

## **The Goal**

The goal of Credible Messenger's transformative mentoring is to provide prevention and intervention with youth, keeping them from both entering the Youth Justice System or having deeper involvement with the Youth Justice System.



### **Division of Youth and Family Services**

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#### **Contact**

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**DYFS** | Division of  
Youth & Family  
Services

A Division of the Department of  
Health & Human Services

## **Cream City Credible Messengers**

**Credible Messengers-  
Mentoring is for youth in the  
Youth Justice System and  
youth in the community who  
may be at risk. This  
transformative process  
through which individuals  
from similar backgrounds,  
including men and women who  
themselves may have been  
justice-involved, engage youth  
in structured and intentional  
relationships and activities,  
provide a positive platform for  
youth engagement &  
community voice; and change  
agents for racial equity and  
policy on issues that plague  
the youth, families and  
community.**



“The Credible Messenger movement is emerging based on a holistic, comprehensive approach to justice that transforms and improves individual lives, rearranges the relationship between communities and the justice system, and empowers neighborhoods to use the resources they have within to maintain public safety. Using this people-up perspective, the Credible Messenger approach seeks to build trust and inspire change from within communities so that the youth can feel positive about their possibilities rather than facing a future of frustration.

**Partnering Agencies:**

**Milwaukee Christian Center-School Support**

- School-Based Violence Free Zone
- Community Engagement

**Westcare-Youth Leadership & Family Well-Being**

- Youth leadership training
- Community resources (food & housing)
- Parent/child conflict
- Community engagement

**Running Rebels-Mentoring High-Risk Youth**

- Auto Theft
- Group-Based Violence
- School-Based Violence Free Zone
- Community Engagement

**Youth Advocate Program-Transformative**

- Youth dysregulation
- Parent/child conflict
- School & work support
- Community engagement



- Credible Messengers will respond to youth dysregulation, parent/child conflict, community violence involving referred youth, and other situations deemed critical to the well-being and safety of DYFS supervised youth.
- Referrals of youth not DYFS supervised may enter the program as well through Community referral usually made by law enforcement, social community programs, Mentors, or any Community based agency.
- The goal is to reduce recidivism and offer preventive education, along with positive youth engagement with a pro-social support system through a network of Mentors (Credible Messengers).
- The Milwaukee County DHHS DYFS helps youth involved in the youth justice system and promotes community safety, by providing a broad spectrum of programs and services for youth before, during and after involvement in the Justice system.

**Contact Us**

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**Milwaukee Christian Center –**

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**Youth Advocate Program – Chaz**

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