



FAR SOUTHSIDE ROSC COMMUNITY MEETING

8/25/2025

- Welcome – What is ROSC – Frederick Buford RC, CPRS
- Introduction of Audience – Robert Bufford RC, CPRS, NCRS
- FSSRI – Update – Robert Bufford RC, CPRS, NCRS
- Presenting of Guest Speaker – Ms. Shells ED, BSM, RCP, CAMS I
- Presentation -Mr. Leslie Givens

Resources and Closing Remarks- Ms. Shells ED, BSM, RCP, CAMS I

Mr. Leslie Givens

Redefining Outreach: A New Perspective

Please leave your business cards so we can connect.

Thank You





Date: 08/25/2025

Location: TEECH Foundation

1750 West 103rd Street Chicago IL 60643

In person/virtual

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83594646165?pwd=mSe9cJy0S4E90KmbD3LEy8CMpujMit.1>

Meeting ID: 835 9464 6165

Passcode: 235477

FSSRI ROSC August Meeting Minutes

Welcome

Frederick Buford RC, CPRS

Frederick welcomed everyone and introduced the concept of a Recovery-Oriented System of Care (ROSC). ROSC is a coordinated network of community-based services and supports that is person-centered and builds on the strengths and resilience of individuals, families, and communities to achieve abstinence and improved health, wellness, and quality of life for those with or at risk of alcohol and drug problems. The overall goal of ROSC is to create an environment that supports recovery and improves the quality of life for individuals and families in the Far Southside of Chicago.

Introduction of Audience

Robert Bufford RC, CPRS, NCRS – Lead ROSC Coordinator

Robert introduced the audience, including partners and Zoom participants. He expressed gratitude for their presence and emphasized the importance of their commitment to making a positive impact in the community.

Community Update and Collaboration

Robert Bufford RC, CPRS, NCRS

Robert provided an update on community support and collaboration efforts.

Communities Supported by FSSRI:

- West Englewood
- Auburn Gresham
- Beverly
- Washington Heights
- Mount Greenwood
- Morgan Park
- Roseland North-East
- Calumet Heights
- Pullman South Deering
- Hegewisch
- Oaklawn
- Evergreen Park
- Robbins Southwest
- Dolton Southwest

FY26 Far Southside ROSC Goals

- **Building a Culture that Nurtures Recovery:** Creating an environment that supports individuals in their recovery journey and promotes a positive and healthy quality of life.
- **Building Capacity and Infrastructure:** Developing the necessary resources and support for a recovery-oriented system of care within the community.
- **Developing Commitment:** Fostering a commitment to implementing and sustaining a recovery-oriented system of care within the community.
- **Bridging Gaps:** Addressing stigmas and stereotypes to bridge the gap for individuals in recovery, those seeking recovery, and those with mental health struggles.

Community Input and Collaboration

FSSRI will conduct needs assessments to emphasize the importance of community input, including findings from surveys, small group discussions, and evaluation responses.

Breaking the Cycle – Reducing Recidivism

Through collaboration with law enforcement and ongoing initiatives from July 1, 2025, to the present, the following achievements were noted:

- **Successful Transitions to Recovery Homes:** Two individuals transitioned successfully.
- **Alternatives to Arrest:** Three individuals were provided alternatives to arrest and placed in treatment programs.
- **Support for Returning Citizens:** Sixteen returning citizens were placed in recovery homes and enrolled in recovery support programs.
- **Employment and Recovery Maintenance:** Five individuals became gainfully employed, and four are awaiting start dates for employment.
- **Community Service as an Alternative to Incarceration:** Six individuals transitioned to community service, with one completing the program.

Community Advocacy and Outreach

FSSRI is actively listening to the community and addressing concerns. They will advocate for and provide outreach by offering education, raising awareness, and providing resources for services.

Upcoming Community Events

- **September 12:** UMARC Recovery Conference
- **September 17:** RETINC at 8715 S. State
- **September 22:** FSSRI and Tread – Faith Leaders Symposium at 11555 S. Michigan
- **September 27:** TEECH, FSSRI, BBC, Kate's – Speak-A-Thon and Community Resource Fair at Forest Preserves, 83rd Western Grove 3
- **TBA:** Unhoused People Support Drive
- **TBA:** Winter Wonderland Extravaganza partnering with Brighter Behavior Choices
- **TBA:** Reentry Resource Fair and Collaborative Round Table

Trainer: Mr. Leslie Givens – Community Recovery Coordinator

Leslie will be sitting for his CPRS/CRSS test on August 27, 2025.

Training Session: Redefining Community Outreach

Community outreach involves actively connecting with and engaging the public to inform them about services, build relationships, and address community needs.

Key Aspects:

- Extending Services/Resources
- Meeting People Where They Are
- Reaching Those in Need
- Active Engagement
- Two-Way Communication
- Goal-Oriented
- Collaboration & Adaptability

Examples of Outreach Activities:

- Educational Programs
- Health and Wellness Initiatives
- Cultural Events
- Service Projects
- Outreach Workers

Effective Forms of Outreach:

- Direct Mail
- Flyers/Posters
- Workshops/Classes
- Social Media
- Phone Calls/Emails/Text Messages
- Public Presentations
- Influencer Collaborations
- Community Forums
- Advocacy Campaigns
- Exploring New Markets

Effective Communication:

- Building trust, fostering collaboration, and ensuring information reaches all segments of the population.

Engaging the Community:

- Make eye contact with your audience.
- Make your message memorable and impactful.
- Encourage questions and provide thoughtful responses.
- Use live polls or surveys to gather audience opinions.

Personal Presentation:

- Dress appropriately.
- Carry identification.
- Wear organization-branded items.

Leaving the Site:

- Inform your contact person that you have completed your outreach and are safe.
- Leave business cards and contact information.

Meeting Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Next Meeting: September 22, 2025

Far Southside ROSC (FSSRI)
Robert Bufford RC, CPRS, NCRS
www.techfoundation1.org

FY26



Communities Supported by FSSRI

West
Englewood

Auburn
Gresham,

Beverly

Washington
Heights

Mount
Greenwood

Morgan Park

Roseland –
North-East

Calumet
Heights,

Pullman,
South
Deering

Hedgewisch

Oak Lawn

Evergreen
Park

Robbins
(Southwest)

Dolton
(Southwest)

Far Southside ROSC GOALS

- The goal of the Far Southside ROSC Initiative (FSSRI) is to support individuals in recovery, those seeking recovery, and those with mental health issues by addressing stigmas and stereotypes. The initiative aims to create a unified platform within the communities, focusing on substance use and mental health issues. Specifically, the goals of the FSSRI include:
- **Building a culture that nurtures recovery:** This involved creating an environment that supports individuals in their recovery journey and promotes a positive and healthy quality of life.
- **Building capacity and infrastructure:** The initiative aimed to develop the necessary resources and infrastructure to support a recovery-oriented system of care on the Far South Side of Chicago.
- **Developing commitment:** FSSRI sought to foster a commitment to implementing and sustaining a recovery-oriented system of care within the community.
- **Bridging gaps:** The initiative focused on bridging the gap for individuals in recovery, those seeking recovery, and those with mental health issues by addressing stigmas and stereotypes and ensuring they receive the necessary assistance for a good quality of life

Breaking the Cycle – Reducing Recidivism

Through our collaboration with law enforcement and our ongoing initiatives from July 1, 2025, to the present, we have achieved the following

Successful Transitions to Recovery Homes: Two individuals have successfully transitioned to recovery homes.

Alternatives to Arrest: Three individuals have been provided alternatives to arrest and placed in treatment programs.

Support for Returning Citizens: Sixteen returning citizens have been placed in recovery homes and enrolled in recovery support programs as a strategic measure to prevent recidivism.

Employment and Recovery Maintenance: Of these individuals, five have become gainfully employed, four are awaiting start dates for employment whereas addressing all legal stipulations which allows them to reintegrate into society with reduced pressures.

Community Service as an Alternative to Incarceration: Six individuals were transitioned to community service, with one completing the program as an alternative to incarceration.

United for Education

Empowering Our Children Through Community Spirit

The Far Southside of Chicago demonstrated an incredible sense of unity and community spirit by organizing a series of back-to-school events for the children.

These events were a testament to the collective effort of local organizations, parents, educators, and volunteers who came together to ensure that every child was equipped and excited for the new school year. From providing essential school supplies to hosting engaging activities and workshops, the community's dedication to the children's education and well-being was evident.

This collaborative initiative not only prepared the children for academic success but also fostered a sense of belonging and support, reinforcing the importance of community in nurturing the next generation.

West Pullman

**Body of Christ
Resource Fair**

Aug. Outreach Site

- **856 W 115th Street**
- **Chicago, Illinois 60643**
- **Time: 12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.**

September Is Recovery Month – Get Ready



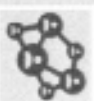
Sept. 12, UMACRC – Hilton Hotel – 95th Cicero – Must Register



Sept 17 – RETINC – 8721 S State Street



Sept. 22 – TEECH, FSSRI and TREAD - Faith Leader's Symposium – 11555 S Michigan



Sept. 27, 25 - TEECH, FSSRI, BBC, Kate's - Speak-A-Thon & Community Resource Fair – Forest Preserves – 83rd Wester Grove 3

Join Us for a Series of Inspiring Community Events!

The events will be provided in collaboration with
Community Partners and other ROSC Councils:

- TBA: Unhoused People Support Drive
- TBA: Thanksgiving Celebration Fest
- TBA: Winter Wonderland Extravaganza partnering with Brighter Behavior Choices
- TBA: Reentry Resource Fair & Collaborative Round Table

Stay Tuned more info to come: We look forward to seeing you there!



FSSRI Monthly Meetings

- **Frequency:** Every 4th Monday of the month (unless a holiday or unforeseeable challenges arise)
- **Time:** 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
- **Format:** Both in-person and via Zoom (promoting more in-person attendance)
- **Amenities:** Light refreshments served
- **Parking:** Free
- **Location:** 1750 W 103rd, Chicago, Illinois 60643

Continuing Education Units (CEUs) will be offered.

We need your participation, resources, and collaboration to make our initiatives successful. Your involvement is crucial in addressing the barriers and gaps within our community. We look forward to your active participation and support.

Thank you! 😊

SURVEY – GO TO OUR WEBSITE – WWW.TEECHFOUNDATION1.ORG
COMPLETE OUR SURVEY RIGHT NOW IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY

ENGLISH



Scan me!

TAKE OUT YOUR PHONES



SPANISH



Scan me!

Thank You



Questions



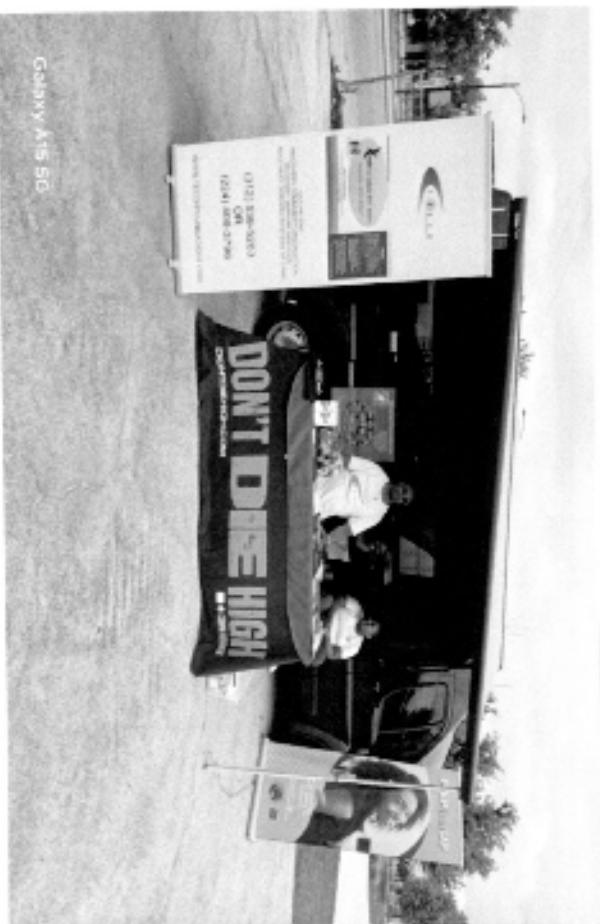
www.teechfoundation1.org



REDEFINING COMMUNITY OUTREACH: A NEW PERSPECTIVE

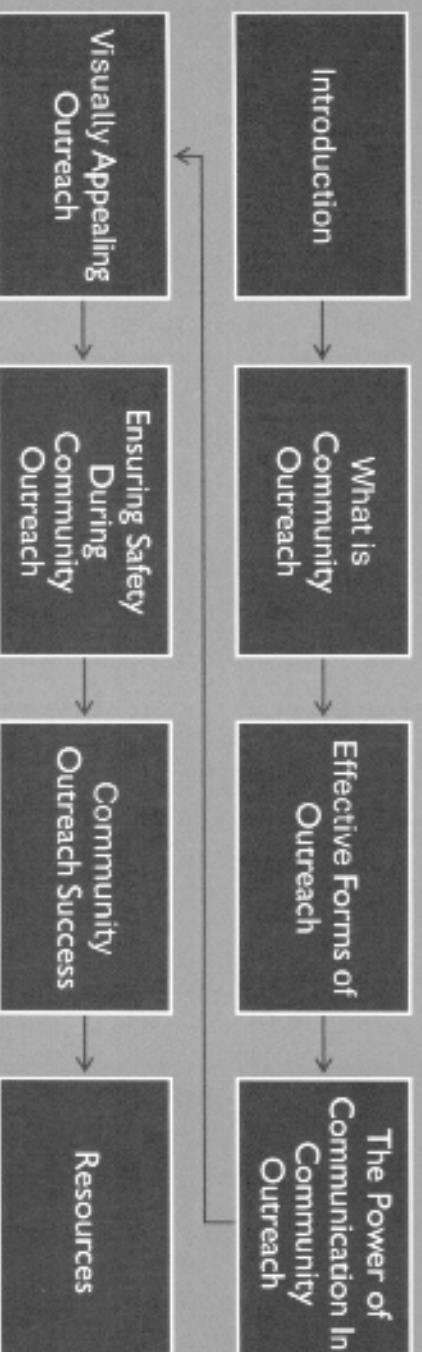
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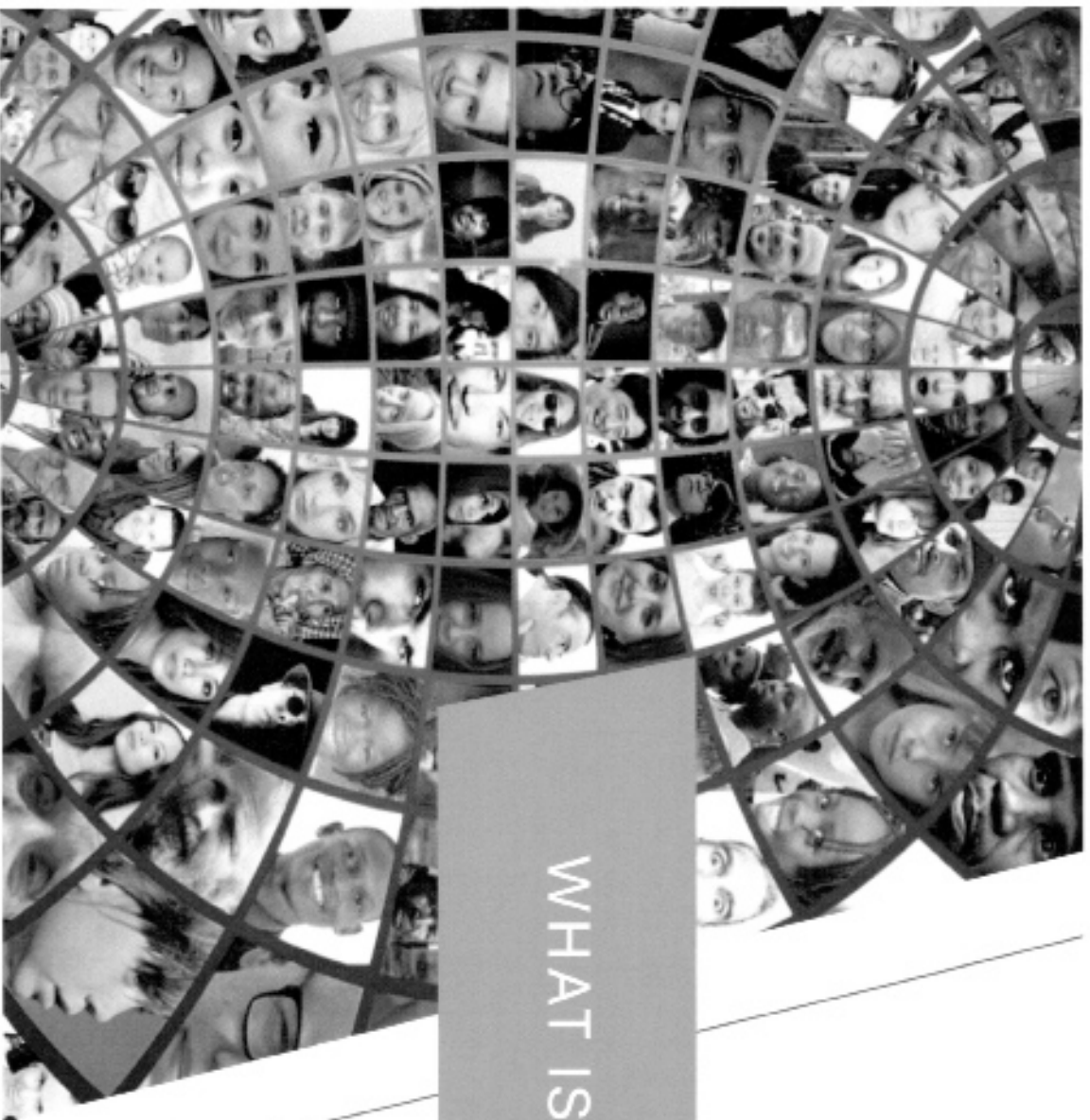
LESLIE GIVENES



Galaxy A15 5G

AGENDA





WHAT IS COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Community outreach is the practice of an organization actively connecting with and engaging the public to inform them about services, building relationships, and addressing the needs of a community.



Key Aspects Of Outreach



- Extending Services/Resources
- Meeting People Where They Are
- Reaching Those In Need (creating a needs assessment)
- Active Engagement
- Two-Way Communication
- Goal Oriented (realistic)
- Collaboration & Adaptability

EXAMPLES OF OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

- Educational Programs
- Health and Wellness Initiatives
 - Cultural –Events
 - Services Projects
- Outreach Workers

AND REGIONAL PARK

AND REGIONAL PARK

**'HOW CAN WE MAKE A MORE
CONNECTED COMMUNITY?'**



Effective Forms Of Outreach

Traditional & Digital



Direct Mail



Flyers & Posters



Phone Calls



In-Person & Community Outreach Events



Workshops & Classes



Social Media



Email



Text Messaging (SMS)

Engaging A Wider Audience

- Social media Campaigns
- Public Presentations
- Influencer Collaborations
- Community Forums
- Advocacy Campaigns
- Explore New Markets



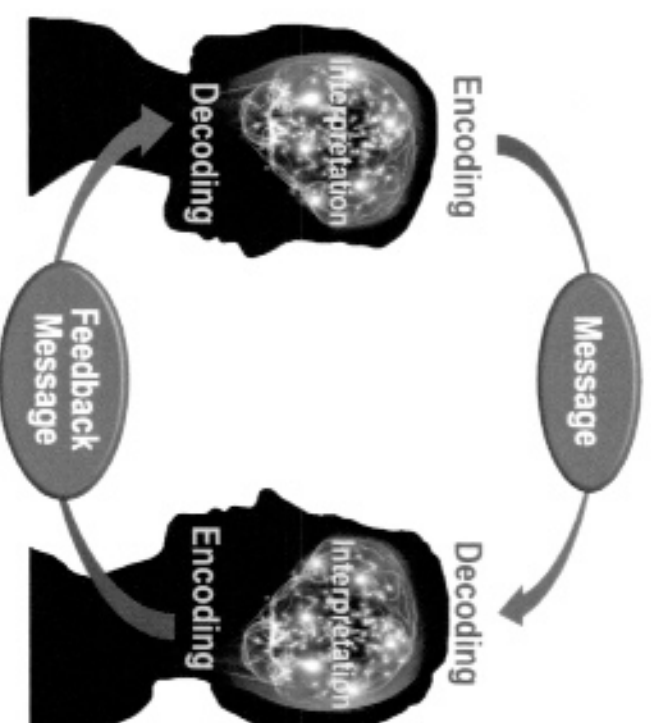
THE POWER OF COMMUNICATION IN COMMUNITY OUTREACH



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Effective Communication

Crucial Aspect for successful community outreach as it builds trust, fosters collaboration and ensures information reaches all segments of the population.



Speaking Impact




Your ability to communicate effectively will leave
a lasting impact on your audience



Effectively communicating involves not only delivering
a message but also resonating with the experiences, values, and emotions of those listening

Engaging The Community

- Techniques for connecting
- Make eye contact with your audience to create a sense of intimacy and involvement
- Make your message memorable and impactful
- Encourage questions and provide thoughtful responses to enhance audience participation
- Use live polls or surveys to gather audience opinions, promoting engagement

An illustration of a large crowd of stylized, grey human figures. A semi-transparent grey rectangle is overlaid on the crowd, containing white text. The background is light grey with some faint, larger-scale patterns.

Community is much more than belonging to something; it's about doing something together that makes belonging matter

VISUALLY APPEALING OUTREACH



For visually appealing outreach, you should focus on strong branding, personalized messaging that best target your audience your goals and your communication channels

KNOW YOUR AUDIENCE

Tailor your visual: understand their visual preference, communication habits, and cultural context

Use Authentic Imagery: Authenticity builds trust and helps your audience see themselves in your work. If you can't or don't have real images research A.I

Prioritize Accessibility: Color schemes, legible fonts and Alt text for images to accommodate individuals with visual impairments or low literacy skills.



Maintain Consistent
Branding



Ensure all your visual
aids use the same
color schemes, fonts,
and logos This
consistency builds
brand recognition and
establishes a reliable
trustworthy identity.

**keep it
simple.**

Ensuring Safety During Community Outreach



Always Work In Pairs
Inform Someone Of Your Schedule And Location
Trust Your Instincts
Be Aware Of Your Surroundings



- **Follow Agency Policy: Know your organization's safety protocols.**
- **Communicate Your Plan: Share your schedule and planned route with supervisor or coworker, check in after your outreach activities.**
- **Check the Environment: Be aware of recent community issues or violence.**
- **Reschedule visits in HOT or dangerous areas.**
- **Prepare Your Phone: Make sure your phone is fully charged, having a fully charged portal battery not a bad idea**
- **Pack Light: Carry only what you need**

Durning Outreach

-
- **Work in Teams:**
 - **Maintain Awareness:**
 - **Trust Your Gut:**
 - **Avoid Distractions**



Personal Presentation

- **Dress Appropriately**
- **Carry identification**
- **A shirt hat or pin with organization logo and or info can be helpful.**



Leaving Outreach Site

CHECK IN

Always inform your
contact person that you
have completed your
outreach and are safe.



goodbye bye-bye
thankyou Auf-Wiedersehen
regards goodspeed
farewell see ya
ciao toodle-oo
sayonara Arrivederci
cheerio conclusion
SO LONG

COMMUNITY OUTREACH SUCCESS

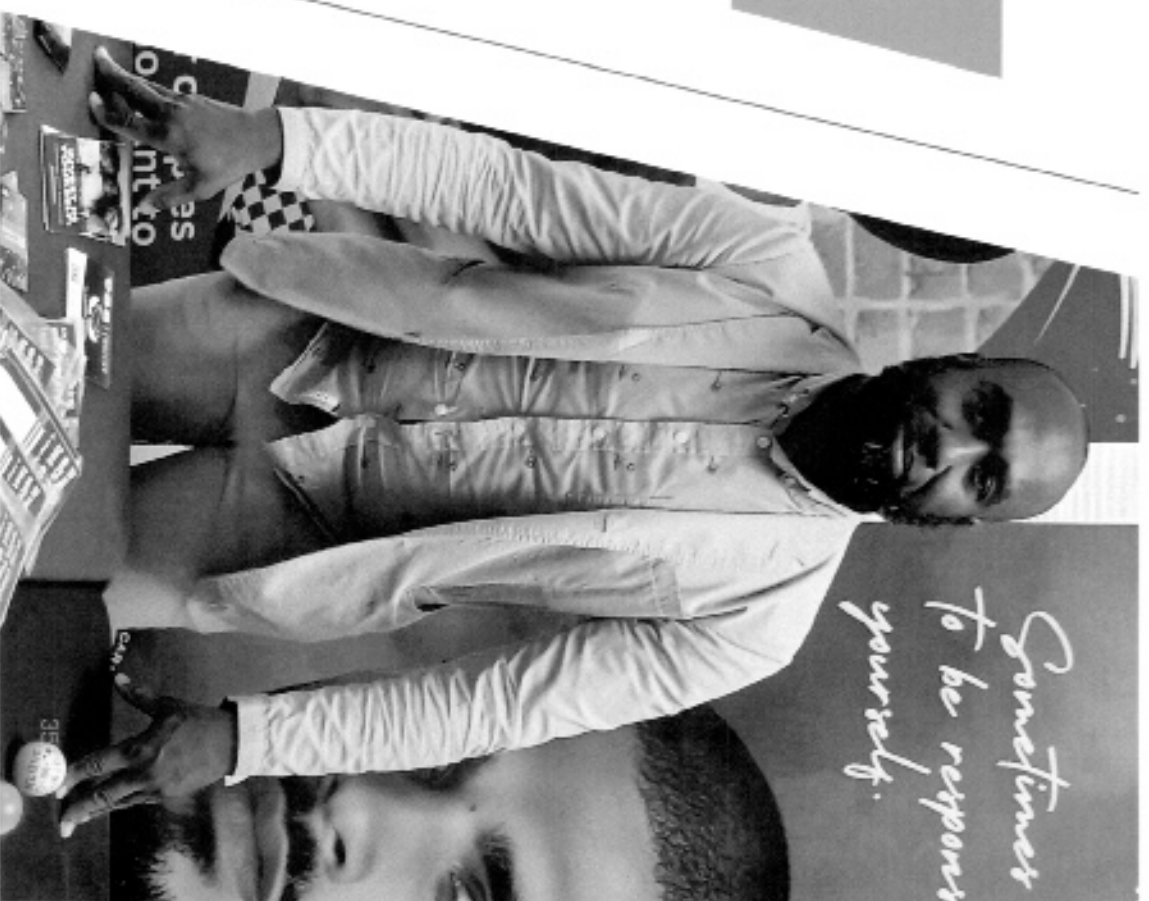
THE KEY TO SUCCESSFUL OUTREACH INCLUDES ACTIVE LISTENING, ADAPTING TO COMMUNITY NEEDS, FORMING PARTNERSHIPS AND CREATING A COLLABORATIVE PROCESS THAT INCLUDES COMMUNITY MEMBERS. FOSTERING EMPOWERMENT WHICH BUILDS STRONG RELATIONSHIPS FOR POSITIVE CHANGE.

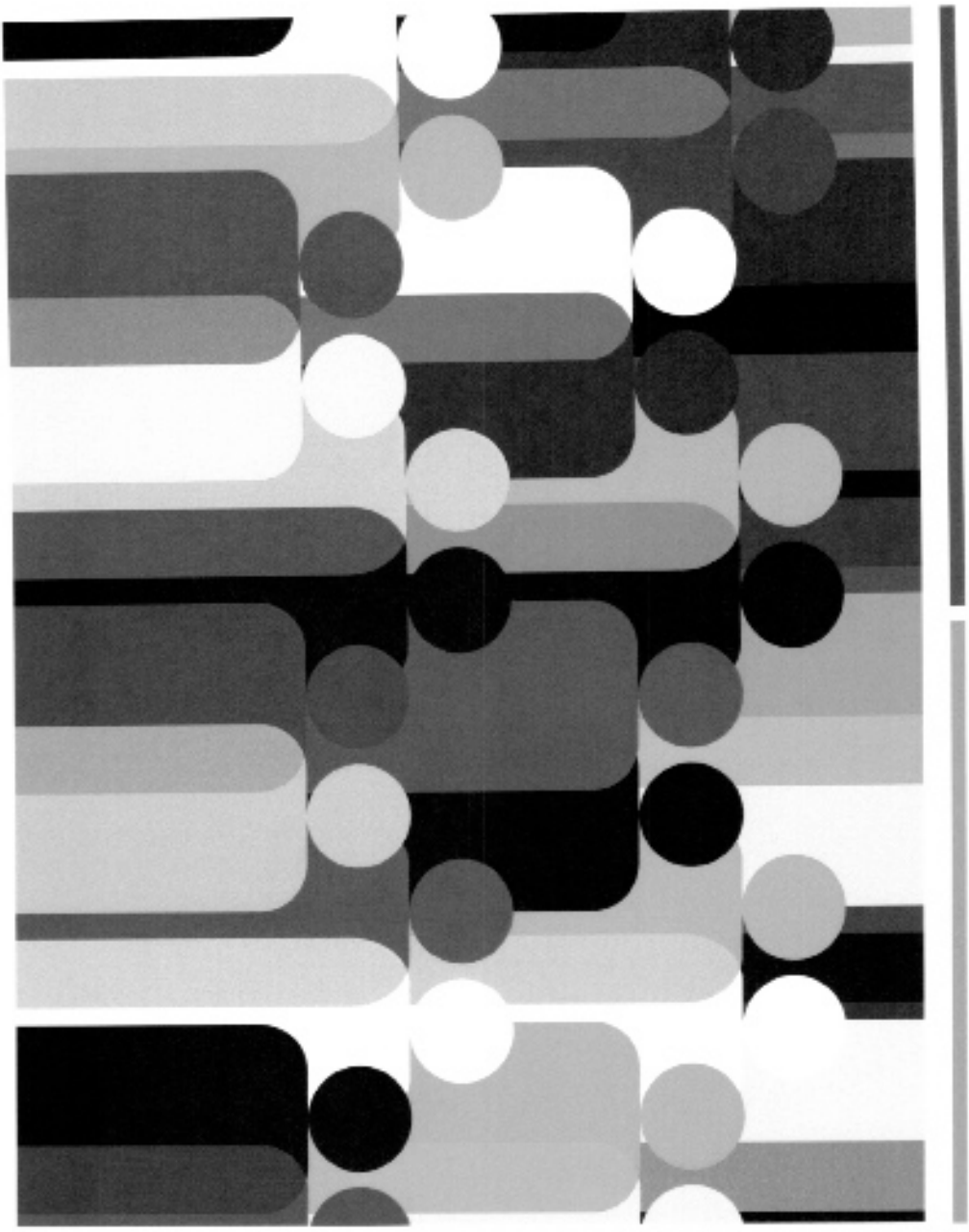


RESOURCES

■ Outreach Safety – whyhomeless.org

- <https://www.medschool.lsuhscc.edu/chve/docs/Working%20Safely%20in%20the%20Community.pdf>
- <https://nationalgangcenter.ojp.gov/sites/g/files/xycuh331/files/media/document/ngc-outreach-safety-tips.pdf>





THANK YOU