



Teen Programs
161 Jackson St.
Lowell, MA 01852

Lowell Community Health Center – Teen Block Lowell Youth Council

Since 1970, Lowell Community Health Center has provided quality, affordable health care services and its youth development programs have serviced Lowell teens for over 20 years. The Teen Block’s Mission is to support the healthy development of young people and empower them to become leaders in the community by working to reduce risky behaviors that lead to teen pregnancy, HIV/STIs, substance use and violence in Lowell. By Building Leadership Opportunities in the Community and providing Knowledge on health education and prevention we promote healthy behaviors that will enhance future prospects for our young people.

Since 2008, the Youth Violence Prevention Grant has allowed the Health Center to form a Youth Council to collaborate with its five youth- serving partners through special events, targeted outreach, workshops, and performances. The Youth Council’s accomplishments include the revitalization of a local violence prevention coalition, organizing numerous youth and police dialogues, and the creation of the “We Got the Power” event called “Community Healing through Art”.

To Do Checklist

- **Conduct Focus Groups to inform the process**
 - Community discussions about needs
 - Engage youth with the program planning and implementation
 - Stakeholders
- **Identify and engage key stakeholders and constituents**
- **Funding**
 - Secure funding sources, local, state, federal, private donors and fundraisers
- **Locate a safe space, accessible to all**
- **Recruit and train competent youth workers utilizing evidenced-based practices**
- **Build community collaborators to provide capacity**
- **Create a recruitment plan which engages the youth who need the supportive services**
- **Pilot the project with an opportunity to process, reflect and adjust as needed**