

Cicero CanTeen Program Guide



Cause for Action:

- Graduation rates for Syracuse (61% in 2016) are lower than the Onondaga rate and NYS average (both 80%).
- Median wage for jobs that do not require a high school diploma/GED is \$20,350.
- By providing meaningful companionship and educational activities, volunteers may help encourage students to complete their high school education, improving their career opportunities.

Where is the program located?

The program is held at [The CanTeen](#) at 6046 Route 31, Cicero, NY 13039.

What does the CanTeen do?

The CanTeen, functioning as a drop-in center, provides casual after school activities for teens, including sports, games, and movies. Participants are also involved in community service, including serving meals at the Rescue Mission. The advisory board includes youth who participate in the program, helping build leadership skills of participants.

Who does the CanTeen serve?

The CanTeen serves youth from 8th to 12th grade. There are no restrictions on which students can participate; the program is open to students from all school districts.

How does the program provide for this population?

This program is able to offer students a fun and relaxing way to learn about healthy diets, exercise and healthy lifestyles all while having fun in a supportive setting.

What would I do as a student volunteer?

Based on consultation from the students at the CanTeen, volunteers will work to create and implement activities to increase awareness and knowledge of physical health problems and how to address them. In an effort to build a relationship, we strongly encourage Upstate students to visit and meet with the students a few times before planning any structured activities.

How often would I serve?

There are Upstate student volunteers present at the CanTeen every Friday from 3pm-5pm. However, volunteers are not required to come every week.

What are the community impacts?

By providing an outlet for students to have a fun and informational way to learn about health and healthy lives, volunteers are giving students a better chance at improved health, a learning resource, and hopefully a passion for learning.