



We Are JPA

Our Mission

is to improve the social and emotional well-being and functioning of vulnerable children so they can reach their fullest potential at home, in school, and in our communities.

Who We Serve

more than 3,000 children, parents, caregivers and educators on the south and west sides of Chicago each year



of our clients are African American and live in high-poverty neighborhoods



of our clients have experienced at least one trauma, such as community violence, abuse, neglect, or homelessness

We've been serving the children of Chicago for 120 years



1901

Jane Addams and her colleagues create The Juvenile Protective Association (JPA), providing the first juvenile advocates for Chicago's children

1960

JPA helps establish the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS)

1980s

JPA focuses on direct services, including therapy for children & families in Cabrini Green

1990–2010

JPA is a Principal Investigator on a 20 year Longitudinal Study on Child Abuse and Neglect following 247 families

2005–Present

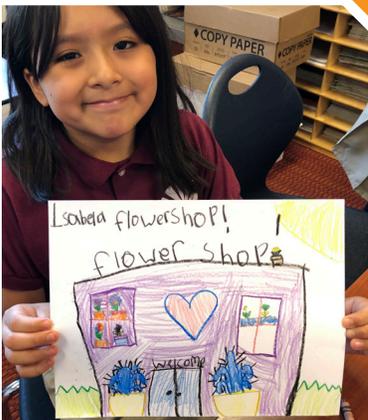
JPA expands its reach by offering programs that include in-school therapy and consultation to teachers in underserved neighborhoods

2020

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, JPA adds tele-therapy to its school-based child and family therapy and consultation to educators

Investing in the Future

As JPA's founder, Jane Addams, once said, "America's future will be determined by the home and the school. The child becomes largely what he is taught; hence we must watch what we teach, and how we live." One hundred and twenty years later, JPA continues to offer our services through close collaboration with our school partners.



WeROCK (We Reach Out to Chicago's Kids)

JPA's WeROCK program brings community members and corporate partners into the classroom to work together with students on fun, educational projects with an emphasis on such themes as entrepreneurship, financial management, and branding.

Professional Development

JPA offers workshops and professional development to clinical and school staff, community partners, and other agencies on trauma, child development, mental health and social emotional development, among other topics.

Connect 2 Kids (C2K)

C2K was created to help teachers develop a deeper understanding of the social-emotional and mental health issues their students face, introduce teachers to the complexities of trauma and its impact on young children, and develop practical and caring interventions that more effectively support their students.

JPA therapists perform classroom observations where they model ways to react to student behaviors.



of teachers say that C2K has had a positive impact on their classroom environment



of teachers report that C2K helps them feel more confident responding to children with challenging behaviors

"C2K increased my confidence as an educator to manage behaviors, making me calmer and less stressed out during instruction." - C2K Teacher

C2K Middle

C2K was so successful in elementary school, that at the request of teachers, parents and principals, we have expanded C2K to include middle school, therefore creating a continuum of care for students and teachers from PreK-8th grade.

Building on the social-emotional topics presented in C2K, C2K Middle focuses on the challenges and issues students face as they enter their teen years, including relationships, bullying, self-care, and the transition to high school.

"It was great to get to interact with my students in such a different way and see them having fun – and to get to have fun with them." - C2K Middle Teacher

C2K Summer Institute

In collaboration with Northwestern University's School of Education and Social Policy, JPA hosts the C2K Summer Institute, a series of interactive workshops focused on the important role teachers play in supporting the mental health of students