

April 2018
Oak Park Township Annual Report
Youth Services At A Glance

Youth Services supports programs and services that work for the prevention of juvenile delinquency and which address youth who are at risk of becoming involved in inappropriate or illegal activities. Youth Services also advocates for programs and services which enhance the social and emotional development of youth and their families. Youth Services is committed to promoting opportunities for youth and their families to obtain needed services.

Youth Services activities are in 4 areas as detailed in the Budget document including: Contracts and Program Development, Restorative Justice, Youth Development and Advocacy, and the Youth Interventionist Program.

In the past Fiscal Year, Youth Services provided a variety of services both directly and indirectly including but not limited to:

- 19** Contracts with agencies/organizations
 - 2** River Forest
 - 3** Joint OP and RF
 - 14** Oak Park

+ Youth and Families served (data as of January 2018, final reports pending.)

2,058 people (746 households). Families, Adults, and Seniors received Holiday Food and Gift Basket deliveries of Gift Certificates for Food and Gifts purchased and delivered by volunteers.

44 Youths Completed Community Service through the TIME Program

708 Hours of Community Service assigned through TIME Program
RF 21 Youth assigned 372.5 hours community service
OP 23 Youth assigned 335.5 hours community service

27 Families Successfully Completed Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drug Prevention/Early intervention classes through the FACE-IT Program

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- 82** Youth and Families received Intensive Case Management through the Youth Interventionist Program
- 158** Interventionist *Home Visits* to client families
- 284+** Youth and Families received other services through the Interventionists including: groups (3 groups, 26 youths), Cargo Circles (207 5th graders), referrals, consultations etc.
- 83** Youths from OPRF, Trinity and Fenwick High schools participated in the annual Youth Conference - held since 1918 - at Concordia University in RF. Theme: Centennial Celebration “Heart of the Matter”
- 195** Cargo Peace Circles
- 79** Financial Assistance Scholarships for Youth in OP
Totaling \$13,010.20
- 26** Financial Assistance Scholarships for Youth in RF
Totaling \$2,345.96

Contracted Programs FY 2018

In fiscal year 2018, Youth Services Contracted for 19 Programs: The Holiday Food and Gift Basket Program, and Pony Baseball Sponsorships. Of these programs: 13 were specific to the OP Community, 2 were specific to the River Forest Community, 5 serve both communities (4 were joint programs, the HFGB Program, and New Moms Program funded by RFMHC, not RFTYS). RF Township provides fee for service model with New Moms Program for Teen Parents via RF MHC. YSC, OP funded New Moms via an OP only contract.

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Program	Contracted Amount	Billed Amount	Number of Youth Served(as of Jan. 2016)
RIVER FOREST			
Connections (RF) RF Public Library	\$ 7,558	\$ 2,875.61	238
I-Search (RF) RF Police	\$ 8,500	\$8,500	950
Total RF ONLY	\$16,058	\$11,375.61	1188
JOINT	(OP 80%, RF 20%)		
Snowball (JT) 3 Area High Schools	\$ 8,000	\$8,835	55 participants 20 leaders 32 Scholarships
OPRFHS- Intramurals (JT)	\$8,000	\$9,500	Total OP RF
Concordia Robotics (JT)	\$13,488 (OP 50%, RF 50%)	\$11,612.71	Total OP RF Other
Holiday Food and Gift Basket Program	\$10,000	\$10,000	2,000 Plus
Total JOINT RF 20%	\$39,488	\$ 39,947.71	

- *Final numbers on youth served via contracted programs due June, 2018
- The Holiday Food and Gift Basket Program is an OP only line item, RF Contributes space, utilities, computer, phone etc. valued at approx. \$1,500

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OAK PARK			
JiM Concordia	\$10,000	\$0	pending
Apprentice Scholars Concordia	\$ 9,229	\$ 9,229	pending
Friday Night Place Fellowship CS	\$52,114	\$56,905	Avg 32 attending each session. (Unduplicated at least 42)
OP Park District Scholarships	\$8,000	\$8,000	16 (nov-dec) total count pending
PONY Baseball	\$1,000	\$1,000	30 est.
New Moms?Parenthesis Parenteen	\$12,000	\$12,000	2 OP
Together We Can District 97:			
Holmes Power of Partnership & STARS	\$14,000	\$10,828.15	16 POP & 0 STARS
Longfellow Rainbows	\$2,208.75	\$2,208.75	16
Longfellow HH	\$5,875	\$5,000	36
Beye BOOST	\$5,250	\$1,905.33	pending
Irving SLAM	\$8,500	\$8,046.88	28
Lincoln Media	\$6,937.50	\$3,750	17
SMART Program CUC	\$15,500	\$18,703.07	71
Total Oak Park	154,614.25	\$137,576.19	

Holiday Food and Gift Basket Program (HFGB)

This sponsored program is an excellent example of a productive public/private/community partnership where the whole is greater than the sum of its parts. YS sponsorship and Township Support serve as a force multiplier generating tens of thousands of dollars in financial donations and far more in donated gifts.

Youth Services provided \$10,000 funds and RF Township provided \$1,500, office space and support for the program staffing.

The Holiday Food and Gift Basket (HFGB) recorded another successful year, serving **2,058** people living in **746 households** in our communities. Each household referred to the HFGB received a Jewel gift card prior to Thanksgiving and holiday presents delivered to their door in early December.

All referrals came through the Oak Park and River Forest Townships, the local public schools, local churches and social service organizations, including Parenthesis(now New Moms) Family Center, Hephzibah Children's Association, and Thrive Counseling Center, among others.

Donor/Sponsor Support for HFGB Program

The program was funded, in part, by grants from Oak Park River Forest Township Youth Services, River Forest Township, The annual spring fund appeal and additional donations from congregations, businesses, and individuals, received through year-end. Awaiting final figure on total amount of financial donations.

In addition to the financial donations, nearly **300** individuals signed up to fulfill the wish lists of program participants. The actual number of sponsors is greater when you include the hundreds of individuals who sponsored through their congregations, their businesses, their children's school, or other organizations.

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Youth Development and Advocacy

Financial Assistance Scholarships (FAS):

In fiscal year 2018, **79 children received FAS funding in Oak Park.**
OP Children were funded to participate in 14 programs (see below).

Organization	Program	Dollar Amount	Number of Youth
OPRFHS	Summer School	\$2,013.00	15
	Sports Camp	\$3,375.00	27
Brooks Middle School	Bravo Performing Arts Academy	\$2,250.00	9
	Spring Music Tour	\$2,500.00	10
Worldstrides	Washington D.C. Trip (Brooks)	\$500.00	2
Longfellow	Snake Road Outdoor Ed Field Trip	\$809.50	7
Tri Star Gymnastics	Girls All Stars	\$480.00	2
	Beginning Tumbling	\$117.00	1
Rehm Park	Swimming Class	\$17.50	1
Hephzibah	Summer Camp	\$250.00	1
Blue Lakes Fine Arts Camp	Blue Lakes Fine Arts Camp	\$250.00	1
YMCA	Schools Out Winter Break	\$105.00	1
	YMCA After School	\$93.20	1
Victory Martial Arts Academy	Mixed Martial Arts	\$250.00	1
Total		\$13,010.20	79

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In fiscal year 2018, **26 RF children received FAS funding**. Children were funded to participate in 17 programs (see below).

Organization	Program	Dollar Amount	Number of Youth
River Forest Park District	Basketball Camp	\$113.35	2
	Make Your own T-Shirt	\$6.70	1
	Tennis Camp	\$125.04	3
	Chess Wizard	\$49.35	1
	Track & Field Camp	\$40.00	1
	Kids Camp	\$144.34	2
	Ultimate Sports Camp	\$275.51	2
	Boys Lacrosse Camp	\$116.00	1
	Golf Camp	\$43.00	1
	Soccer Camp	\$90.00	2
	Lunch Club	\$30.00	2
	Dodgeball Camp	\$32.34	1
	Jedi Mastering Engineering Camp	\$55.33	1
	Youth Baseball	\$500.00	2
River Forest Community Center	Adventure Camp	\$250.00	1
OPRFHS	Sports Camp	\$225.00	1
	Summer School	\$250.00	2
Total		\$2,345.96	26

Youth Conference March 6th, 2018

Centennial Celebration “Heart of the Matter”

83 youth participated in this annual conference that has taken place since 1918. Youth Services provides a stipend for the Keynote Speakers who this year was Jim Bloch, a featured speaker at many coaches’ seminars, leadership workshops, business functions and he is often invited to speak to groups of parents and athletes at high schools, park districts and parent symposiums

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talking about the role of sport and the influence of coaches and parents as we all try to “Make a Positive Difference.” Jim currently works for the CEO of Illinois Special Olympics on a consulting basis and as an adjunct teacher at Aurora University.

YS provides for printing of folders with original artwork by students from the planning committee which includes students from OPRF, Fenwick and Trinity High Schools and their Faculty Sponsors. Students participated in 3 of 6 possible seminars throughout the day. Immediate feedback regarding the Keynote was overwhelming positive. The 6 sessions offered included:

Leadership

Identity

Opinion

Connections

Convenience

Balance

Youth Services provided direct services through the following programs:

- Restorative Justice Programs:
 - FACE-IT
 - T.I.M.E.
 - Cargo Peace Circles
- Youth Interventionist Program

Restorative Justice:

The **FACE-IT Program**, administered by Jenifer Roth served **27 families** from April 1, 2017 through early March 2018. 13 River Forest families, 13 Oak Park families , and 1 non-resident family who paid fee for service.

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Running Totals:

FACE - IT STATISTICS April 2017 - March 2018

Running Totals:

	B	W	A	H	2+		Male	Female		OPRF	Trin	Fen	O	TTL
Oak Park =	1	8	1	3	1		8	6		14				
River Forest =		13					5	8		9		4		
Other/Paid =														
Total = 27	1	21	1	3	1		13	14		23		4		

Referring Bodies

Running Tally:

	OP Adjudication	RF Adjudication	OPRFHS	Trinity	Brooks	Julia	Voluntary / Other
Oak Park	5	8					1
River Forest	1	12					
Other/Paid							
Total = 27	6	20					1

TIME Program

The TIME Program, Managed by Susan Stearns is a Youth First Offenders Program that gives local adjudication judges the option of allowing local youths to perform community service to work off their infractions. The recidivism rate remains low; that is, VERY few repeat offenders! When they complete their community service, their record remains clean. If not, they are referred back to the judge. Susan, along with Jenifer Roth, has developed a positive relationship with the OP and RF adjudication system and attending monthly.

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A total of 34 youths (29 through OP and 5 through RF) were referred to the TIME program through local adjudication and 30 have completed their community service hours.

OP

Total:	23
Total completions:	11
In Process:	12
Failed to complete:	0

5 youth referred to TIME program from RF in the period of April 1, 2016 to March 31, 2017

RF

Total :	21
Total Completions:	8
In Process:	13
Failed to Complete:	0

Program manager met with Adjudication personnel 1x each month to provide help with determination for hours to be assigned, attended court session each month, work collaboratively with FACE-IT program manager to place youth in most appropriate program
Youth served a wide variety of local agencies, organizations, and local events.

Cargo Peace Circles Through partnership with Rotary Club of Oak Park-River Forest, District 97, River Forest Public Library, Riveredge Hospital, the Director along with Township staff and community volunteers continue to lead and co-lead Cargo Circles in the community including:
Expanded this year to serve all 5th grade classrooms in D97:
10 sessions per classroom, 15 teachers for all 5th grade classes at Irving, Whittier, Longfellow, Holmes
Total of 150 sessions serving over 350 youths
Starting up all the remaining 14 teachers and their 5th grade classes at: Beye, Hatch, Lincoln, and Mann which will include another 10 sessions per classroom 140 sessions

Weekly for 45 minute sessions with all the 5th grade classes, ongoing with one third grade classroom at Beye, 30 Teachers at Brooks Middle school, SSEP/SMART Program during the summer 72 middle and elementary school youths, RF Girl Scouts troop, and others as requested to address specific needs including race relations, bullying, and other conflicts.

Due to successes and extremely positive feedback from Teachers, Special Education teachers, students, staff, administration, have proposed expanding Cargo Circles to all elementary schools and awaiting MOU with District 97 completion for fall of 2017. Offered to D90 and in discussion. Cargo Circles ongoing.

Over 110 sessions in FY 2017

The Youth Interventionist Program

Interventionists Amanda Mueller and Dominique Hickman since January 2017 and Brison Blackwell since August 2017

We upgraded and updated our Data Base enabling our Interventionists to begin tracking data on ACE Scores and other indicators of risk for youth and families.

The Interventionists Provide Intensive Case Management helping youth and families involved in Gangs, Drugs, and/or Violence.

11 local tax bodies provide funding via an Intergovernmental Agreement. *Calendar year 2017* had **a caseload of 82** clients. Clients were referred for multiple reasons including:

Violence (34)

Drugs (31)

Gang involvement (5)

Mental Health (25)

Trauma (6)

Trauma exposure and substance abuse issues have been increasing in the caseload the past several years with more families experiencing financial issues and chronic homelessness.

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Of those clients: 37 were Oak Park families 15 were River Forest families 4 other. 3 of these families were classified as Homeless. 53 were male and 29 female. 10 were enrolled in Grade School, 28 Middle School, and 44 High School.

Youths attended the following schools: OPRFHS Distric 200; District 97 Julian, Brooks, Holmes, Hatch; District 90 Roosevelt, Willard, and 14 attended Alternative Schools in and out of the communities.

Interventionists provided group work in several formats this past cycle including Cargo Circles during summer school for 72 youths, Cargo Circles for 7classes of 5th grade students for 10 sessions each, Cargo Circles for RF Based Girl Scouts group, ongoing Middle school Group “Girls on the Rise” at Brooks serving 22 youths the first semester and a new group of 12 for the second, a boys group at Julian serving 5 students, and ongoing group at RF Library serving 42 different youths in this Fiscal Year at request of schools to engage with youths.

Youth Director provided detailed annual report and presentation to the Council of Governments. The IGA is being discussed for renewal.

Presentations are offered to all tax bodies and collaborating agencies.

Interventionists provide presence in all three school districts, meet weekly with clients at school and alternative school sites, frequent home visits, and boots on the ground in and around libraries, parks and public spaces weekly and all throughout the summer months.

Team provided support and presence at the Rotary Rally in August 2017 at the Keystone Park.

Trainings: Staff receiving additional training on Substance Abuse, Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Trauma, Mental Health First Aid, Working with Girls, DSM 5 updates, etc.

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Partnerships

The YS Director continues to represent YS and provide leadership, consultation, support in several arenas including: Chairing the monthly Youth Network Council, Concordia Counseling Program Committee, Past President, of Rotary Club of OP and RF, Community Justice Center Steering Committee, AMENS Group, Interact Club, Salvation Army Ann's House Advisory Board (which sadly disbanded this year as that agency closed), trainings and presentations to incoming students and parents at Fenwick, Seniors and Juniors at Trinity, Presentations at Middle Schools, Elementary Schools public and private on variety of topics.

YS maintains good relationships and collaborations with local governments, Police, Schools Public and Private, Social Service Agencies/Non for Profits, Parent Groups, Student/Youth Groups and public at large. We maintain good relationships with our surrounding villages, towns, cities and State contacts.

We look forward to continued growth in restorative justice, mentoring, collaborations, and good work with our partners, volunteers, youth and families.