

TWIN CITIES HOUSING DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (TCHDC)
PROGRAMS
2008 YEAR END SERVICE ACTIVITY AND STATISITCAL REPORT

Children/Youth Programming

Total children and youth served 2008:

Total Unduplicated - 159; Duplicated Participant Visits: -- 6,930

Total Unduplicated Children (ages 5-11) -- 101; Duplicated Participant Visits – 5,011

Total Unduplicated Youth/Teens (ages 12 - up) 58; Duplicated Participant Visits – 1,919

PLUS Time (Playful Learning with University Students): An after-school academic enrichment program for grades K-5 focusing on science, math and reading. Students majoring in education at Concordia University provide one-to-one and group academic tutoring and supervised learning experiences. The program meets 3:30-6:00PM, Monday-Friday during the school year and 8-10 weeks during summer.

Total Unduplicated Children -- 74; Duplicated Participant Visits – 3,252.

Youth-VOICE (Vision, Opportunity, Interaction, Community, Empowerment): An after-school program for middle school students in grades 6-8 combining academic enrichment, relationship building and community service. Hamline University students work with the youth to help them improve their academic proficiencies, self-esteem and their community through projects and leadership program opportunities. The program meets Monday, Wednesday and Friday 3:30-6:00PM, during the school year and 8-10 weeks during summer.

Total Unduplicated Children/Youth – 38; Duplicated Participant Visits –1,289

Fun Science: A science exploration and enrichment program offered on-site with the assistance of professional science providers such as Mad Science of Minnesota and Science Outside the Box; the program being provided weekly, Thursday 5:00-6:00PM during 8 months of the school year.

Total Unduplicated Children – 80; Duplicated Participant Visits – 852

Leadership/Personal Development: An academic assistance and leadership program for middle school students. The program consists of homework help and other academic enrichment activities and is designed to expose youth to the worlds of higher education and careers by building awareness and personal leadership skills. The University of Minnesota Extension Services Urban 4-H program works with Liberty Plaza students. The program is held during the school year. In addition, healthy cooking classes through the Simply Good Eating Program and 4-H are provided during the summer programming.

Total Unduplicated Children/Youth 4H – 49; Duplicated Participant Visits – 205

Total Unduplicated Children/Youth Good Eating – 45; Duplicated Participant Visits -- 119

Girl Scouts: On-site Girl Scout Troop for girls 5-17. The program focuses on increasing understanding, skills, respect, and contributions to society, as well as, developing individual potential through engaging in a variety of programming, including camping. Monday afternoons during the school year.

Total Unduplicated Children – 20; Duplicated Participant Visits -- 190

Summer Program: A summer activity program for out-of-school children and youth. During a portion of the program, LP contracts with Barebones Productions which provides the students with art programming. Activities include stilt walking, puppet making, drawing, painting, movement and other visual and creative arts. The remaining weeks of the summer activity program include field trips to places such as the Como Zoo, Three Rivers Park District Ropes Course, Children's Museum, Mall of America, Hill House and other locations. In addition, swimming at the YWCA, reading, on-site movie days, camping, and other activities take place. Activities are planned and provided remembering the need to help children and youth continue an academic focus, so that the activities are geared to not only be fun ones, but also educational in nature. Activities take place afternoons Monday-Friday.

Total Unduplicated Children – 103; Duplicated Participant Visits – 1,377

Camp Fire USA MN: Programming for both youth (5-11) and teens (12+) following the Campfire paths of achievement to include such things as academic achievement, personal asset building and self esteem, teaming

building, behavior management, story creation and other topics for achievement and growth. Activities take place Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and some Fridays 3:30-6:00PM during the school year and daily during the summers.

Unduplicated Youth Club Participants – 27; Duplicated Participant Visits – 819

Unduplicated Teen Club Participants – 20; Duplicated Participant Visits – 559

Community Service Group: An enhanced program for middle school students began in October 2008. The youth participate in programs and projects that help benefit the Resource Center and surrounding community.

Programming may include tutoring younger children; building, clerical, and clean-up projects; youth discussions on community issues and needs; and other programming to benefit the youth and community.

Unduplicated Youth (Oct.-Dec.) – 10; Duplicated Participant Visits (Oct.-Dec.) -- 71

St Thomas / St Catherine's Bachelor of Social Work Internship Services: Junior Social Work Interns from St Catherine's and St. Thomas come to Liberty Plaza to obtain a variety of social work experiences. Students work with residents on individual needs for a total of 200 hours over the course of a semester. This fieldwork helps the students gain exposure to different people and situations. Time availability as determined. (Began October 2007)

Unduplicated Interns – 3; Hours Provided -- 291

Adult and Family Programming

Health Center: Well baby checkups, family planning and maternity care, dental checkups and other related support services and referrals. This comprehensive package of services is provided at the satellite clinic in the LP resource center by certified health practitioners from the Open Cities Health Center. The clinic is open Wednesdays 3PM-6PM.

Total Unduplicated Families – 107 - For shot clinics, pre-school physicals and special events

Total Unduplicated Routine Clients – 14 – For blood pressure checks, pregnancy checks, health monitoring

Adult English Language Learning: Adult literacy assistance and English as a Second Language classes. In 2008 volunteers worked with residents on a one-to-one basis to help them increase their basic skills knowledge to assist them with obtaining English proficiencies and world of work capacities.

Total Unduplicated Adults – 9; Duplicated Participant Visits -- 100

Job Seeking and Keeping Assistance: Employment services for adults. Employment assistance includes job leads, placement assistance, career counseling, resume preparation, instruction on utilizing the internet for job search and introduction to computer use. Also available is referral to education and training that is tuition subsidized and free to the participants. A job counselor is available each weekday to assist residents looking for work and those desiring to improve their job skills. Goodwill/Easter Seals supports this program on site, staffed by a full-time employee. The Job Assistance Office is open Monday-Friday during normal business hours.

Unduplicated Clients – 207; Duplicated Participant Visits – 622

Services Provided: Assessments – 172; Career Counseling – 195; Resumes Written – 205;

Job Leads Provided – 367; Support Services – 110; Placed in Training – 50; Placed in

Employment – 21; 2 Information Sessions for GES skills training – 43; 1 High Tech Information

Session – 9; 2 Teen Resume and Application training – 12

Asset Building and Financial Literacy: A program that helps qualified low-income individuals build assets and financial understanding. A program of the United Way, coordinated through Women Venture (Family Assets for Independence in Minnesota – FAIM) encourages low-income individuals earning incomes from jobs to save, by offering them a generous match of \$3 for every \$1 saved each month. Those that complete the two-year program may receive up to \$2,880 in United Way match. Accumulated savings and match may be used for home ownership, education, or starting small businesses. (Records kept by service providers, currently not available)

Produce Distribution: Free produce for development residents. A distribution of free fresh produce is provided with the intent to supplement the families' food supply. Second Harvest Heartland provides the goods and LP staff and volunteers distribute the fruits and vegetables to residents. The distribution is monthly on the second Tuesday 2:00-3:00PM with an average of 3,000-5,000 pounds of food distributed monthly.

Total Unduplicated Families: 97; Duplicated Visits: 669; Pounds Distributed: 53,941

Adult Computer Lab: Adults (16+) are provided access to a computer lab 5 days a week, where they may create resumes, do job search, and do research for coursework and use the internet for other connectivity needs, year round.

Total Unduplicated Users – 68; Duplicated Visits – 914

Bookmobile: Library access. The St. Paul Public Library comes to the housing development to provide homebound residents with access to library materials. Once monthly for 3-hour period; day determined by the Public Library.

Community Room: Space available for meetings, workshops and other gatherings. Liberty Plaza has a community room available for rent to businesses, agencies, communities groups, residents and others who need a convenient space and location to hold meetings and other events. A kitchen is available, as are tables, chairs and audio-visual aids. The Community Room can be rented out for use 7 days a week.

Income Tax Preparation: Assistance with tax questions and filings. The Minnesota State Department of Revenue provides support to TCHDC for free on-site tax preparation assistance to residents and also rent credit and other special tax-related and refund programming. Annually prior to tax deadlines (Feb.-April).

Total Unduplicated Families Served – 106

Community Garden: Many residents of the Liberty Plaza development have come from countries with an agricultural living base. To accommodate this immigrant background, TCHDC set aside land for a community garden and provides garden site water for the residents. There are 50 plots available for families.

Total Unduplicated Families Utilizing Garden Plots -- 40

Program Coordinator Direct Service: The Liberty Plaza Program Coordinator, in addition to managing the day-to-day operations of the Resource Center, provides direct services to residents of the development.

Services Provided:

Meetings with parents regarding children, behaviors, activities at the Resource Center – 119

Counseling children on performance and behaviors – 154

Assist resident to read letters, understand documents, fill out applications – 84

Make phone calls on behalf of residents – 75

Make referrals to social service agencies – 95

Volunteer Assistance: Volunteers have become an important part of service provision. Volunteers come from area colleges, churches and community groups.

Total Unduplicated – 403; Total Hours Provided: 3,741

New Collaborative Participation 2008 -- In 2008, TCHDC became a member of two new collaboratives:

LEAP Forward Collaborative -- The LEAP Forward Collaborative is a group of agencies in the Frogtown and Summit/University area of St. Paul, including TCHDC, which all provide one or more services to children and youth. The collaborative members share strategies for service, services themselves, attend communal trainings on serving youth. The group has also established and is sponsoring/nurturing a Youth Leadership Council made up of member youth from participant agencies that are learning development techniques to become leaders in their communities. The group also plans and presents a Black History Month program and celebration for the community, as well as workshops for members.

Technology Literacy Collaborative -- The TLC is a group of community computer training centers in Minneapolis and St. Paul that are each working in many distressed communities to provide computer access, internet access and other technology to low income and underserved populations to help these populations bridge the digital divide. TCHDC has helped take a leadership role in proposal development and organizational development of the collaborative.