

LIBERTY PLAZA PARTNERSHIP REPORT – OCTOBER 2008
DATA & ACTIVITIES
(Presented November 2008)

PLUS Time –

October participants were 28 unduplicated, with 323 participant visits. There were 4 new children participants in October. Year-to-date there have been 70 unduplicated children, with 2706 participant visits. PLUS Time is held five days a week.

4-H –

Year-to-date there have been 49 participants, with 205 unduplicated visits. In July, Simply Good Eating/4H from the University worked with the children on easy recipes and good eating habits. No 4H programming has yet been held this fall as we are waiting to get information from 4H to determine cost of a U of M intern to conduct programming

ESL/ELL –

ELL had few people interested in participating during the summer. There have only been six unduplicated participants. The fall/winter start date for ESL is being discussed, but has yet to be determined as of this report. We are trying to generate interest in participation by residents by phone calls and one-to-one discussions. Thus far, we have been unable to get commitments from residents for participation. With residents being on MFIP, they must take more coursework in ESL and therefore are going directly to the HUBBS Center several days a week for classes. We will offer informal conversation in ESL for residents with volunteers, as residents express interest.

Fun Science –

Fun Science has begun for the 2008-2009 school year, but did not initiate programming until October. Formal Fun Science classes during the school year are held once weekly on Thursdays. This year, PLUS Time initiated science programming during the summer and is continuing to provide its own science programming and science experiments as part of the regular curriculum during the school year, on alternate weeks from the Mad Science Minnesota staff providers. Year to date there have been 49 unduplicated participants with 350 duplicated participant visits. There were 4 new participants in Fun Science in October.

Youth VOICE –

In October there were 19 unduplicated students with 137 participant visits. Year-to-date there have been 38 unduplicated students with 1,131 participant visits. Youth VOICE during the school year is held three times a week.

Open Cities Health Care –

Year to date, there have been 42 families seen as part of the regular clinic hours. However, for the special clinics such as the flu shot clinic, that number increases to over 50 families at each clinic. Stats for October have not yet been reported. However, Open Cities held a flu shot clinic in early November which had over 50 families.

Employment Services –

Total participation visits were 63 in October. There were 21 unduplicated participants in October. Of the October activities, there were 32 assessments, 3 career counseling sessions; 17 resumes prepared, 34 job leads provided; 2 referred to training and 1 placed in employment. Year to date there have been 482 duplicated participant visits and 145 unduplicated participants.

Produce Distribution –

A total of 53 unduplicated families received free goods from the monthly produce distribution in October, with 93 unduplicated families receiving goods year-to-date. Total pounds provided in October were 4,450, with 45,341 pounds provided year-to-date. Cabbages the size of bowling balls and cases and cases of lettuce packages, in addition to other miscellaneous produce were provided in October.

Adult Computer Lab –

Computer lab participation visits for October were 76; with 25 unduplicated persons utilizing the lab. Year-to-date there has been 60 unduplicated participants with 761 participant visits.

Girl Scouts –

There were a total of 17 unduplicated girls who participated in October, with 19 participant visits. Year-to-date there has been 20 unduplicated participants, with 170 participant visits. Girl Scouts resumed in mid-September, after a break in August.

Tax Prep –

Tax preparation assistance began the first week in February and ran through April 15. There were 106 persons were assisted with tax preparation. Of those, 64 were repeat ‘customers’ from last year and 42 were new. We have had 3 calls since the end of the tax season regarding help with filling out rent credits. Because our arrangement with our tax consultant was that he would assist individual needs throughout the next several months, these persons have been connected with him. We received \$1,800 from the State of Minnesota Department of Revenue for funding support for the 2009 tax season.

Volunteer Hours –

October volunteers came from Concordia, Hamline, St. Catherine’s, North Como church and from PSS for produce distribution. These volunteers gave 337 hours of volunteer service in October; with 3019 volunteer hours year-to-date and 315 unduplicated volunteers.

Program Coordinator –

As part of duties in October, the program coordinator spent 6.5 hours meeting with parents to discuss disciplinary issues, 6.5 hours counseling children both with and without families regarding skills, abilities, dos and don’ts, 7 hours helping adult residents read letters, understand bills and fill out applications, 5.5 hours making phone calls on behalf of residents and 8 hours doing referrals for off-site services. In addition (in November) the program coordinator worked with an external agency and assisted 10 Liberty Plaza families in receiving Thanksgiving Baskets

NOTE: In October, a Community Service Pilot Program was initiated at Liberty Plaza where youth participated in projects that need to be done in and around LP and the community. Participants have helped put together file cabinets, tutor younger children, learn to and clean the LP fish tanks and have performed other tasks. There have been 8 unduplicated participants with 21 duplicated participant visits.

We have been able to connect with registering TCHDC program participants with Toys for Tots for this year.