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Illinois Sheriffs' Association Awards 53 Scholarships for Students to Attend the Cebrin Goodman Teen Institute Leadership Camp



Springfield, IL — The Illinois Sheriffs' Association (ISA) proudly announced that 53 students from across Illinois were awarded scholarships to attend the 51st annual **Cebrin Goodman Teen Institute (CGTI)**, held July 13–17, 2025, at Eastern Illinois University.

CGTI, hosted by the Illinois Association for Behavioral Health, is a nationally recognized youth leadership camp that empowers middle school and high school students to create lasting, positive change in their schools and communities. The week-long program provides training in leadership development, substance use and mental health prevention, and peer collaboration.

“The Illinois Sheriffs' Association is honored to support these students as they develop the skills and confidence to lead their peers and strengthen their communities,” said **Jim Kaitschuk, Executive Director of the Illinois Sheriffs' Association**. “These young leaders are the future of Illinois, and we are proud to invest in their growth and commitment to making a difference.”

Throughout the week, students participated in:

- **Action Planning:** Working with peers to design community-based initiatives addressing local challenges, informed by Illinois Youth Survey (IYS) data.
- **Workshops & Keynotes:** Developing practical skills in leadership, prevention strategies, and goal setting.
- **Team Building & Collaboration:** Exploring leadership styles through small and large group sessions, as well as engaging in camp-wide bonding activities.

The scholarships provided by ISA helped ensure that students from diverse communities had the opportunity to attend the camp and gain experiences that will extend beyond the summer.

CGTI will continue its programming with the Mid-Year event in Bloomington-Normal, January 17–18, 2026, where students will reconvene to evaluate their action plans, reconnect with peers and continue their leadership journey.

“CGTI remains incredibly grateful for ISA’s continued support,” said Natalie Maggiore, Program Marketing Manager at the Illinois Association for Behavioral Health. “By helping fund scholarships, ISA is directly fostering environments where youth feel empowered to use their voices, set achievable goals, and contribute to real change.”

For more information about CGTI and upcoming events, please visit www.cg-ti.org

About the Illinois Sheriffs’ Association (ISA):

Founded in 1928, the Illinois Sheriffs’ Association is dedicated to supporting law enforcement professionals, enhancing public safety, and investing in community-based programs across Illinois. ISA provides training, resources, and educational opportunities to strengthen law enforcement and foster safer communities.

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