

**Community Collaboration**

American Red Cross  
Community Service Council  
Oklahoma Alternative Education Association  
Tulsa Juvenile Bureau of the District Court  
Will Rogers United Methodist Church  
Youth Services of Tulsa

**Public and Private Partnerships** *Financial and In-kind*

Tulsa Public Schools  
Tulsa Area United Way  
Oklahoma State Department of Education  
Oklahoma Association of Youth Services  
Oklahoma Office of Juvenile Affairs  
Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services  
Street School Board of Directors  
Foundations, corporations, and individual donors

"I was a mess when I came to Street School. I was strung out every day, doing whatever I needed to get drugs. I felt that nobody cared about me. I didn't have anybody in my corner. I never thought I'd be where I am today — in college, married and having a good life, a normal life — one I never had before. I hate to think what would have happened to me if it hadn't been for Street School and the people there who looked out for me. Street School turned my life around."

**Allison** — high school graduate; Street School College Scholarship recipient.



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YOUR ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL OF CHOICE

Celebrating  
**35** years  
1973–2008

2004 Winner, National Dropout Prevention Network Crystal Star Award

Street School is a tuition-free, non-profit alternative school of choice and therapeutic counseling program.

Since 1973, Street School has served thousands of Tulsa-area youth at risk of dropping out of high school.

Street School (main) **833-9800**

Intake Counselor **833-9806**

Mentoring Program **833-9812**

First Offender Program **833-9815**

HIV/AIDS, Teen Pregnancy Prevention and Community Outreach Program **833-9812**

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# Street School is a tuition-free, non-profit alternative school of choice and therapeutic counseling program.

Street School celebrated its 35 year anniversary in 2008 as a tuition-free, non-profit alternative school of choice and therapeutic counseling program for students in grades 9 through 12. Our program helps students earn their high school diploma through a supportive individualized program for students who have chosen to continue their education in a non-traditional setting.

Being a school of choice means that students choose Street School as their high school and go through an application process for admittance. Street School has a comparatively low, 13:1, student-to-teacher ratio and a 15:1 student-to-counselor ratio. The school is an attractive setting for students who are committed not only to their education, but also to

manner that reinforces key learning outcomes. With an average of 90 students and a focus on learning that engages the whole person, Street School is a great place to earn a high school diploma.

Our comprehensive and individualized services are designed to enable students to grow towards their own potential and become responsible, productive adults. Indeed, Street School's College Scholarship Program helps students once at risk of dropping out of high school continue their education at colleges, universities, and technical schools.

Street School services span far beyond the student body, reaching hundreds of families each year. We provide education and counseling services to students who live

"For the first time I feel like I have a family, like I belong somewhere. I think I can make something of myself. I am forever thankful to Street School for giving me the support, love, and encouragement I needed."

Carrie — living alone on streets at age 15; Street School College Scholarship recipient; enrolled in a medical technology program.

resolving substance-abuse problems, learning and practicing life skills, dealing with behavioral issues, or filling a void of education and emotional support traditionally provided by family.

As an alternative school, the Street School program incorporates teaching through experiences in a

in the Tulsa Public School (TPS) district. TPS supports the Street School mission through accreditation and in-kind services. Street School also receives support from the Tulsa Area United Way, state agencies, and importantly, companies and individuals throughout the community.

## THE WORLD IS OUR CLASSROOM EDUCATION

The World Is Our Classroom education theme provides students the opportunities to learn through real life experiences including field trips, wilderness adventures, internships, and community service learning outreach programs. Student growth is enhanced through these experiences. They gain knowledge and develop skills in team building, communication, and leadership while learning about their world.

## COUNSELING PROGRAM

Academics can quickly become secondary to our students due to a variety of factors including their family life and/or peers. Often, the severity of a teenager's problem is not known until sufficient time is spent in counseling. Frequently, the problems that surface at our school have been virtually unaddressed in public schools or a student's home. Many of the parents and families of these youth are in need of being linked with essential community social service resources. Counselors attempt to impact the entire family system in order to help reduce problematic behavior.

Counseling has always been a critical part of the Street School program. Our program's founders realized that if the students' personal and emotional problems were not addressed, then the ability to focus on academics could continue to be affected. Students meet regularly with the six full-time counselors for crisis intervention, individual and group therapy.

## MENTORING PROGRAM

Community volunteers who serve as mentors have a significant role in a young person's life. A Street School Mentor is a trusted person who is not a surrogate parent, but rather a caring friend who is directing and modeling leadership and community involvement. They are a person with a positive attitude who strives to motivate and nurture the student.

## FIRST OFFENDER PROGRAM

The purpose of the Street School First Offender Program is to enable individuals to resolve conflicts positively; assume responsibility and realize consequences for their actions; and to gain a clear understanding and insight into peer pressure and impulsive behavior. Students participating in this program have been identified by law enforcement or the courts as having committed acts that do not warrant adjudication, but require intervention with a focus on preventing future offenses. This program is only for first offenders under the age of 18.

## HIV/AIDS, TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH

In Street School's HIV/AIDS, Teen Pregnancy Prevention and Community Outreach Program, students are trained and certified as peer educators through the American Red Cross. Students are taught how to speak to their peers, and make presentations about pregnancy prevention, while raising awareness of HIV, AIDS, STDs, abstinence and the need for young people to practice safe sex if having sex.

From the U.S. Census, we know that nearly 5,000 youth drop out of school beginning at age 13 or the eighth grade in the Tulsa Metropolitan Statistical Area. Many of the students now attending Street School dropped out of traditional schools because of academic deficiencies, emotional school adjustment, behavioral difficulties or pregnancy or parenting responsibilities.

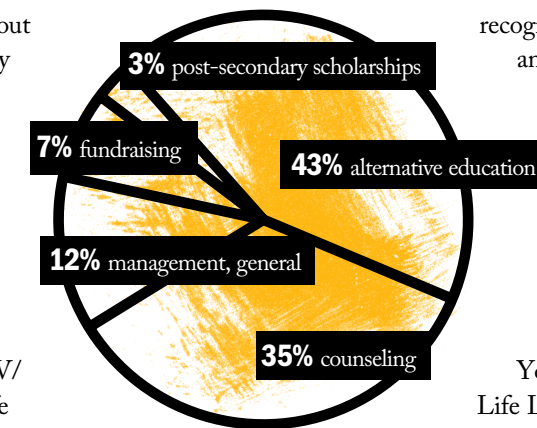
The impact of students dropping out of school affects everyone in many ways. Students who complete their high school education are more employable, earn higher salaries, increase tax revenues, lower welfare costs, reduce public health care costs, and lower incarceration rates. In Oklahoma, 71% of prisoners did not receive a high school diploma.

Without the help I got from the people at Street School, I would have felt lost.

Dan — abandoned and living alone at age 15; Street School graduate; Desert Storm Veteran

## YOUR INVESTMENT AT WORK

Street School takes a different approach to the dropout problem. Through our dropout prevention, intervention, and recovery program, we turn students around moving them in a positive direction where they can become successful and productive members of the community by creating opportunities for students to grow to their potential. Students receive individual and group therapy on a variety of issues including substance abuse, HIV/AIDS, teen pregnancy, parenting, life skills, leadership, career development, and higher education. Street School helps students solve problems that interfere with learning.



Street School's outstanding results have been recognized in many ways locally, statewide and nationally. The National Dropout Prevention Network recognized Street School with the 2004 Crystal Star of Excellence Award for dropout prevention. Other recognition Street School's work has earned includes the Literacy Coalition's Literacy Leader Award; the Oklahoma Association of Youth Services Youth Advocacy and Life Lessons Outstanding Youth Services Program Award; and the Oklahoma Foundation for Excellence Dropout Prevention Award.

Street School alumni are contributing members of our community. Our program results show:

- approximately 73 percent of all graduates continued their education at colleges, universities, and technical schools,
- on average three years after graduation, 70 percent are employed.

Please see enclosed "Results Card" for a list of current end of school-year results.