

Youth Services Director Monthly Summary for November 2019

Megan Traficano, Director, YS OP and RF Townships

Directors Notes:

- I attended and manned a table at the Riveredge Resource Fair to market the services of the Oak Park and River Forest Township Youth Services.
- Myself and Bianca Ingwersen (Senior Services) met with Sgt. Deuchler of the Oak Park Police Department to talk about the different services both Youth and Senior Services offer and determine areas for more future collaboration.
- The Youth Services Department has been participating in our new database staff training taking for the whole month of November. We have a tentative “Go Live” date of December 9, 2019.
- I have also been in contact with administration at District 97 and District 200, the Oak Park Police Department, Dr. Morrison from DePaul University, and River Forest Township, regarding a variety of youth issues.
- I have been attending and participating in workshops geared towards youth issues, including Teaching Resiliency in Children which was sponsored by Hephzibah.
- I have been in contact with many of the Contracted Programs regarding reporting issues.
- I also attended a meeting with Rob Simmons and Stephen Jackson of the Oak Park Public Library to see how we can coordinate and collaborate with youth at the Main Branch after school hours.

1. Contracts and Program Development

The Youth Services RFP for Fiscal Year 2021 went out on November 20, 2019. The RFP will be due by 5pm on January 15th. The Youth Services Committee will give funding priority to programs that serve youth in the transition years, grades five through ninth.

Below is an updated table on October reports still missing, **highlighted in yellow** or reports submitted late, **highlighted in teal**.

<u>Program Name</u>	<u>Program Start Date</u>	<u>Report Due: October 28 2019</u>
River Forest Public Library-Connections	August 23, 2019	Completed Oct. 24 th
Concordia-STEM	August 5-16, 2019	No October report submitted
River Forest Police-I-SEARCH	September 2019	Completed Oct. 25 th
OPRFHS-Operation Snowball/Snowflake	October 2019	No October report submitted
Oak Park Police- Jr. Citizens Police Academy	August 5-9, 2019	OPPD contracts are still being reviewed by OP Village Legal Department
Oak Park Police-	September 2019	OPPD contracts are still

MUREE/FREE		being reviewed by OP Village Legal Department
Concordia-SMART Program	Summer 2019	Submitted Nov. 19th
District 97 Julian MS-Makerspace	October 10, 2019	Completed Oct. 28 th
FCS-Friday Night Place	September 13, 2019	Completed Oct. 27 th
District 97 Beye Boost	October 1, 2019	New person taking over Beye Boost met with on 11/19/19 report coming.
Park District of Oak Park Scholarships	Ongoing for 2019	Completed Oct. 23 rd
District 97 Irving SLAM	September 2019	Submitted Nov. 8th
District 97 Lincoln After School Media Center	September 2019	No October report submitted
District 97 Longfellow Rainbows	October 17, 2019	Completed Oct. 28 th
District 97 Hatch Skill Builders	October 7, 2019 (however program has not started yet)	Completed Oct. 28 th
District 97 Longfellow Homework Club	November 14, 2019	Completed Oct. 28 th
District 97 Longfellow Mentoring	September 2, 2019	No October report submitted
District 97 Mann Homework Helper	September 24, 2019	Completed Oct. 28 th
District 97 Mann Rainbows	September 2019	No October report submitted
District 97 Whittier Homework Helper	October 28, 2019	Completed Oct. 21

2. Restorative Justice

TIME Program- Susan Stearns (Teen Initiative for Meeting Expectations)

- 1 youth completed community service in the month of November.
- Program Manager prepared the reports due to the OP Adjudication court for the month of November.
- Time Manager met with a social worker who is part of a team of outside professionals who are working with one of the youths on the caseload. Another meeting will be scheduled for early December and will include Megan Traficano the Director of Youth Services.
- 4 new youths were assigned at November court to the TIME program.
- Many of the youth seem to have more free time since some of the sports are over for the season so the TIME manager is counting on their availability and the opportunity to work through their hours.

3. Youth Interventionist Program

Sara Marx (Interventionist Supervisor)

Cases: 7

Home Visits: 0

Groups: NA

Face-to-face Meetings: 18

Referrals: 1

Mrs. Marx continues to provide weekly supervision that includes checking assessments and session notes for each interventionist while maintaining a caseload of individual clients. Mrs. Marx continues to work on updating the Youth Interventionist Program Manual to include KaleidaCare specifics. Mrs. Marx and Youth Service Director plan to “go live” with KaleidaCare by December 9th, 2019. Mrs. Marx attended Teaching Resiliency to Children training by Hephzibah Children’s Association and the CJC Meeting. Mrs. Marx met with a member of The Center for Serenity to discuss potential group work. Mrs. Marx continues to work closely with Holmes Elementary and Julian Middle School to meet the needs of their students.

Dominique Hickman (Interventionist)

Cases: 8

Home Visits: 3

Group: 45 6th and 7th grade girls at Brooks and Julian Middle Schools

Face-to-face Meetings: 16

Referrals: 2

Ms. Hickman continues to meet with students in various schools within Oak Park and River Forest, as well as the community. Ms. Hickman works nonstop with community agencies to address the needs of youth and families. This month Ms. Hickman has closed out a few youths from her caseload who either completed the program or connected to outside community therapy. Ms. Hickman has developed a close relationship with her clients and families and identified individuals that typically have a hard time around the holidays and reviewed coping strategies with them.

Girls on the Rise at Brooks and Julian Middle School has ended for the 6th and 7th grade participants. On Friday, November 22nd, Girls on the Rise had a family-style dinner celebration in honor of the 45 participants completing the 10-week program that was hosted at Brooks Middle School. With the help of the Oak Park Senior Service transportation department, Julian students were able to attend the event. Ms. Hickman received several donations to cover the cost of the food, drinks, and dessert. Raising Canes Chicken in North Riverside donated several gift cards and swag to raffle to students during the event. Each student received certificate of participation. Ms. Hickman is now in the planning process for the 8th-grade group that is set to start in January 2020.

Ana Cintron (Interventionist)

Cases: 11

Home Visits: 1

Group: NA

Face-to-face Meetings: 20

Referrals: 3

Ms. Cintron continues to conduct assessments, provide therapeutic interventions, and treatment plans to individuals within the schools and client homes. Ms. Cintron attended the Riveredge Hospital Resource Fair to increase her knowledge of community organizations. Along with other Youth Service member, Ms. Cintron visited Ridgeland Park to work with youth. Ms. Cintron also participated in two new Database training webinars.

Laura Devitt (Part-Time Interventionist)

Cases: 10

Home Visits: 3

Groups: NA

Face-to-face Meetings: 12

Referrals: 4

Ms. Devitt has continued working to improve her knowledge of the community organizations and the families she works with. She attended Hephzibah's Teaching Resiliency to Children Workshop and the River Edge Resource Fair, participated in November meeting of the Youth Network Council, and met with Dynamic Lynks located in Oak Park. Ms. Devitt participated in two new Database webinars and will start entering information to gain more experience. Ms. Devitt has also been working to strengthen the therapeutic rapport with the youth and families on her caseload to best fit their needs.