

Opportunity Iowa 'The Opportunity Compass' RESOURCE REFERRAL DATABASE INCLUSION/EXCLUSION CRITERIA

Inclusion

It shall be the practice of Opportunity Iowa to maintain a comprehensive file of agencies and programs whose services are directed toward providing opportunities for teens and young adults 16-24 years old. Included on the resource map are the following:

1. Agencies which have demonstrated provision of services for a period of not less than 1 year.
2. Non-profit agencies or for-profit agencies that provide community services/human services free or on a sliding scale fees or accept Medicare/Medicaid payments.
3. Organizations, e.g., such as churches and social clubs, that offer a community service, not limited to their members only.
4. Advocacy groups, self-help and mutual support groups with expertise in specific fields.
5. Government agencies providing health, education, social service, recreation, legal or consumer protection services.
6. Public transportation services.
7. High Schools in the communities that serve our youth.
8. Businesses that provide apprenticeship-like programs for youth.
9. Postsecondary education institutions that provide education to transition to continued education or placement in employment.
10. Included agencies or groups must provide proof that they have liability insurance to cover any incidents or injuries to its clients and agree to indemnify and hold Opportunity Iowa harmless for all its acts related to Opportunity Iowa and youth accessing the entity through Opportunity Iowa.

May Be Included:

1. National organizations

Exclusions

For a variety of reasons, including the availability of low cost, or non-profit programs, and the demand for services, the resource database will not include the following:

1. Agencies that do not offer programs relating to opportunities for teens and young adults age 16-24.
2. Individual practitioners of any type, including individual private providers.
3. Agencies that provide services that are not in accord with commonly accepted professional practices and standards.

4. Agencies that meet criteria, but are currently under investigation or have had repeated allegations for malpractice, negligence or other acts that have harmed clients.
5. Agencies that deny service on the basis of color, race, religion, ancestry, sexual preference, nationality or creed, or whose service is illegal.
6. Senior Citizen Centers/Services/Residences that are not specific to health, financial services or advocacy for teens and young adults.
7. Individual day care facilities. (May be included if the day care is a program of a larger organization that fits the inclusion criteria.)

Decisions regarding the inclusion or exclusion of individual agency information are based on the determination of client needs and made by the Opportunity Iowa team.

Inclusion in the Information and Referral Services Database file does not constitute endorsement and any participating entity shall never state that it is endorsed or recommended by Opportunity Iowa or its members without specific written approval.

An agency's listing in the database will be terminated if repeated attempts to update database information through FAX, emails, mailings and telephone calls which have been unanswered within a time specified by agreement.

Appeals Process

Agencies may appeal denial of inclusion in the database by contacting the Opportunity Iowa Strategist.