

What Does Chill Cost the Youth?

Nothing! Thanks to the support of generous partners, sponsors, donors, and host-mountains, Chill is able to provide each youth with everything he/she needs to successfully learn how to snowboard and participate in our six-week youth development program. This includes: bus transportation, lift tickets, snowboard lessons and all of the necessary gear (jackets, pants, gloves, hats, boots, bindings, and snowboards) as well as instruction on our core weekly themes – the anchor of our educational component. Chill makes all the arrangements and all the youth have to do is show up on their assigned night ready to ride and learn.

How Are Chill Youth Selected?

Partnering with a variety of social service agencies and schools, Chill works with youth who face a multitude of challenges. Partner agencies select their Chill candidates based on who they feel can most benefit from the Chill experience as a result of their professional experience and history with each individual youth. Chill then works with these youth to help build the skills needed to succeed in life. Personal growth within our weekly theme areas and core educational program is the main goal, with the engaging sport of snowboarding serving as the vehicle. We establish long-term relationships with these partner agencies so they can use Chill as part of what they are doing to try and improve the lives of each of these youth.

Please note that Chill does not accept direct youth applicants. Our participants must enter the program through local social service outlets that Chill partners with in each community in which we operate.

What Happens to the Youth After the Six Weeks Are Over?

Chill youth and the adults in their lives report a variety of positive outcomes resulting from the opportunity to learn something as exciting as snowboarding. The chance to feel engaged, valued, and respected, along with the thrill of learning a new skill offers these youth new perspectives to help refocus their thinking from what is to what is possible. From our recent survey of hundreds of partner agencies across the globe, over 80% reported that Chill serves as an exceptional tool to improve the attitude, increase self-confidence, improve relationships, and teach basic life lessons in the majority/all of the youth that participated in the program.

Chill has also established a Peer Leadership program for Chill alumni. In each city, several Chill participants are invited to return the following season in the role of a Peer Leader where they are taught leadership skills. They then utilize these new skills by helping new Chill participants adjust to the program and share their own Chill experience and knowledge of snowboarding. Peer Leaders develop valuable leadership skills and learn the importance of responsibility and commitment, which they then take with them into their academic and personal lives.

As Chill continues to develop, we offer more and more community outreach and boardsports options in conjunction with introductory career opportunities and continued peer leadership initiatives, always keeping in mind our primary goal of helping to develop life skills and provide opportunities for success.