

Youth Services Director Monthly Summary for November 2019

Megan Traficano, Director, YS OP and RF Townships

Directors Notes:

- Attended the CJC meeting, Home Visiting Task Force Meeting, and the Leading Edge Barbershop at the Oak Park Public Library.
- I met with Deputy Superintendent Vincent Acevez of the Cicero Police Department and Jackie Wallen, LCPC of Youth Crossroads in Berwyn, about a program they implemented in the Spring of 2019 called Handle with Care. Handle with Care is free collaboration between the Cicero Police Department, Youth Crossroads, and Cicero Public Schools (Districts 99 and 201) to provide trauma informed care to youth who are victims or witnesses of crime. I am interested in bringing this program to Oak Park and River Forest. I then met with Oak Park Police Department's Youth Services Sergeant, William Rygh to inform him of my meeting and talk to him about Handle with Care. I hope to set up a meeting with Chief Reynolds of the Oak Park Police Department to speak to him about the program and with Administrators at Districts 97 and 200, in the new year.
- I have been working on creating a social work internship program at Youth Services, and have been in contact with Concordia University regarding BSW students and Loyola University and UIC regarding MSW students.
- I have continued to research grant opportunities and sent out Letters of Inquiry to foundations that have grants for youth programs.

1. Contracts and Program Development

The Youth Services RFP for Fiscal Year 2021 is 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	Will submit June Report only
River Forest Police-I-SEARCH	September 2019	Completed Oct. 25 th
OPRFHS-Operation Snowball/Snowflake	October 2019	Completed Nov. 25th
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-MUREE/FREE	September 2019	OPPD contracts are still being reviewed by OP Village Legal Department
Concordia-SMART Program	Summer 2019	Submitted Nov. 19 th
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. 8 th
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	Completed Dec. 5 th
District 97 Mann Homework Helper	September 24, 2019	Completed Oct. 28 th
District 97 Mann Rainbows	September 2019	Completed Nov. 13
District 97 Whittier Homework Helper	October 28, 2019	Completed Oct. 21

2. Restorative Justice

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

- 1 new youth assigned at Oak Park Local Adjudication.
- Multiple youths assigned to hours at the Holiday Food and Gift Basket Drive.

3. Youth Interventionist Program

Sara Marx (Interventionist Supervisor)

Cases: 8

Home Visits: 8

Groups: NA

Face-to-face Meetings: 15

Referrals: 1

Mrs. Marx continues to provide weekly supervision that includes checking documentation and session notes for each interventionist while maintaining a caseload of individual clients. Mrs. Marx continues to work with the interventionists on KaleidaCare updates and questions. Mrs. Marx attended the CJC Meeting along with a lecture on Marijuana and Cannabinoids in efforts to educate her clients better. Mrs. Marx is working on identifying mentoring groups for young woman along with support groups for grieving families. Mrs. Marx will continue to collaborate with community partners. She was able to expanded referrals sources to additional elementary and private schools in the area.

Dominique Hickman (Interventionist)

Cases: 8

Home Visits: 3

Group: NA

Face-to-face Meetings: 19

Referrals: 1

Ms. Hickman continues to meet with students within the communities Ms. Hickman has worked with several community providers this month such as Strive for Success, Social workers from School district 90 and 97, Presence Behavior Health and Oak Park Public Library, etc. Ms. Hickman is always looking for creative ways to bridge the gap when it comes to certain resources that are lacking in the community. For many of Ms. Hickman's clients, there is a need for male mentors that continues to go unaddressed in the community. Ms. Hickman is currently working with Lenard McDonald, owner of Victory Lap Barbershop, to explore ways to offer mentorship to adolescent males. Ms. Hickman is in contact with Darryl Satcher, owner of Rhythmic Mediation, to explore ways of providing male mentorship through meditation.

During the winter break, Ms. Hickman is gearing up for the 8th grade group of Girls on the Rise participates. Ms. Hickman is expecting 30 participates combined from Brooks and Julian Middle Schools. Ms. Hickman is excited and cannot wait to meet this new group of young women.

Ana Cintron (Interventionist)

Cases: 12

Home Visits: 2

Group: NA

Face-to-face Meetings: 26

Referrals: 2

Ms. Cintron continued to meet with youth and their families in the communities. Ms. Cintron attended a continuing education training on Marijuana and Cannabinoids. Ms. Cintron also went to the Oak Park Public Library main branch on several Fridays to start and build rapport and identify a possible group to run with some of the youth who hang out there. Ms. Cintron attended the Oak Park Public Library's Teen Services end of the year party.

Laura Devitt (Part-Time Interventionist)

Cases: 10

Home Visits: 2

Groups: 1

Face-to-face Meetings: 11

Referrals: 3

December has flown by for Ms. Devitt. She has continued to strengthen her therapeutic rapport with the youth on her caseload and connect families to local services to provide wrap around support. This month, Ms. Devitt attended a continuing education training on Marijuana and Cannabinoids presented by Dr. Eric Bornstein to learn about the medical implications of THC and CBD. She also had a lot of fun assisting the staff of the River Forest Library in their Ginger Bread decorating activity with youth in fifth to eighth grade. Ms. Devitt is looking forward to the start of the New Year with the Township!