

United Way of Laramie County End-of Year Report

Page 1

Agency Name: Boys & Girls Club of Cheyenne Program: Youth Development Program Reporting Period: Jan - Dec 2009

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Agency Mission/Vision: Mission is to inspire and enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to realize their full potential as productive, responsible and caring citizens.

Community Issue Program Targets: Helping Children & Youth Achieve Full Potential

Program Target Population:
• Youth ages 6 – 18 are the focus of the Club’s Youth Development Program and are influenced by the positive aspects of this unique program
• Young people need educational and recreational opportunities during non-school hours and the summer months when parents are working to keep them safe and to help them attain academic success, live healthy lifestyles and become young leaders.
• Special needs of these customers include low-cost fees to make the program accessible, after-school busing to the Club, snacks and meals and extended program hours during school holidays and teacher in-service days.

Program Significance to the Community
The Club’s Youth Development Program ties to the United Way of Laramie County -- Helping Children and Youth Achieve Their Full Potential through the following ways:
• Increasing access and availability to mentors/positive role models for Laramie County youth
• Increasing Laramie County youth access and availability to structured activities that nurture skills/interests, enrich academic performance, contribute to their environment, and develop self-esteem and social skills
The Club’s Youth Development Program is important to its members because it offers:
• Educational opportunities that help them achieve academic success. Enrichment activities such as cultural field trips, science experiments, technology classes, music, art and cooking classes help youth develop skills and interests, which increases self-esteem.
• Low-fees providing access for low-income kids.
• Health & Life Skills programming to help youth avoid risky behaviors such as substance and tobacco abuse and teen age pregnancy
A Club member/parent survey indicated the Youth Development Program helps youth feel more secure, succeed academically and helps keeps them out of trouble.
• Survey findings: 80.8% of members said the Club changed their life; 85.3% feel safe at Club, while 13.2% of the kids said they feel very or sort of unsafe in their own neighborhood; and 21.2% do not have an adult outside the Club to talk to about important things (other than a parent). Ninety-five percent of parents said the Club helps keep their child out of trouble and 95.9% said the Club’s program was affordable.
Significant trends seen this year at the Club include: food insecurity, an increase in number of caregivers working extended hours or out of work, and more parents seeking low-cost child care options
• We’ve had members who have gone days without eating except what the Club offered. We’ve also found that members, who received free lunches during the school year, face food insecurity during the summer months and school vacations. To help with this, the Friday Food Basket program will move from the schools and collaborate with the Club during the summer months offering this program to our members.
• The Club has seen an increase in number of employment changes including parents out of work and an increase in number of parents working multiple jobs.
• The number of new members’ parents who are seeking low-cost alternatives to after-school and summer programs for their children is increasing

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Program Resources		Program Activities	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 full-time staff, 7 part-time staff Over 2,000 volunteer hours 6,875 sq. foot building with computer lab, science room, kitchen, fine arts room, music room, multi-purpose room for drama & small group meetings, large recreational room Collaborations: Boys Scouts' Scout Reach program, Conservation District programs, HR Camp's Outdoor educational program, law enforcement, DFS, Laramie County Library, Meth Initiative, Safe & Drug Free Schools, CLIMB Wyoming, Laramie Co. Tobacco Prevention 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education & Career: Project Learn/Homework help, technology activities, science club, educational field trips, outdoor/conservation education Character/Leadership: Torch Club (service club), service learning projects, Scout Reach Health/Life Skills: SMART Moves classes helps kids avoid tobacco, alcohol and other drugs as well as premature sexual activity Social Recreation/Fitness: Daily fitness challenges, tennis and golf, tournaments – pool, chess, & scrabble; Board Games: cribbage, various educational games Arts: Drama and fine arts classes, various mediums, National Fine Arts Competition 	
Outcome	Performance Measure	Method of Measure	
1.) Number & percentage of club members advanced to next grade level 2.) Number of members who participate in SMART Moves programs & data collected through pre- and post-testing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% of Club members in Project Learn advanced to the next grade level on time and 91% had improved grades 181 members participated in 8 sessions of SMART Moves (including SMART Girls). All members had the same or improved post-test scores 1/3 of Club members voluntarily participated in the homework activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Membership Forms : completed annually by members, collects data on family size, household income, age, and grade level Participation: members' attendance & participation tracked in membership database 	
Program Results		Results Analysis and Next Steps	
<p>Quantity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 229 days of programming totaling 1,514 hours. (Open 2-7 p.m. Monday- Friday during school year; most school holiday and teacher in-service days and 10-weeks during the summer from 7:30 a.m. -- 6 p.m.) SMART Moves classes: 8 sessions, 181 participants, 9 collaborative partners involved in activities 28,767 snacks 54 art pieces prepared for the BGCA National Fine Arts competition 13 Youth of the Week, 4 Youth of the Month & 2 Youth of the Year participants 10,483 rides provided through after-school busing service <p>Quality:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 to 10-25 ratio adult/members, staff and volunteers interact with members as mentors. Variety of activities to participate including science, technology, art, cooking, homework assistance, games, tennis, golf, field trips, community service and volunteering opportunities, summer camp and Scout Reach After-school busing service expanded to 17 schools through an enhanced LCSD#1 partnership <p>Trend Analysis:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> More members are participating in the SMART Moves program over the previous year and the percentage of members who advanced to the next grade level on time increased. 		<p>What Worked:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implemented Youth of the Week and Youth of the Month awards. Members recognized weekly at an assembly in front of peers Youth of the Year program – 2 teen participants. Winner will compete at the state level in Feb. 2010 Fine Arts program expanded with the hiring of certified art teacher. Fifty four pieces of artwork done by members and displayed at local arts exhibit on Jan. 5, 2010. In January 2009, first annual art show exhibit with a member advancing and winning first at the regional level. Quarterly Family Nights implemented in October with the Family Fiesta event. 167 members and parents participated in evening meal and family games. Parents learned what children were doing at the Club. Junior Staff program began with 6 members providing 1,754 volunteer service hours to Club. (This is in addition to volunteer hours to the Club by community members.) <p>Next Steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> More training for membership coordinator to fully utilize Vision Software Create more fitness opportunities and collaborations. This started in December 2009, when Club used Destiny Church gymnasium during the holiday break allowing the Club to carry out fitness activities offered in a gym. Club is seeking a HOP Sports System to be used at the Club that will provide numerous fitness activities such as yoga, kickboxing, Pilates, dancing and more 	