



Hope House of Milwaukee, Inc.

209 West Orchard - P.O. Box 04095
Milwaukee, WI 53204

Ending homelessness and creating healthy communities

SHINING STARS YOUTH EDUCATION PROGRAM

First Quarter: January 1 – March 31, 2012

Children from homeless and lower-income households often experience difficulties in academic competencies and lack the basic social and cultural skills necessary for future success. These children often fall further and further behind their peers academically, socially, and ultimately, economically. For nearly twenty years, the *Shining Stars Youth Education Program* has provided the youngest guests of Hope House and children from households in the surrounding neighborhoods with an environment which is safe and structured, built on trust and empathy, and staffed by caring adults who offer opportunities that strengthen academics, model positive social skills, and provide an atmosphere in which to practice new skills. Youth are offered a plethora of unique experiences to further their development as students and citizens.

PARTICIPANT DEMOGRAPHICS

The population served by the Shining Stars Youth Education Program is children, ages 6 – 17, living on-site in the Hope House shelter or within the community on Milwaukee's south side. The majority of community youth participants live in neighborhoods in close proximity to Hope House.

Since January of 2012, Shining Stars has served a total of 47 children – 18 females, 29 males – demographically comprised of 40% Hispanic, and 60% African American.

PROGRAM GOALS, INDICATORS AND RESULTS

The Shining Stars Youth Education Program is based upon the active involvement of youth in a variety of activities, workshops, and excursions that increase knowledge, improve skills, and teach new behaviors and strategies for future success at home, school, and in the community.

GOAL 1: TO IMPROVE BASIC ACADEMIC SKILLS

Indicator: *Participants will demonstrate concrete improvement on academic skills, social decision making and receive individual tutoring.*

Results: **97% of regular participants have demonstrated concrete improvement on Academic skills according to the Student Assessment (IEP).**

Results: **59 hours of social decision making.**

Results: **739 hours of individual tutoring have been provided this quarter.**

GOAL 2: TO ENRICH COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL AWARENESS AND DIVERSIFY THE EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE

Indicator: *Participants will participate in a diverse set of educationally enriching workshops and community and cultural awareness activities.*

Results: 681 hours of educational enrichment workshops have been provided this quarter.

Results: 109 hours of Teen Night.

Results: 470 hours of assistance provided to the youth by volunteers.

SUCCESS STORY:

Davon* started programming a very shy young boy, lagging behind his classmates in math and reading. He didn't have the confidence to share much about himself, and lacked the stellar grades to proudly announce to Hope House staff. After Davon started regularly attending youth program, getting help with homework and supplemental work in reading and math to bolster his skills, his grades improved, and so did his confidence. He opened up to staff and volunteers, and made more friends with youth in the neighborhood. Now, Davon is always the first to arrive at the Shining Stars Youth Program. He grabs a snack, tells staff about his day, and gets right down to his homework. Since he started attending our program, Davon has had more and more to tell staff about his school and home life. He is happy to tell youth workers and volunteers funny stories from his classroom, and how he proudly completed his class work.

*Name changed for privacy.