



Our Programs

OYCMiami.org/our-programs



Programs at-a-Glance

Overtown Youth Center (OYC Miami) programs are designed to maximize the fullest potential of youth and strengthen the lives of adults and families through Five Key Pillars of Impact. OYC Miami exists to provide those we serve with tools, resources, exposure, and opportunities leading to pathways for economic sustainability for generations to come.

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Education

Education

In-School and After School Program Services

OYC Miami provides in-school services in 17 schools across South Florida. A dedicated OYC team works directly inside these schools during the school day. This team tracks and monitors students' academic achievement, attendance, and behavior, and serves as advocates, mentors, and accountability partners for students, parents, and school administrators.

Following the school day, OYC Miami offers structured after school programming throughout the school year. Students participate in age-appropriate activities at OYC's main site or at partner school locations. Programming serves Elementary (K–5th), Middle School (6th–8th), and High School (9th–12th) students, and transportation is provided to ensure safe and reliable access to programming.

During after school programming, OYC provides comprehensive support services. Students receive a hot meal and snacks, along with academic support, recreation activities, enrichment programming (including visual arts, music, performing arts, dance, and STEM), exposure trips, health and wellness sessions, and college and career readiness activities.

Across all program elements, staff prioritize building strong relationships with students and families, while supporting each student toward their individual goals.

K-12 GRADE

YEAR-ROUND

- School visits
- Classroom and lunch-time monitoring
- Collection and monitoring of school records
- Support with parent-teacher conferences
- After School services
- Mentoring
- Academic support



Enrichment and Exposure



Enrichment and Exposure

Inspiring Civic Engagement

Launched in 2022, the Inspiring Civic Engagement initiative provides middle and high school students with structured opportunities to learn about and actively participate in their communities. The program focuses on three core pillars: Voter Advocacy, Social Justice, and Global Citizenship.

Students participate in civic engagement workshops, community service projects, and structured discussions that explore topics such as civic responsibility, leadership, public policy, and social issues. The program also includes exposure trips and community engagement activities that connect students with local leaders, civic institutions, and advocacy organizations. Through hands-on involvement and team-based projects, students develop leadership skills while learning how to engage thoughtfully and responsibly in their communities.

6-12 GRADE | FAMILIES

YEAR-ROUND

- Civic Engagement Workshops
- Community Service Projects
- Community Engagement
- Exposure Trips





Arts and Culture Program

OYC Miami’s Arts and Culture Program provides structured instruction in visual and performing arts, giving students consistent, hands-on opportunities to develop creative skills and cultural awareness. Students participate in classes and workshops in painting, drawing, sculpture, digital art, photography, dance, music, drama, spoken word, poetry, and podcasting. Throughout the year, participants prepare for art installations, exhibits, and professionally produced performances, and complete at least two project-based showcases that apply their learning to real-world themes.

Beyond the classroom, students engage in cultural exposure through field trips and enrichment outings to museums, theatrical productions, musical performances, sporting events, nature excursions, leadership retreats, and service-learning experiences. These opportunities introduce students to diverse artistic traditions, cultural institutions, and community spaces, strengthening both creative expression and broader cultural understanding.

K-12 GRADE

YEAR-ROUND

- Enrichment Activities and Exposure Trips



STEAM Initiatives

OYC Miami offers STEAM activities to all of its students to help bridge exposure, career, and industry-specific gaps. Program offerings include, but are not limited to, Robotics, Genetic Studies, Project-Based Learning, Computer Science, Nature Studies, Engineering, Digital Arts and Design, Drone Technology, Culinary Arts, Aviation Studies, and 3D Printing.

STEAM programming encourages students to combine critical thinking with hands-on application, allowing them to engage in both learning and doing at the same time. Family STEAM Nights are also offered to engage caregivers in the learning process and provide opportunities for families to explore STEAM together.

OYC Miami Summer Program

OYC Miami offers a structured six-week summer program operating Monday through Friday, where students participate in full-day programming designed to keep them engaged, supported, and learning throughout the summer months. Each day includes academic support, character development, community service, fitness and recreation, visual and performing arts, STEM enrichment, health and wellness, college and career readiness, and field trips that provide exposure to new experiences and environments.

High school students receive additional support focused on postsecondary planning. During the summer, they prepare for the college entrance process, visit local colleges, universities, and technical schools, participate in community service, and attend financial literacy workshops. Eligible youth may also participate in paid, full-time summer internships through OYC Miami's partnerships with community organizations.

6-12 GRADE | FAMILIES

YEAR-ROUND

- Hands-on learning activities

K-12 GRADE

6 WEEKS (MONDAY – FRIDAY)

- Summer Program



Honey Shine Program

Founded in 2002 by Tracy Wilson Mourning, Honey Shine began as a volunteer-led initiative created to expose girls to healthy lifestyles and encourage balance of mind, body, and soul. As the need in the community and participation grew, the organization formalized as a 501(c)(3) to provide direct services through after school programming, “Aspire to Shine” empowerment workshops, and summer programming.

In 2020, Honey Shine programming merged with OYC Miami and now serves as the gender-specific programming component of the organization.

Honey Shine programming now takes place during full-day programming (in-school and after school) and through select weekend activities. The program is designed to enrich and empower participants, affectionately called Honey Bugs, through the S.E.L.F. enrichment model: STEAM, Empowerment, Literacy, and Fitness.

K-12 GRADE

YEAR-ROUND

- Gender-Specific Initiative STEAM
- Empowerment
- Literacy
- Fitness
- Social Emotional Wellness



Camp Honey Shine

Camp Honey Shine is a signature component of Honey Shine programming, providing girls in grades K–12 with a high-quality, six-week summer experience. The camp operates as a full-day program, Monday through Friday, and is hosted annually at the beautiful campus of the Carrollton School of the Sacred Heart. All activities emphasize social and emotional wellness, as Camp Honey Shine continues the S.E.L.F. enrichment model in a safe, supportive environment led by dedicated staff and community partners.

During the six weeks, Honey Bugs have opportunities to:

- Build social, emotional, physical, and cognitive skills
- Develop values and a positive sense of self-worth
- Strengthen and express their voice
- Explore their interests and future direction through diverse enrichment activities, including dance, art, swimming, spoken word, literacy, health and wellness activities, character development, STEAM sessions, college and career readiness activities, and educational and culturally relevant field trips

K-12 GRADE

6 WEEKS (MONDAY – FRIDAY)

- Summer Camp

Band of Brothers Programming

Band of Brothers is a gender-specific initiative designed to provide structured mentorship and leadership development for young men participating in OYC Miami programming. The program creates a consistent space where participants receive guidance, accountability, and positive male role modeling.

Through year-round small group sessions, workshops, activities, and special events, young men focus on character development, self-esteem, cultural awareness, self-identity, college and career preparation, and strategies for navigating external pressures. Band of Brothers fosters a strong sense of brotherhood and responsibility, equipping participants with the confidence, discipline, and support system needed to succeed in school and beyond.

K-12 GRADE

YEAR-ROUND SPECIAL EVENTS/ACTIVITIES

- Gender-Specific Initiative
- Empowerment
- Mentoring
- Social Emotional Wellness



Family Services



Family Services

ADULTS AND FAMILIES

EDEN Place - Family Resource Center

Our Family Resource Center, branded as EDEN Place through OYC Miami’s partnership with United Way of Miami-Dade, serves as a central hub for parent, caregiver, and community support. While many of the families served are connected to OYC Miami students, EDEN Place is open to the broader community. A dedicated family services team provides coordinated guidance, resource navigation, and individualized support designed to strengthen households and promote long-term stability. Services are offered at OYC Miami’s main site, with additional outreach through a satellite presence at Buena Vista Apartments.

Families engage with EDEN Place based on their needs. Some receive one-time assistance or referrals, while others participate in ongoing case management and personalized support plans. Services include:

- Care coordination and individualized case management
- One-on-one family coaching and goal planning
- School advocacy and academic guidance
- Workforce support and financial literacy education
- Application assistance and benefits enrollment
- Food distribution and emergency financial assistance, including rental, mortgage, and utility support (as eligible)
- Referrals to trusted community resources

SUPPORT AVAILABLE DAILY AND ON SELECTED WEEK-ENDS

- Case management/care coordination
- Educational workshops
- Workforce and Financial Literacy support
- School advocacy and guidance
- Basic needs assistance
- Community resource navigation/Referrals





Neat Stuff Program

Since 1995, the Neat Stuff Program has served thousands of children by connecting families to new clothing, shoes, school supplies, hygiene products, baby items, and other essentials at no cost. In 2020, Neat Stuff became part of OYC Miami’s Family Services Pillar, strengthening and expanding its reach within the community.

Today, Neat Stuff provides daily access to essential items for students and families through a closet model located at OYC Miami’s main site and within select partner schools. These dedicated spaces allow individuals to receive clothing, uniforms, shoes, school supplies, and hygiene products in a dignified and convenient setting. In addition to the closet locations, Neat Stuff connects families to broader distribution support and community resources as needs arise.

Nurturing Parenting Program

OYC Miami delivers a 13-session, evidence-based parenting program called the Nurturing Parenting Program for groups of parents/caregivers with children ages 2-17 years old. This program is designed to offer parents a toolbox of culturally relevant ideas and strategies that aid them in supporting their child across their developmental milestones and in having a greater understanding of positive parenting skills that can be utilized in a wide range of parenting situations.

STUDENTS AND FAMILIES

SUPPORT AVAILABLE DAILY AND ON SELECTED WEEK-ENDS

- Assistance with school uniforms, shoes, school supplies, baby items, hygiene products, and similar resources as available.

PARENTS/CAREGIVERS

YEAR-ROUND

- Parenting Education Groups

Economic Sustainability



Economic Sustainability

IE² – College and Career Readiness Programming

IE² (Inspire, Engage, Employ) is OYC Miami’s integrated approach to College and Career Readiness. Beginning in the early grades and intensifying in high school, the program provides structured guidance to help students explore postsecondary options and develop a clear plan for life after graduation. OYC Miami’s goal is that by 11th grade, every high school participant has declared a defined post-high pathway and is actively preparing for that next step.

Through IE², students engage in hands-on, year-round activities that prepare them for college, vocational training, the military, or the workforce. Participants receive academic support and test preparation, attend college and career exploration tours, meet with industry professionals through speaker series and networking events, and access paid internship and employment opportunities. Students also build financial literacy skills and receive support in identifying career interests, setting goals, and taking the concrete steps necessary to pursue them.

Youth Internship Program

The Youth Internship Program provides students ages 14–25 with paid, structured work experiences across various sectors, designed to build professional skills and expose participants to meaningful career pathways. Prior to placement, students participate in a readiness component focused on workplace expectations, communication, financial literacy, and professional development. Internships are thoughtfully curated and fully supported by OYC Miami, which secures placements, monitors progress, and provides ongoing guidance to ensure each experience aligns with the student’s interests and growth. All internships and job placements are paid, allowing participants to earn income while developing the skills and confidence necessary for long-term success.

K-12 GRADE | AGE 18-25

YEAR-ROUND

- Learning Activities and Sessions

AGE 14-25

SUMMER/YEAR-ROUND

- Workforce Readiness Internships
- Job Placements





Financial Literacy

OYC Miami’s Financial Literacy programming is grounded in the belief that, regardless of background or income level, financially informed individuals are better equipped to make sound decisions and build stable futures. The program serves students, young adults ages 18–25, and community members by strengthening budgeting, debt management, savings, and long-term financial planning skills.

Services are delivered through monthly group workshops, interactive sessions, and partner-led learning opportunities covering topics such as summer job readiness, goal setting, investing, homeownership, and everyday money management. Participants also have access to one-on-one financial coaching through trusted referral partners and banking institutions, helping them create realistic spending plans, manage fluctuating income, and build steady progress toward financial stability.

United In Finance Programs

OYC Miami offers the United in Finance Program, a seven-week bilingual workforce development program preparing participants for careers in banking, financial services and related fields. The program follows a structured, 14-module curriculum developed by UnidosUS that covers personal finance, job readiness, customer service and communication skills, and core banking fundamentals.

Participants receive hands-on training and individualized support, including resume review, application assistance, networking guidance, and mock interview preparation. The program is designed to strengthen employment readiness and increase access to career opportunities within the financial services industry.

K-12 GRADE /ADULTS

YEAR-ROUND

- Learning Activities and Sessions

ADULTS

YEAR-ROUND

- Industry-specific, job training

Health and Wellness



Health and Wellness

Social-Emotional Wellness

OYC Miami’s Social and Emotional Wellness (SEW) programming is integrated across all activities and reinforced through weekly 60-minute small group sessions. These structured, interactive sessions focus on building emotional regulation, self-esteem, leadership, and resilience.

Through guided discussions and practical exercises, students learn to manage frustration, resolve conflict, strengthen communication, and navigate peer relationships in healthy ways. SEW is embedded within OYC Miami’s Honey Shine and Band of Brothers components, helping students develop the coping and interpersonal tools necessary for long-term success in school and life.

Health and Wellness Services

OYC Miami’s Health and Wellness Services promote healthy lifestyles for children, adults, and families through integrated, year-round initiatives. Health support is embedded throughout programming, during the school day through wellness check-ins and mental health support, and after school through structured fitness, sports, and recreational activities that encourage physical activity and overall well-being. OYC Miami also provides access to basic health screenings, including annual physicals, vision, and dental screenings, as well as behavioral and mental health resources.

In addition, OYC offers community health navigation services to help individuals understand, access, and coordinate appropriate care, along with health education workshops that promote preventative care and informed decision-making. Through partnerships such as OnMed CareStation (a virtual, on-site health station that connects individuals to licensed medical providers), OYC Miami increases access to preventative care and essential health services within the community.

Food and Nutrition Program

OYC Miami provides nutritious meals to students daily to ensure consistent access to healthy food and support overall well-being. During after school programming, students receive a nutritious meal and supplemental nourishment. During full-day programming, including summer and enrichment days, students receive two nutritious meals and supplemental nourishment.

Families experiencing food insecurity may receive support and resource connections through OYC Miami’s Family Referral Services. The program also includes an educational component for students and community members, promoting healthy lifestyle habits through nutrition-focused workshops and initiatives such as the Blue Zones program.

K-12 GRADE

YEAR-ROUND

- Interactive sessions

K-12 GRADE | ADULTS | FAMILIES

YEAR-ROUND

- **Daily** recreational programming
- **On-Demand** Health Screenings
- **Recurring** Health Events

K-12 GRADE

YEAR-ROUND

- **Daily** Catered Food Service





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