



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

Quarterly Report: July 1, 2012 – September 30, 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 twenty two 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.

To date in 2012, Shining Stars has served a total of 98 children – 39 females, 59 males – demographically comprised of 31% Hispanic, 63% African American, 2% Caucasian, and 4% Other.

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: **98% of regular participants have demonstrated concrete improvement on academic skills according to the Student Assessment (IEP).**

Results: **Teens participated in 207 hours of social decision making to date.**

Results: **2,130.75 hours of individual tutoring have been provided to date.**

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: 6,414 hours of educational enrichment workshops have been provided to date.

Results: 681.75 hours of Teen Night were provided to date.

Results: 1,334.5 hours of volunteer service have provided this year.

SUCCESS STORY:

Austin* is a hard-working and caring high school student who found his grades were holding him back. He spent this past summer going to school and getting all his credits to move onto the next grade. He successfully caught up on his schooling, regularly attends the Shining Stars Program, and comes in bragging about his good grades. He actively participates in activities with the younger youth during workshops and has plans to show them how to carve pumpkins this fall season. He is very involved in the Skills for Success Curriculum that the teens are working on through the YWCA that is helping them prepare for their future goals, whatever they may be. He is applying for jobs and enthusiastically works towards his goals on a daily basis. Austin has told staff that he doesn't hang out with people who are out there doing negative things. He always wants to stay out of trouble and has his eyes on his goals. Along with that, he brings a very positive vibe to the younger youth at Hope House. The Shining Stars are lucky to have him as a role model. His number one goal is to graduate from high school on time and he is well on his way.

**Name changed for privacy.*