

Youth Services Director Monthly Summary for June 2019

Megan Traficano, Director, YS OP and RF Townships

Directors Notes:

- On June 10, Sara Marx, Youth Interventionist Supervisor started.
- I gave presentations to a staff meeting at the Park District of Oak Park and to the SMART program staff at Concordia. The Park District presentation was regarding safety and security at the Parks and SMART program presentation was on Restorative Justice Practices.
- Attended a 1-day Grant Writing Workshop, focused on obtaining and writing Foundation Grants.
- Met and introduced myself to Chief Reynolds and Deputy Chief Moran of the Oak Park Police Department, Dr. Morrison from DePaul University, who will be conducting mental health initiatives at District 97 this upcoming school year, and Lynda Parker, Director of Student Services at District 200.
- Attended the Oak Park Public Library Board Meeting on June 25 to introduce myself and speak on Youth Services Initiatives.
- Will attend a Partnership meeting, hosted by CMHB, regarding the mental health initiatives that District 97 will start to implement this upcoming school year with DePaul University. Mental Health Agencies that services those Oak Park students and programs that operate in District 97 are invited.
- Attended a Lunch and Learn "Talk Saves Lives" hosted at the OP Township. This presentation was given by Tandra Rutledge from Riveredge Hospital.
- Youth Services has partnered with the Oak Park Public Library and River Forest Public Library to host a school supply drive. School supplies can be dropped off at either Library or the Township offices from June 17-August 7th. The Township offices will also accept monetary or amazon donations.

1. Restorative Justice

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

- 3 new youth assigned by Oak Park Adjudication. Manager will meet with them during the week of June 25th.
- 1 youth assigned from River Forest Adjudication. The youth was assigned 40 hours to complete, yet will be out of town until August. The youth will have to complete the hours during the school year.
- Completed 2 youth intakes during the week of June 10th who will be assigned to do their community service in the near future.
- Andrea Mance from the Adjudication office at the Oak Park Village Hall, has requested 8-10 boys/girls 16 years or older to volunteer at the 4th of July parade.
- 2 youth are assigned each Saturday to help take down the Farmer's Market booth each week, until the end of October. Manager will be present to make sure that the youth come at the appointed time.

2. Youth Interventionist Program

Sara Marx (Interventionist Supervisor)

Cases: 0

Mrs. Marx started June 10th and has started to organize and revamp the interventionist program to help focus on the youths' needs. Mrs. Marx has redesigned forms, implemented assessments, and updated timeframes to direct interventions and generate measurable outcomes. Mrs. Marx hopes to update the policies and procedures for the interventionist program in the next few weeks. Mrs. Marx continues to network and meet new individuals within the community and other agencies.

Amanda Stephans (Interventionist)

Cases: 18

Active cases: 11

Passive cases: 7

Home visits: 5

Groups: N/A

Referrals Received: 2

Mrs. Stephans has been frequenting Keystone, Priory, Centennial, Taylor, Maple and Austin Gardens parks around Oak Park and River Forest this month with no problems being reported. This month, Mrs. Stephans partnered with Riveredge Hospital and the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention to bring training to staff at Oak Park River Forest Township on the basics of suicide prevention education. The training was an introduction to community based suicide prevention that covered what it is, who it affects, what we know about it and the beginning steps to take in preventing suicide.

Dominique Hickman (Interventionist)

Cases: 11

Active: 9

Passive: 2

Home Visits: 7

Group: N/A

Referrals Received:0

Ms. Hickman spends her weeks' meeting with clients in the community, meeting with parents/guardians, collaborating with community agencies, and conducting site visits in the parks and libraries. Ms. Hickman starts her mornings off with making three phone calls to wake her not so responsible clients up for summer school. Also, Ms. Hickman is starting to get busy working with parents and guardians to register clients for the upcoming school year, providing resources to enrolled youth into summer programs and providing linkage to community agencies for therapy and various of other reasons. Ms. Hickman worked with Steven Smith from Senior Services a lot this month linking 10 Grandparents who are raising grandchildren in Oak Park with services. Ms. Hickman plans to spend the remainder of this month have one-on-one outings with her clients before they become busy with family, school, and peers.