



The **Youth R.I.S.E.** (Rigorous Intervention Sessions for Enrichment) is a comprehensive social and academic service for youth. The program provides the scaffolds necessary to help marginalized youth transition successfully into responsible adults. Our network includes social services agencies, mental health providers, the business community and other key stakeholders who coalesce to positively impact youth, their families and the local community.

Urban youth are persistently witnessing and/or experiencing violence, abusive, loss/grief, drug addiction, direct or indirect impact of incarceration, unstable home and school life, and many effects of poverty. The more they are exposed to these complexed traumas, the more it disrupts their mental, social, emotional and educational development. As a result, they are likely to develop Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), suffer from depression, anxiety, addiction, mental health disorders and other negative life and health outcomes.

Unfortunately, in urban communities there are inescapable negative connotation and stigmas associated with mental health services, which leaves very few options for the treatment necessary for youth/young adults to meet their developmental milestones and excel in life. SCRIP's prevention program is in direct response to the growing number of youth/young adults who are either falling through the cracks or becoming entrapped by the criminal justice system.

SCRIP uses a trauma-informed approach to promote awareness, understanding, and healing for urban youth. We empower participants to expand their perspectives, re-evaluate their belief systems and values, build their self-esteem and shift their focus toward personal respect, fulfillment and a positive future outlook. Our services (activities) help participants understand how their past experiences (traumas) effect their present and we build upon their strengths to help them rediscover who they are and learn to value themselves.

We recognize that youth are dramatically influenced by their support system, so our aim is to surround them with caring and culturally competent individuals who will offer an inclusive learning environment that fosters a sense of belonging and individual responsibility that will give them the confidence, hopefulness and commitment to transition into adulthood with a sense of pride and self-worth.

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Second Chance Re-entry Initiative Program, Inc.
157 Charter Oak Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106
P: 860.400.2488 | E: info@scripconnect.org | W: www.scripconnect.org