

Know Your Rights as an Unstably Housed Young Person:


Federal Enforcement in Chicago

The Trump administration is saying they might send ICE and the National Guard to Chicago. When troops were sent to Washington D.C. recently, people living on the streets were arrested or forced to leave, and their belongings were taken or destroyed without much warning.

Having more police or troops in the city can also mean a higher chance of being stopped or arrested—even if you haven't done anything wrong.

You know what's best for keeping yourself safe, but if you don't have stable housing or spend a lot of time outside, here are a few extra tips that might help:

- ▶ **Don't sleep in public places.** For your safety, please consider sleeping in a shelter or another indoor location. The President may order law enforcement to forcibly remove and/or arrest anyone sleeping outside. Use drop-in centers or public libraries during the day to stay off the streets. Locations, hours, and services can be found at www.streetlightchicago.org.
- ▶ **Avoid using alcohol or marijuana in public places.** This is already against the law in Chicago and Illinois but may be more strictly enforced.
- ▶ **Be careful of being in public places if you have an outstanding criminal case or warrant.**
- ▶ **Follow youth curfews.** In Chicago, youth under the age of 17 must be at home or accompanied by a parent or guardian 18 years or older after 10 pm on Sunday through Thursday and no later than 11 pm on Friday and Saturday.
- ▶ **Keep your photo ID on you at all times.** Consider asking a family member, friend, or case manager to store any important documents (such as your Social Security card or birth certificate) and/or property with sentimental value such as family photographs or mementos in a safe place.
- ▶ **Carry the phone number of an emergency contact,** such as a family member, friend, or case manager.
- ▶ **Keep your medications, as well as a list of your medications,** with you at all times.
- ▶ **Keep your phone fully charged when possible,** if you have one.



If you need help, observe unusual law enforcement activity, or have any information to share, call
Chicago Coalition to End Homelessness at 312-641-4148.

NEED HELP?

If you need shelter:

- ▶ Explore whether you are able to stay temporarily somewhere safe with a friend or family member.
- ▶ You can find a list of youth shelters on the Streetlight website or mobile app (www.streetlightchicago.org). This includes location, hours, and services. Young people can self-refer to many of these shelters, which means they do not have to go through 3-1-1.
- ▶ **People with children or young people 25 and over can access shelter by calling 3-1-1. Be sure to write down your service request (SR) number.** Provide 3-1-1 the location where you are residing and state clearly that you are unsheltered and requesting shelter. Please note, shelter capacity may be limited.
- ▶ **To request shelter in person**, single adults (18+) can visit the Shelter Placement and Resource Center (SPARC) at 2241 S. Halsted. Call 773-526-3707 to confirm capacity. 3-1-1 shelter requests can be made 24 hours a day with on-site assistance, regardless of capacity.
- ▶ **For families with underage children**, shelter can be requested in person at The Salvation Army Emergency Assessment and Resource Center (EHARC) located at 924 N. Christiana.

Tips for interacting with police or federal agents:

- ▶ **Stay Calm: Say “I am exercising my right to remain silent” and “I do not consent to a search of my body or property.”**
 - ▶ If any officer asks you any questions, remember you have the right to remain silent. You do NOT have to discuss your immigration or citizenship status with any law enforcement officials.
 - ▶ You have the right to a government appointed attorney if arrested for a criminal charge. If you are detained because of your suspected immigration status, you have a right to a lawyer, but the government will not provide you one.
- ▶ **Move Belongings:** If your belongings are blocking a sidewalk, public way, private residence, or business, offer to pack up your belongings and/or move to a different location.
- ▶ **Ask if you are free to leave:** If told yes, leave. If no, try to remember everything you can about the arresting officer (uniform, badge number, name) and any witnesses. Immediately state “I want to speak to a lawyer.”
- ▶ **If any of your property is damaged or removed, make a list of what property you lost.**
- ▶ **Call us:** When you are able to, call the Chicago Coalition to End Homelessness at 1-800-940-1119 to report any interactions with federal troops or law enforcement.

More information to come –

Outreach workers will be sharing updated info with you as it is available.

Learn more: →

