

# City of Lawrence Outside Agency Annual Report For Calendar Year 2021

Reports on activity should be submitted electronically to Danielle Buschkoetter, at [dbuschkoetter@lawrenceks.org](mailto:dbuschkoetter@lawrenceks.org) by 5:00pm on Tuesday, February 15, 2022. To answer the following questions please refer to your [2021 application/agreement for funding](#).

**Reporting Period:** Calendar Year 2021

**Agency Name:** \_\_\_\_\_Van Go, Inc.\_\_\_\_\_

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

Jordan was 21-years-old, couch-surfing and living out of his car when he applied for our Arts Train program. He was struggling with sporadic substance abuse, had strained family relationships and no identified supports. Jordan had held down decent jobs in the past, but due to his circumstances at the time, he knew he needed some help to get back to a place of stability.

Jordan began working as an Apprentice Artist at Van Go in the Fall of 2017. Being homeless, we learned that he occasionally slept in his car in our parking lot to ensure that he would make it to work in the morning on time. It was clear that securing housing was an immediate need that had to be addressed. Van Go worked quickly to secure stable housing for Jordan. Then, we moved on to providing employment skills training, a stable income and additional social service supports.

A longer term goal of Jordan's was to get a college degree. He had tried a semester of college when he was living at home and it did not work out. In prioritizing his needs and goals, Jordan felt like he would not be ready for reattempting college until he had a job that would allow him to financially support himself. Jordan successfully completed The Arts Train in the spring of 2018, and, utilizing Van Go's employment services, Jordan was able to secure a longer term position that met his needs at the time.

Jordan landed an entry-level position as a butcher at Dillon's grocery store. With his dedication and strong work ethic, Jordan earned a string of steady promotions. He is now the Assistant Manager of the meat department making \$20.50 an hour with benefits, including a paid week of vacation! Jordan now has his eye on a full management position.

**2. Refer to your 2021 agreement for funding; provide a brief narrative of the activities funded with City funds.**

City funds were used to provide drug and alcohol prevention services to at-risk youth through Van Go's JAMS and Arts Train programs. Using a comprehensive approach to providing these services, including arts-based job training and social work support, Van Go provided essential programming to a vulnerable population. That vulnerability was especially evident during the COVID-19 pandemic. Van Go responded to this increased need by implementing health guidelines that allowed us to provide uninterrupted virtual and in-person programming. At a time when youth were disconnected from school and community support, Van Go expanded services to ensure that no young person fell through the cracks. Our mental health programming, especially lessons specifically addressing drug and alcohol abuse, provided an important lifeline for youth living through very challenging times.

3. Refer to your 2021 agreement for funding; report what progress was made toward your proposed outcomes and comment as necessary.

<b>Outcomes</b>	<b>List 2021 outcomes from agreement</b>	<b>Comment as necessary</b>
<b>Outcome #1</b>	92% of participants will indicate on post-program surveys an improved awareness of the risks associated with drug and alcohol use during this grant period.	88% of JAMS participants indicated an improved awareness of the risks associated with substance use.
<b>Outcome #2</b>	95% of participants will report on post-program surveys an improved awareness of how to access community resources to help assist with drug and alcohol-related issues during this grant period.	78% of JAMS participants indicated an improved awareness of how to access community resources to assist with drug and alcohol related issues.
<b>Outcome #3</b>		

4. Refer to the line-item budget provided in your 2021 application for funding; is this accurate to how your allocation was actually spent? If no, what changed and why?

<b>Budget Categories</b>	<b>Requested Amount</b>	<b>Actual Amount</b>	<b>Comment as necessary</b>
<b>Personnel</b>	\$22,000	20266	
<b>Fees &amp; Services</b>			
<b>Estimates/Bids</b>			
<b>Travel</b>			
<b>Marketing</b>			
<b>Cost of Materials</b>			
<b>Operating Expenses</b>	\$9,000	8384	
<b>Other</b>			
<b>Grand Total</b>	\$31,000	28,650	Actuals were reduced to align with the grant award.