

CHINMAYA YUVA KENDRA PROGRAM (CHYK)

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CHYK Highlights

- Chinmaya Yuva Kendra, or CHYK is the global youth (18-29 years age) wing of Chinmaya Mission
- Mission Statement: To empower youth with their vision, values and dynamism for success in all fields
- Motto: Harnessing youth potential through dynamic spirituality
- Aim is to support youth discover their infinite strength and serve society

CHYK Activities

CHYK activities include the following:

- Weekly discussion forums on Vedanta studies
- Workshops (with Acharyas' guidance)
- Leadership training, Youth Empowerment Program (YEP)
- National camps and youth conventions
- Theater, outdoor experiential learning, and publications

Satsang

Like-minded community



Sadhana
Study Groups



Seva

*Chinmaya Organization
for Rural Development*



Youth Empowerment Program (YEP)

- YEP is one-year, work-study, residential value-based leadership program for youth, known as “Yuva Veers”, with keen desire to learn Indian culture and serve India.
- Similar residential program (2 months duration) offered in US to prepare the students for the spirit of service.
- **Motto: Learn, Serve and Grow**
- YEP is designed to promote individual inner strength, balanced life style, and selfless service through Vedanta studies, fieldwork training, and hands-on internship.
- Today more than 300 Yuva Veers across different countries, are reaching out to more than 4 lakh youth and 3 lakh children through workshops, camps and college talks.



CHYK Chicago Activities in 2016-2017

- Satsang with Acharya on the topic Sanskrit and Dharma
- CHYK Retreat with Acharyas in Chicago: The Universal Guru Within
- CHYK Potluck Social
- Gurudev (Pujya Swami Chinmayananda) Musical
- Acharya discourse “Power of Prayer for adults and CHYKs in Downtown
- CHYKago Summer Camp
- CHYK Session with Mukhya Swami Swaroopananda
- CHYK Ganesh Chaturthi Puja
- New Center started in Downtown Chicago to cater to the young parents living in downtown area.
- CHYK High School Bala Vihar Social Event
- CHYK Diwali Puja and Game Night
- Apna Ghar Stride against Domestic Violence 5K Run
- Satsang Event with Acharya
- CHYK Holiday Party and Movie Night
- Interactions with High Schoolers at Badri Center

CHYK
Retreat

Chicago, MLK weekned



Dealing with youth

- Youth think independently, challenge everything.
- Bombarded with only negatives about Hinduism.
- Enjoy discussions, rather than lecturing. Give them ample time to bring out their points.
- As sevak we have to play opponents' point of view to refute their thinking.
- Never criticize other religions, it leaves bad taste in their mind.
- It is better if the sevak for CHYK is closer to their age than a senior member. Sevak must be well prepared for the topic. If doubts, sevak should consult with Swami ji or senior members before answering questions.
- We do not have to win every argument with them. Never mix politics and religion when teaching Hindu Sanatana Dharma.
- **Let youth participate in Mandir's management and decision-making. Delegate responsibilities to youth.**