

JOSEPH ACADEMY OUTCOMES STUDY

Executive Summary

In an effort to increase awareness of the value of Joseph Academy, an Illinois therapeutic school, this study was compiled to illustrate outcomes from the service delivery system. For over 30 years, Joseph Academy has educated over 3000 severely challenged students from over 50 Illinois school districts and state agencies.

During those years, Joseph Academy has received case study documents written by referring agents such as psychologists, psychiatrists, social workers, and district diagnostic educators. These case study reports required by the Illinois School Code include information often from birth to presenting ages. The level of complications manifested within the lives of these students has been documented as severe and profound on ISBE forms.

This Joseph Academy Outcomes Study is an analysis of three main ideas: data reports highlighting the most challenging presenting problems, the frequency of occurrence in the students' lives, graduation and exit reports with a comparison to the National Association of Private Special Education Centers (NAPSEC) in Washington, DC.

An overview synopsis demonstrates that the unique environment at Joseph Academy brings about the highest level of success while serving a population of socially, emotionally and behaviorally challenged students within the Chicagoland region. In addition, the motto of Joseph Academy—GROW, LEARN and CHANGE—sets an outstanding goal which exceeds that of the national outcomes studies.

Sections of the Outcomes report include:

- I. Presenting problems
- II. Joseph Academy Outcomes from 2012-2013 and 2013-2014 school years
- III. NAPSEC's Outcomes Study from 2012-2013 and 2013-2014 school years
- IV. Forward Strategies and Goals for Joseph Academy

STUDENT PRESENTING PROBLEMS

The information below is the result of the examination over 120 student case study documents.

<u>ISSUES</u>	<u>FREQUENCY PERCENTAGE</u>
1) Substance Abuse	88 %
2) Incarcerations	75 %
3) Community Violence (weapons, gangs, fights)	66 %
4) Mental Health Diagnosis (which affects school performance, Such as depression, ADHD, suicidal Ideation)	55 %
5) Victim of Physical / Sexual Abuse	55 %
6) Psychiatric Hospitalizations	55 %
7) Episodes of Aggression	54 %
8) Academic Achievement more than 2 years behind grade level	53 %
9) Serious Dysfunctional Family	50 %
10) DCFS Involvement	33 %

Over 50% of students who enter JA display significant academic failure are behind by 3 grade levels in reading and math and show a history of multiple school settings. Of the above presenting problems there are 5 that occur in every student's case study evaluation.

JOSEPH ACADEMY EXIT STUDY
 Comparison on NAPSEC Exit Study Results
 School Years 2012 - 2013 and 2013 - 2014

School Year 2013 - 2014

	<u>NAPSEC Study</u>	<u>Joseph Academy Des Plaines</u>	<u>Joseph Academy Hometown</u>
1) Percentage of seniors who graduate	57 %	83 %	100 %
2) Percentage of graduates who had planned to enroll in a 2 or 4 year college.	30 %	21 %	50 %
3) Percentage of graduates who had plans to attend a trade or technical school	7 %	11 %	0 %
4) Percentage of graduates who had plans to enter the job market or military	20 %	68 %	50 %

School Year 2012 - 2013

	<u>NAPSEC Study</u>	<u>Joseph Academy Des Plaines</u>	<u>Joseph Academy Hometown</u>
1) Percentage of seniors who graduate	64 %	73 %	100 %
2) Percentage of graduates who had planned to enroll in a 2 or 4 year college.	39 %	18 %	11 %
3) Percentage of graduates who had plans to attend a trade or technical school	7 %	18 %	0 %
4) Percentage of graduates who had plans to enter the job market or military	18 %	64 %	89 %

STRATEGIES AND GOALS FOR JOSEPH ACADEMY BASED ON OUTCOMES REPORT

- Assist families through inclusive educational scheduled programs and increase parent effectiveness.
- Assist school district providers with Faculty In Service presentations and Open House events to raise the level of awareness of JA's successful operation, and strengthen the efforts of working in concert.
- Network with special educators to develop early remediation approaches and responses to intervention.
- Improve general understanding of how distress, fear, trauma and low self-esteem are underlying causes of violent and disorderly behavior. Demonstrate how JA's proven service delivery system addresses these issues at a deeper level and produces positive outcomes.



www.Josephacademy.org

*Joseph Academy Des Plaines
1101 Gregory Street
Des Plaines, IL. 60016
(847) 803-1930*

*Joseph Academy Melrose Park
1100 N. 22nd Avenue
Melrose Park, IL. 60160
(708) 345-4500*

*Joseph Academy Hometown
9003 S. Kostner
Hometown, IL. 60456
(708) 952-1100*