



COLLABORATION WORKS

Douglas County Juvenile Justice Collective Impact Newsletter

Spring, 2018

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THE OYS PREVENTION WORK GROUP HELPS HARTMAN AVENUE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION OBTAIN GRANT

The Operation Youth Success Prevention Work Group assisted the Hartman Neighborhood Association, “the Association,” with submission of their application for Mayor Jean Stothert’s Neighborhood Grant Program.

In 2017, the OYS Prevention Work Group assisted the Hartman Avenue Neighborhood Association in submitting their application for a grant for neighborhood improvement.

The Association was seeking funding to improve Norwick Park in their community by installing 2 picnic tables and 2 cooking grills. As a board, they wanted to work better with the assets they have in their neighborhood and believed Norwick Park could be a more utilized public space for residents.

“The Hartman Avenue Neighborhood Association seeks to improve its neighborhood park to encourage family and community engagement. The Hartman Avenue Neighborhood Association, in partnership with the Operation Youth Success Prevention Work Group, are submitting this grant application.”



The Prevention Work Group worked with the Omaha Parks, Recreation & Public Property Department, the City of Omaha Planning Office and the Association in approving and supporting the project.

“We want to see more people involved in the care of our neighborhood and knowing who their neighbors are.”

Brandy Gustoff, a Prevention work group member, had met with the Association and asked about what they might need or want for their neighborhood. They identified that they would like a new grill and picnic table for their neighborhood park (Norwick Park). Ronda Newman, Co-Chair, then reached out to the president of the Association, Victoria Hoyt, and inquired if she would want to work with the Prevention Work Group to apply for an Omaha Neighborhood Grant, to which she agreed. The application was written, working with Victoria to create the content. They then worked with the City of Omaha Parks and Recreation, as well as a local contractor, to ensure the particulars in the application were accurate.

Success!! The application was approved and the Grant was put to work purchasing and installing the needed equipment.

PROVIDER RESOURCE FAIR

The Operation Youth Success School-Based Arrest Task Force partnered with Norris Middle School and South High School to have a Provider Resource Fair during the 2nd Semester Parent-Teacher Conferences.

Fifteen providers joined OYS in presenting information to youth and their families at the event. Most were able to have informational tables at both schools, some were able to attend one or the other, but all were able to engage the families and answer questions about their services.

Boys and Girls Club
Early Childhood Services
Heartland Family Service
Latino Center for the Midlands
Lutheran Family Services
Metro Area Youth Services (MAYS)
Nebraska Children's Home Society
Nebraska Family Helpline
Native Indigenous Center Education (NICE)
Police Athletics for Community Engagement (PACE)
Refugee Juvenile Justice Advocates (HFS)
South Omaha YMCA
Urban League
YouTurn

The overall feedback was favorable from both schools and those who volunteered. The OYS School-Based

Arrest Task Force members felt this would be an event to hold again, possibly during next school year's Fall Parent-Teacher Conferences, using the feedback we received to improve the process and grow the resources made available to the youth and their families.

OPERATION YOUTH SUCCESS: BUILDING COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS



Operation Youth Success staff attended the 11th Annual Violence Prevention & Justice Summit at North High School, which focused on Working Together to Prevent Youth Violence. OYS shared information and spoke to community members and other providers via a resource table at the Summit. OYS' Program Coordinator submitted two questions about juvenile justice needs/solutions and community voice, which were included in the discussion handout at the Summit.

OYS staff attended the 2018 Midwest Bi-sexual Lesbian Gay Transgender Ally College Conference (MBLGTACC) *All Roads Lead to Intersectionality* held at the University of Nebraska at Omaha Barbara Weitz Community Engagement Center, February 16th through 18th.

OYS staff attended the OMAHA Table Talk: Reclaiming Our Democracy: Centering the Margins of Political Engagement held on March 5th.

OYS' Program Coordinator met with Pastor King from the Hope Center to discuss possible collaborations and attended the Village Basketball Alliance (VBA) meeting/open gym at the Hope Center. This provided an opportunity for the Coordinator to talk with young men about juvenile justice issues, community concerns, what resources they feel are needed, as well as other issues.

Welcome Catherine Rivier, Data Analyst, to OYS!

Please join us in welcoming the newest backbone staff member, Catherine Rivier. Catherine joined OYS in the Data Analyst position in January and we are happy to have her as part of the team.

Upcoming Events

The OYS Backbone staff will be attending several conferences in the next months:

April 3-5, we will be attending the 2018 Collective Impact Convening in Austin, Texas, held by the Collective Impact Forum, an initiative of FSG and the Aspen Institute Forum for Community Solutions. Our own Program Manager, Amber Parker, will be a featured speaker, at Backbone Bootcamp during “Moving From Vision to Implementation.”



The Nebraska Juvenile Justice Association (NJJA) is holding their 2018 Conference in Kearney, Nebraska, May 2-4. They have an amazing line-up of speakers and several of our work group members will be presenting in breakout sessions: Joy Suder will present on “Dealing with a Difference,” Darci Poland & Deputy Chief Greg Gonzalez will present on “Effective School Justice Partnerships: Keeping Kids in School and Out of Court,” Darci Poland will present “Let’s Play! Juvenile Justice Jeopardy™,” Christine Henningsen is presenting “Advocacy in School Discipline,” Christine Henningsen is also presenting with Anne Hobbs & Lindsey Wylie on “Sealing of Juvenile Records: Intent vs. Practice,” and Melissa Beagley is presenting with Whitney Baker on “Youth Initiated Mentoring.”



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