



South Chicago YMCA

“Kidz Club”

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“Y Kidz Club”

Claudia Smith,
Youth and Family
Coordinator

Program Hours:

Monday - Friday
2pm - 6pm

Program Goals

- ◆ Provide a safe place for children and families
- ◆ Instill in children the YMCA’s core values of honesty, caring, responsibility, and respect
- ◆ Engage youth as resources and leaders
- ◆ Create positive family development opportunities
- ◆ Develop a responsible attitude toward society and foster feelings of belonging to a community

Through a partnership with the Department Children and Youth Services offers programming to school-age children and teens

What is “Y Kidz Club

“Y Kids Club” is a partnership with the Department Children and Youth Services. We recognize that quality out-of-school programs provide positive child and youth development while meeting the community's needs for keeping kids safe and families productively engaged.

The YMCA’s primary goal from the beginning has been to build strong kids, strong families, and strong communities through programs and services that help children learn and grow, show young people how to lead, help adults become self-sufficient, and bring families closer together.

As the needs of families have evolved and the family structure has changed to meet societal and economic demands, the YMCA has taken a pro-active approach to addressing children’s time after-school, as well as, the needs of the parents and community members. Initially, children just needed a place to play, and for years the YMCA provided that place. Over the years, however, it became clear that children and families needed more.



“Y Kidz Club” Philosophy

The philosophy behind the **Y Kidz Club** program is to incorporate an asset rich approach in every aspect of program. Addressing children and families social competencies and positive identity through the YMCA’s core values of caring, honesty, respect, and responsibility; to protect and promote health and fitness; to assist with homework; and to promote individual self-confidence, self-expression, self-discipline, and curiosity, to provide support through access to positive role models, and to engage youth as resources in the school and community. We believe in youth development and purposefully seek to meet kids’ needs and to build competencies relevant to enabling them to become successful adults. This positive asset rich youth development approach views children as resources and builds on their strength and capabilities to develop within their own community.

