

# Dream Center Peoria

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**dream center peoria**

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## Dream Center Peoria

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## Social Media

[facebook.com/dreamcenterpeoria](https://www.facebook.com/dreamcenterpeoria)  
[instagram.com/dcpeoria](https://www.instagram.com/dcpeoria)  
[twitter.com/dcpeoria](https://twitter.com/dcpeoria)

## Mission

Impacting families living in poverty, starting with kids and youth.



Dream Center Peoria is a faith-based, not-for-profit organization located in downtown Peoria. Founded by Riverside Community Church in 2002, our mission is to impact individuals and families in poverty, starting with kids and youth. We accomplish this goal through a three-pronged approach:

- **an urban agriculture program** to help equip young people for life and show a way out of poverty; and
- **a mentoring education component** to help kids do well in school.

## BASIC HUMAN NEEDS

We house the only emergency homeless shelter for woman and children in the Peoria area. We also have 30 transitional apartments for homeless individuals and families who want to break the cycle of homelessness and enter our two-year program to transition back into society.

Each night, anywhere from 20 to 65 women, children and fathering dads call the overnight shelter home. The average child in our overnight shelter is... nine years of age. With The Village, our two-year transitional housing program, we see families and individuals transition back into society and not return to homelessness.

## YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

We run a vibrant afterschool program, Project 309, for 60 to 80 inner-city students each school night. Within this program, we incorporate:

- **a social enterprise program** to show a way out of poverty through business;
- **a creative arts school** to teach young people the importance of learning the arts;

## COMMUNITY OUTREACH

This division is where we see our community come together to impact families living in poverty. One of our most visible programs is Backpack Peoria, which takes place on the last Saturday in July. Each year, we partner with District 150 to give out 2,500 backpacks loaded with school supplies, helping children in need start the school year off right.

More than 300 young people, from dozens of church youth groups around the country, come to Dream Center Peoria for Mission Peoria, a mission trip to impact Peoria and the children in this community.

Each prom season, we give out more than 100 prom dresses to young ladies who thought they would never get the chance to go to prom due to the cost of a dress. Every spring and fall, Dream Center Peoria equips over 400 people to impact the Peoria area with acts of service.

More than 20,000 people are impacted by Dream Center Peoria each year, and over 200 volunteers are involved at Dream Center Peoria every month.

## Upcoming Events

### Backpack Peoria

July 29, 2017

9am-2pm

Dream Center Peoria

## How to Help

**Giving:** The best way to give or get information is through our website at [dreamcenterpeoria.org](http://dreamcenterpeoria.org), via email at [info@dreamcenterpeoria.org](mailto:info@dreamcenterpeoria.org), or by calling (309) 676-3000.

**Volunteering:** We have many ways to volunteer with all of our programs. Learn more at [dreamcenterpeoria.org/volunteer](http://dreamcenterpeoria.org/volunteer).