

City of Lawrence Outside Agency Annual Report For Calendar Year 2017

Reports on activity should be submitted electronically to Danielle Buschkoetter, at dbuschkoetter@lawrenceks.org by Thursday, February 15th 2018 at 5:00pm. For the following questions please refer back to your [2017 application for funding](#).

Reporting Period: Calendar Year 2017

Agency Name: Boys & Girls Club of Lawrence

1. Refer to the program in which your agency received funding; provide a participant success story that helps demonstrate the accomplishments of the program.

This story was sent in by one of the Club kid parents this year;

My son entered school this year, kindergarten. He was shy introverted socially, just not very confident outside of the home. By the time we hit winter break, he was outgoing socially, a good listener, even won member of the week! Boys & Girls Club is a godsend for us. Being a low income family, we depend on your services to keep our son SAFE, engaged and healthy after school. We simply love you all! You are a part of our family, whether you like it or not.

2. Refer to your 2017 application for funding; provide a brief narrative of the activities funded with City funds.

The Club utilizes a curriculum, SMARTMoves, provided by our national partner, Boys & Girls Club of America. Using the SMART program curriculum assures our success in meeting our outlined goals and objectives. The SMART programs are research-based life skills programs developed by the national level Boys & Girls Club. Their goal is to help young people resist alcohol, tobacco and other drug use. The format is based on interactive, small-group activities that increase participants' peer support, enhance life skills, build resiliency and strengthen leadership skills. For more than a decade, Boys & Girls Clubs have successfully used this program nationwide.

While prevention programs are important, Boys & Girls Club works hard to provide another prevention strategy. According to the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, personal influences promoting alcohol use include low school achievement and commitment. Academic support is a large component of the after school program. Every day during the after school program every Club member attends Power Hour, a 30-45 time period where students work on their homework or other academic lessons. In most of the sites a specific location is used as a homework space where students are able to work on their homework with the aid of certified teachers or KU volunteers. Those students who do not have specific homework assignments take part in educational activities planned specifically around the lessons they are learning during the school day.

The school day staff plays a large part in assisting with the academic piece of the program. Each Boys & Girls Club director spends a large part of their day in the school where their site is located. During this time they talk with teachers, interact with students and observe in classrooms. Spending this time in the school allows them to become better acquainted with the school lessons being taught, with the rules and policies of the school and helps them become a trusted member of the school community. At all BGC sites, AmeriCorps academic enrichment group leaders are placed in the schools during the day for a couple hours per week. These group leaders are able to observe student behavior as well as work with teachers to design activities that enhance the academic lessons being taught. The group leaders in turn share this information with other Boys & Girls Club staff in order to assist the students in their academics. The overall objective of the supports is to help each Club member achieve and/or maintain high academic standards, focusing primarily of minimizing the gap in the areas of math and reading.

Many of the youth in Lawrence would not have access to tutoring, mentoring or athletic and arts activities if it were not made available to them through the Boys & Girls Club. Active involvement in Club programs and activities has proved to have a positive impact on our youth and reduce the risk of drug and alcohol abuse.

Boys & Girls Club actively seeks parent and community involvement in the delivery of its programs. Parents have an opportunity to provide feedback and suggestions through ongoing surveys. Parents receive monthly newsletters and are actively involved in planning and participating in Boys & Girls Club events. Most importantly, parents are actively engaged in programming by sharing their expertise and hobbies with the youth.

3. Refer to your 2017 application for funding; provide specific detail (use supportive documents, if needed) to demonstrate what progress was made toward your proposed outcomes.

Process Outcome #1: As a result of providing, a safe haven through after school programs, during 2017 Boys & Girls Club provided 3,185 children, 1,370 children daily, with after school programs at 15 sites, with transportation from middle schools. These sites provided programming during the school year and during the summer to the youth in Lawrence.

Numbers served are tracked using Vision, a member tracking software, and through the Boys & Girls Club annual report.

Process Outcome #2: During 2017, 1,454 children ages 6-15 will receive life skills and prevention education through the SMART programs.

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Behavioral Outcome #1: Based on yearly participant evaluations, 96% of participants will report feeling safe in Boys & Girls Club programs, a measure that will reflect their daily connections with supportive adults.

Behavioral Outcome #2: Based on quarterly staff/teachers progress reports, 50% of participants maintained or improved on three learning behaviors: (a) follows directions, (b) accepts responsibility for behavior, and (c) uses cooperation skills.

Behavioral Outcome #3: Based on pre and post-tests, 97% of SMART program participants showed an increase or stayed the same in alcohol, tobacco and other drugs knowledge.

Impact Outcomes: The long-term benefits of healthy learning behaviors and life skills will provide youth with the foundation to resist pressures toward substance abuse. By offering strong programming in prevention, youth participants will transform into resilient, engaged, and healthy community members.

4. Refer to the line-item budget provided in your 2017 application for funding; is this accurate to how your allocation was actually spent? If no, what changed and why?

Boys & Girls Club of Lawrence spent 100% of the allocation for 2017.