence

Shantae graduates from the CaSSA program

On Wednesday, May 26th, friends, volunteers, and TLP staff came together at Belfort House to celebrate the graduation of Shantae from the [CaSSA program](#). TLP staff shared heartfelt words of support for Shantae, highlighting her charisma, authenticity, and determination as key factors in her success.

After living in Belfort House and spending two years in TLP's independent living program, Shantae is thriving and moving into her own apartment. Her graduation featured highlights from her TLP experience: Not only did Shantae move our 2009 Gala attendees with her personal story, but she has been an all-star employee at Potbelly's for the past three years, recently being offered a corporate



internship from executives who visited her personally.

Shantae described Teen Living Programs as a family, and as a place where she has been surrounded by people who truly want her to be happy and successful. We are thrilled to have been part of her transition into independence.

Congratulations, Shantae! We're so proud of you!

National Report Focuses Research on Bronzeville Youth Shelter Clients



Sixteen clients from Teen Living Programs' [Bronzeville Youth Shelter](#) were interviewed for a report called *Why They Run*, published by the [National Runaway Switchboard](#).

The report features interviews with runaway and homeless youth in Los Angeles and Chicago, focusing on the problems these young people face, and how to support them most effectively.

Teen Living Programs is excited to have its clients and programs featured in more research by respected organizations. In April we were identified by the [National Alliance to End Homelessness](#) as a Best Practice organization for serving LGBT homeless youth, and in May we were featured in *The Prevention Researcher*, a journal focused on at-risk youth.

We are also grateful for publications like *Why They Run* for drawing attention to the growing youth homelessness crisis and for demonstrating the great need for organizations in Chicago like Teen Living Programs.

[Click here to read more about National Runaway Switchboard and to view the *Why They Run* report in its entirety.](#)

2nd Annual TLP on Tap, June 10th

Buy your tickets today for the annual Auxiliary Board event

Time is running out to purchase your advance tickets for this Thursday's *TLP on Tap* at Lizzie McNeill's Irish Pub! Your ticket purchase gets you three hours of beer, wine, food, and \$3 well drink specials.



[Click here to purchase your \\$40 pre-sale ticket online today and your name will be held at the door for admission.](#)

A huge thank you to the generous donors/sponsors of *TLP on Tap* (as of 6.4.10):
 Amazing Edibles, Big City Swing, Burrito Beach, Cortiva, Dana Hotel and Spa, Dave's Greatest, Health from East, Eli's Cheesecake, Fork & the Road, The Grill Catering and Delivery,

Jeremy Rewey, Karyn's on Green, Marquin Salon, Michael & Michael Salon, Rising Realty, Rosati's Pizza, Ruffled Feathers, and WSCR-AM.

Questions about buying a ticket online? Can't attend but want to support the event? Email [Emily Krisciunas](#) or call 312-568-5700, ext. 225.

Art Supplies Needed for Youth

Do you have any arts and crafts supplies that are unused? Creative youth at TLP's [emergency shelter for minor youth](#)

(ages 14-17) want to make good use of donated supplies that are gathering dust in your drawers. Construction paper, sculpey, markers, and watercolor paper are all high-demand items, but any other crafty, fun stuff is equally welcome. Contact Emily Krisciunas to coordinate your donation drop-off by emailing emilyk@teenliving.org or calling her at 312-568-5700 ext. 225.



Recent Gifts

Thank you to the United Way, the Lloyd A. Fry Foundation, the John R. Houlsby Foundation, and the Northern Trust Charitable Trust, for their generous support of Teen Living Programs.

The **United Way of Metropolitan Chicago** awarded TLP \$75,000 for the next three years in support of our program *Healthy Youth: From Homelessness to Self-Sufficiency*.

The **Lloyd A. Fry Foundation** awarded TLP \$30,000 for the next two years in support of our Whole Health Program, helping fund our on-site nurse practitioner and Belfort House health clinic.

The **John R. Houlsby Foundation** awarded \$15,000 in support of our supportive services programming, including educational and recreational support, and our Shoulder-to-Shoulder after-care program.

The **Northern Trust Charitable Trust** awarded TLP a \$10,000 grant supporting our stable housing program.

Thank you all for your continued support of TLP!

Donate Now

Donations to Teen Living Programs are tax-deductible as charitable contributions and can be made with a check, by a transfer of stock, or online with a credit card.

Note: Online donations ARE eligible for Matching Gift Programs. Just mail TLP the paperwork and we'll take it from there.

Checks should be made payable to **Teen Living Programs** and can be mailed to:

Teen Living Programs
162 W. Hubbard
Suite 400
Chicago, IL 60654

or visit our [Website](#) to make a secure online donation.

Questions? Call [Nia Tavoularis](#), director of development, at 312-568-5700, ext. 228.

Thank you for your support!

www.teenliving.org

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