



Final Report Form

LAWRENCE CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION  
COMMUNITY ARTS GRANT FINAL REPORT

**Final reports are due one month following project completion or no later than July 1, 2018.** Please fill out this form, attach your final budget, any additional information about the project, and any documentation such as photographs, programs, reviews, or surveys, and submit it to:

Lawrence Cultural Arts Commission  
ATTN: Porter Arneill, Director of Arts and Culture  
P.O. Box 708  
Lawrence, KS 66044

Questions? Contact Porter Arneill at [parneill@lawrenceks.org](mailto:parneill@lawrenceks.org) or (785) 832-3402

Name of Organization Van Go, Inc.

Address P.O. Box 153, 715 New Jersey

City, State, Zip Code Lawrence, KS 66044

Telephone 842-3797 Fax 842-4628 E-Mail carol@van-go.org

Project Director Carol Kobza, Executive Director

Project Title Summer JAMS: Benchmark

LCAC Grant Amount \$ \$ 4,000 Start Date 5/1/18 End Date 8/30/18

*Answers to the following questions may be given here or attached to this form as a separate document.*

1) Describe the outcome(s) of this project

This project met its intended outcomes: all youth were able to design and complete their custom benches on time, and to the specs of their clients. Daily attendance was over 95% and all youth hired completed the 8-week project. All of the clients indicated their satisfaction with the process and the final project and the unveiling/public recognition ceremony was well-attended by family, supporters, and the community.

2) Did this project change substantially from how you described it in your grant proposal?  yes  no  
If yes, please describe why and how it changed and the impact of this change on the outcome.

3) Estimate how many people benefited from this project: 10 adults 20 children  
How did you collect these numbers?

Van Go collected these numbers based on the number of at-risk teens and young adults that were direct beneficiaries of this project through their arts-based employment.

4) Describe what the LCAC grant enabled you to accomplish in regards to this project.

Van Go was able to purchase program materials that were essential to the success of the project. The benches are designed for lifelong use by our clients so they require quality materials that enable them to withstand wear and tear. Many benches are displayed and utilized in public venues, where they represent Van Go, and the client. It is important to invest in quality wood and paint to ensure that the benches look good for years to come. LCAC grant funding helped cover the cost of these materials. The grant also enabled:

1) Youth were able to experience the therapeutic process of creating art, expressing themselves, and articulating thoughts and ideas in a creative way. Under the guidance of Art Director Rick Wright, volunteers, and assistant artists, twenty-two Van Go teens designed and created wooden benches that were customized for community clients. The youth formed a “creative partnership” with their clients, allowing them to meet the needs and wishes of the customer while being able to envision the work and express themselves through the project.

2) Youth engaged in creative problem solving. At the initial bench client interview the youth gathered information to help assess the client’s aesthetic. They used the company’s promotional brochures or letterhead and asked the client to provide 7 words that describe the “personality” of their business. This information helped the teen artist clarify the client’s brand identity and visual point of view to ensure that the bench was cohesive and original. The unveiling ceremony revealed the wide spectrum of styles, colors and

3) Youth leveraged their creative investment to make a tangible and useful contribution to their community. Creating a bench that is publicly displayed gave youth the opportunity to make a contribution to the city that supports their efforts. When youth are connected to their community they are more likely to participate in a positive way, and this project confirmed that connection.

5) Attach a final project budget to this form that indicates how the LCAC grant funds were expended.

Grant funds were used to purchase art supplies. Please see attached.

6) Attach documentation of the project to this form, please list the items attached.

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/van-go/albums/72157699646002735>