



# County Resources for Our Youth

The Tompkins County Youth Services Department invests time, resources and funding in communities to enable all youth to thrive in school, work and life. Our youth are provided opportunities that allow them to thrive from childhood to adulthood. Here are some community resources for youth and their parents funded by the TCYSD.

## Ithaca Youth Bureau - Big

### Brothers Big Sisters, Outing, Recreation Support Services, and Youth Employment Service

**Big Brothers Big Sisters** provides participants with mentors who emphasize friendship, are patient, consistent and dependable. If you're an adult that acknowledges that positive impact on the child comes after the relationship is built call the Youth Bureau to become a big. For parents with a child between the ages of 6-14 in the City of Ithaca you can enroll at [bbbsithaca.org](http://bbbsithaca.org).

Ithaca Middle Schoolers can participate in the **Outing Program** which is based on the idea that everyone learns best when they can actively participate in directing their own learning process. Participants set out on an adventure and engage in activities that are challenging, rewarding, fun, and safe but with a perceived risk. [cityofithaca.org/278/Outing-Program](http://cityofithaca.org/278/Outing-Program)

**Recreation Support Services**, a department of the Ithaca Youth Bureau, provides recreation programs for children and adults with disabilities year round. Call RSS at the Youth Bureau at **607-273-8364**. RSS staff will answer your questions and send you registration forms and information.

**Youth Employment Service (YES)** is a free service of the Ithaca Youth Bureau that has connected teens to job opportunities for over 35 years! **Teens** who live in Ithaca and are looking for a summer job, a part-time job during the school year, or general career-readiness training, please contact YES. **Local businesses** that are looking for employees, please consider hiring local youth and contact us about employment opportunities. **1 James L Gibbs Dr. | 607-273-8364 | [yesithaca.org](http://yesithaca.org)**

*(See reverse side for more programs.)*

### Cornell Cooperative Extension - 4-H Urban Outreach and Rural Youth Services

The **Urban Outreach** neighborhood-based approach has been successful in meeting individuals' needs directly where they live; allowing families to build trust in the program, by knowing their children are in a safe location, and by getting to know on-site staff on an ongoing basis. 4-H Urban Outreach has been successful helping neighborhoods within the City of Ithaca grow stronger and thrive by fostering relationships, providing resources, and promoting the learning of life skills.

### Ramona Cornell, 4-H Urban Outreach Coordinator | [rlc263@cornell.edu](mailto:rlc263@cornell.edu)

Youth who live in the communities of **Ithaca, Caroline, Danby, Dryden, Enfield, Freeville, Groton, Lansing, and Ulysses** can enroll in free or low-cost programs offered through Rural Youth Services. Since 1995, we have provided a place to try new things and to belong by offering engaging activities after school and throughout the summer. **Shelley Lester, RYS Coordinator | [SJL44@cornell.edu](mailto:SJL44@cornell.edu) | 607-272-2292, ext. 141 | [ccetompkins.org/4-h-youth/rural-youth-services](http://ccetompkins.org/4-h-youth/rural-youth-services)**

### The Learning Web - Youth Exploration Program and Youth Outreach

The Learning Web **Youth Exploration Program** provides hands-on, experiential education to county youth through the mentor-apprentice model. Services include: Apprenticeships, Exploration Tours, Supported Employment, Volunteer Community Service Program, and Youth Outreach Services.

Through **Youth Outreach**, the Learning Web provides young adults age 16-24 living on their own with unstable or no housing, support in finding housing, finding jobs, completing their education, home keeping, managing finances, parenting as well as a safe place to relax for a while, use a computer, and get help from a supportive Youth Outreach staff person. **515 West Seneca St. | 607-275-0122 | [learning-web.org](http://learning-web.org)**

**Child Development Council -  
Teen Pregnancy/Parenting Program**

**TP3** is a confidential and comprehensive teen pregnancy and parenting support program designed to meet individual needs, regardless of income. TP3 offers one-on-one attention with a personal case manager, pre-natal, parenting and child development information and referrals to appropriate agencies. TPD helps with applying to assistance programs; transportation to medical, mental health and social service appointments; information on birth control, sexuality and healthy decision-making; finding childcare; and general advocacy.

**609 W. Clinton St. | 607-273-0259 |  
[childdevelopmentcouncil.org/programs/teen-pregnancy-parenting-program/](http://childdevelopmentcouncil.org/programs/teen-pregnancy-parenting-program/)**

**Family and Children's Service of Ithaca -  
Open Doors**

**Open Doors** is a runaway and homeless youth program for county youth that provides services to youth up to age 21, and their families, who have run away or are at-risk of running away and are interested in reunifying with family. Open Doors partners with the community, accepting referrals of young people and families dealing with these issues, and will provide support to families struggling to stay together. We also seek **volunteers** to become Host Homes, temporary homes for our youth through their challenging times.

**609 W. Clinton St. | 607-273-0259 |  
Youth in crisis text or call: 607-288-2348 |  
[fcsith.org/opendoors/](http://fcsith.org/opendoors/)  
Program info: 607-273-7494**

