

SHAKER HEIGHTS YOUTH CENTER



ANNUAL REPORT

July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017

Fostering the emotional, behavioral and developmental well-being of a diverse, wide spectrum of youth in the Shaker community.

President's Letter

Dear Friends and Supporters of the Shaker Heights Youth Center:

Change. Such a simple word yet it means so much. For an institution like the Shaker Heights Youth Center, which has been around as long as we have, it is a must. The needs of Shaker's youth seem to change at least every decade, if not more frequently, so we continually are ready to listen and take steps to help our community's teenagers prosper and grow to be productive members of society. What will not change however is our commitment to our funders to offer award winning programming spearheaded by exceptional staff. We value every dollar we both receive and raise, and I will assure you that our board and staff spend a tremendous amount of time and energy to ensure the needs of our youth are being properly met.

You have read it before but it bears mentioning again; our staff go above and beyond the simple scope of their jobs to mentor, educate, and just plain help kids who are struggling with everything from addiction to making the right decisions within social gatherings. The amount of time our youth spend on social media these days is astounding and must continually be measured to make sure it is productive.

You have all heard the phrase "It takes a community to raise a child". I am reminded of this daily as I continue to be involved with both high school and middle school youth in both a coaching and leadership capacity. We could not fulfill our role without the following institutions supporting our efforts: Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services Board of Cuyahoga County, The Cleveland Foundation, City of Shaker Heights, Shaker Heights City Schools, Ohio Department of Education, Starting Point, and individual and corporate contributions and fund raising events.

As we move forward in this twenty-first century, I would like to leave everyone with a challenge to take a deep breath in our ever increasingly busy lives and try to help a child on at least a monthly basis; twelve simple acts of human kindness for which you receive absolutely nothing in return. I believe you will be rewarded ten fold for your efforts and be surprised how long memories last. Thank you for helping our organization and have an incredible year!

Sincerely,

Donald Gries

From The Executive Director

Dear Supporter:

Change has begun to take shape at the Shaker Heights Youth Center. The Shaker Heights City Schools have instituted new programs that have successfully cut down on suspensions and expulsions. With the need for our alternatives to suspension and expulsion services declining, we have begun to explore how we can best serve the youth in the Shaker community. This last year we began working with the Innovative Center for Personalized Learning & Family Engagement (IC) located in the Stephanie Tubbs Jones Community Building where we served 27 youth. We look forward to continuing and expanding this collaboration this year.

Last year the Youth Center partnered with Kent State University's Cleveland Urban Design Collaborative in a program named Making Our Own Space (MOOS). Originally a City of Shaker Heights grant funded program, the Youth Center stepped in to secure funding through a Starting Point Out-of-School Time grant. Kent State provides the program and we supply the administrative support. Eighteen Shaker youth have received hands on experience learning urban design.

As some programs continue to move forward, the Shaker Heights MyCom collaboration (as described in our Annual Report), under the leadership of Sharon Bell, is an exemplary example of this. The MyCom Shaker Youth Council is extremely active in community service and leadership projects. They have contributed the youth voice in the founding of the City's new program The Getaway, a free afterschool teen center run by the Shaker Heights Recreation Department.

Our MyCom staff, in partnership with Youth Opportunities Unlimited, made the Summer Jobs program a huge success again in Shaker. Seventy-five Shaker students were placed at 19 Shaker Heights worksites with the Shaker Schools alone providing eight of those sites. For many youth it was their first paid employment and 97% successfully completed their summer job. Advanced job preparation training and close supervision by Youth Center staff and the placement site supervisors contributed to a successful employment experience for the youth.

One of the Youth Center's original programs, the Student Assistance services at the Shaker Heights High School and Middle School, continues to successfully serve students as it has for 40 years. The program provides a wide variety of opportunities for youth to receive academic, emotional and behavioral support. Last year 107 Shaker Students were served by our experienced and caring staff.

Thank you again for your continued support.

Sincerely,

John Lisy

Major Programs

- Intensive Prevention Program
- Academic Success Aid Program – School Year
- MyCom South Shaker
- School-Based Student Assistance Program
- Youth Leadership

Intensive Prevention Program (IPP)

The IPP Program serves suspended students, grades K-12 from Shaker Heights Schools. The tutoring component of the program focuses on helping students stay current with assigned classroom work. The close working relationship between the Shaker Heights Youth Center and the Shaker Heights Schools provides a continuous learning atmosphere for the students. The Life Skills Training Program encompasses building effective decision making skills and social competencies as well as providing prevention education on the dangers of alcohol, tobacco and other drug use.

In SFY 2017, the Youth Center served 122 students in this program alone. Of these students, 69 were elementary and 53 were high school/middle school. Eighty-seven percent of the HS/MS students successfully completed the program by fulfilling their homework assignments, demonstrating significant improvement in behavior and, for the high school/middle school students, pledging to abstain from alcohol, tobacco and other drugs. Ninety-seven percent of students in grades K-6 successfully completed their goals.

Academic Success Aid Program – (ASAP)

The school year component of the ASAP program provides daily academic support to expelled students and teaches students positive social skills through participation in prevention groups.

In SFY 2017, we served 15 high school/middle school students. High school students earned coursework credit online while middle school students were kept current with their academic subjects. Eighty percent of ASAP students successfully completed the program.

School-Based Student Assistance Program (SAP)

Last year the SAP staff provided in-school services to 107 middle and high school students experiencing academic and/or social problems. Referrals of individual students are made by teachers, counselors and principals, with the goal of increasing school bonding and providing support to students. Services included: problem identification and referral, positive social groups, crisis intervention, resiliency training and support, resource provision and community-based collaboration.

MyCom South Shaker

As one of Cuyahoga County's neighborhoods receiving funding for out-of-school time programs, the Youth Center remains as the lead agency for the Shaker community. Funded by The Cleveland Foundation and the Cuyahoga County Council, this collaboration has resulted in very positive opportunities for our youth. Over the past nine years, we have worked with Youth Opportunities Unlimited (YOU) to expand the summer jobs program. This year a total of 75 area youth were employed in the local workforce. The Shaker Heights Schools, the City of Shaker Heights and many other

Shaker institutions benefited from the employment of these young people who gained real world job skills.

Over the last eight years, MyCom funding has enabled the Impact Youth Enrichment Program at First Unitarian Church to expand its hours to Shaker Middle School students. MyCom also supports the programs at the Shaker Heights Public Library.

MyCom Youth Council

The Youth Center supports three Youth Leadership groups. The MyCom Youth Council, comprised of 15 Shaker High School students meet bi-monthly to participate in an array of leadership-building activities. This past year's activities included community service projects at Nature Center at Shaker Lakes, Sussex and Lomond Associations, Shaker Square Development Association, Annual "Make A Difference Day", Annual Martin Luther King Day, "Celebration of Shaker Seniors" Luncheon and Annual "Global Youth Service Day" at Kinsman Farms. Youth Council members also participated in Open Mic Night (offered monthly by Heights Christian Church), the MyCom Annual Youth Voice Awards, the MyCom My Media Advanced Program and Flow: Future Leaders of the World. In addition, this group was very engaged in the planning and design of the new teen drop-in program – "The Getaway" being sponsored by the Shaker Heights Recreation Department.

Summer Leadership Camp

Summer Leadership Camp for middle school girls focuses on building self-esteem, resiliency, personal leadership qualities and the principles needed to reach one's full potential through creative expression, journaling, physical activity, education, and service learning projects. Twenty students participated in and completed this program.

Positive Engagement Encouraging Resiliency in Shaker Students (PEERS) HS/MS

PEER's is a five week, all day program that helped students develop a resiliency-based project using the Life Skills Curriculum adapted to meet the cultural requirements and community needs of Shaker Heights. Students created messages that encourage the demonstration of appreciation, commitment, self-confidence, cooperation, creativity, empathy, enthusiasm, independence, integrity, respect and tolerance. Sixteen students participated in this program with an 88% completion rate.

IMPACT Youth Enrichment Program

Shaker Heights Youth Center and MyCom continued their collaboration with the First Unitarian Church to provide after school programming for Shaker Heights Middle School students. This unique partnership served 32 students during the past school year under the guidance of staff members and volunteers.

Making Our Own Space (MOOS)

Shaker students are working with The Cleveland Urban Design Collaborative, an outreach program from Kent State University to design and construct environments and playscapes in Shaker that are appealing and usable to a cross-section of the residents. It is intended to introduce youth to design and construction skills as well as to create a deeper sense of neighborhood pride and ownership. The SHYC administers the Starting Point/MyCom funds that allow Kent State to provide this unique service.

A Huge Thank You to All of Our Supporters

The Benefactor's Circle (\$1,000 and above)

- Donald & Lynn-Ann Gries
- Robert & Sally Gries
- The David & Inez Myers Foundation
- Sandstone Foundation

The Founder's Circle (\$500 to \$999)

- John & Christiane Guinness
- Jan Hammond & Edward Hemmelgarn
- George & Carolyn Hawk
- Stuart & Terri Kline
- Adam & Sue Roth
- Doug & Lisa Schattinger
- Isaac & Margot Schulz
- State Farm Companies Foundation
- Christine Williams & Kenneth Frisof
- Anna L. Zverina

The President's Circle (\$100 to \$499)

- Dominick & Debra Antolino
- Leon & Marguerite Bibb
- Jeremy & Jennifer Bordeaux
- Margaret Bourguignon
- Carolyn Brinkley
- Michael & Nicol Coxon
- Charlie & Mary Crowley
- Charles & Nancy Davis
- Dave & Ginnie Dawson
- Michael & Jan Devereaux
- Hank Doll
- Judge Stuart Friedman
- Brian & Pam Gleisser
- Norman & Toni Graham
- Richard & Barbara Gray
- Richard & Wendy Halle
- David & Loraine Hammack
- Brett & Annette Himes
- Harry & Sandy Holmes
- Theodore Horvath
- Howard & Marilyn Karfeld
- Bernard & Nancy Karr
- Jack & Linda Lissauer
- John Lisy
- Gil & Carol Lowenthal
- Ron & Laurie Majka
- C. John & Mary Marek
- Joseph & Eleni Matts
- Judge K.J. Montgomery
- John & Nancy Moore
- Tim & Leslie Moore
- Arthur & Madeleine Obrock
- Richard & Elspeth Peterjohn
- Tod & Jody Podl
- Dick & Pat Pogue
- Michael & Dorothea Polster
- Linda Rae
- Geoffrey & Molly Ritts
- Laura Rocker
- Carol Roth & Martin Schragner
- Edward & Teresa Ruch
- Donald & Toni Scherzer
- Richard Schlenk & Theresa Walsh
- Mark Schweitzer & Marlies Schweitzer-Schutte
- Shaker Heights F.O.P. Lodge No. 23
- Kempton & Nancy King Smith
- Marvin & Judith Solganik
- Mark & Annette Sutherland
- Richard Vadnal & Margaretta Harris
- Mikki Wolfberg & Howard Weisbrot
- Daniel & Nancy Zavelson

The Friendship Circle (\$50 and above)

- Tom & Abby Abelson
- Gail Arnoff & George Woideck
- Gerald & Pamela Beck
- Judith Burdsall
- Gilda Cohen
- James & Karen Dakin
- Jeffrey & Tina Fast
- Joshua Feldman
- Jon & Joan Flinker
- Mark Freeman &
- Gina Kopelman Beim
- Carol Gobel
- Murray A. Goldstone
- Reuben Harris Jr
- John & Eva Hurst
- Norman Hyams
- Jeffrey Katz & Judith Malone
- George & Sabra Qua
- Spencer & Anne Richman
- Jeremy & Sandra Rosenthal
- Bart & Sheryl Simon
- Sheldon & Anne Towson Jr
- Marilyn Weston
- Robert & Ruth Windle
- Brian & Cathy Zbanek

State Fiscal Year 2017 Operating Activity

INCOME

Board

Contributions/Gifts/Special Events \$ 21,409

City of Shaker Heights

Grant \$ 55,600

Prevention and Education \$ 13,900

Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health

Services Board of Cuyahoga County \$ 220,058

Shaker Heights City Schools

Student Assistance Program \$ 45,000

Ohio Department of Education \$ 40,255

MyCom

Cleveland Foundation \$ 67,125

Starting Point \$ 16,863

Other

Interest/Miscellaneous \$ 2,076

Total \$ 482,286

EXPENSES

Salaries & Benefits \$ 387,343

Professional and Contract Services \$ 14,090

Program Cost \$ 25,407

Occupancy \$ 30,667

Office Expenses \$ 2,180

Insurance \$ 8,079

Staff Development \$ 608

Printing, Advertising & Publication \$ 903

Other Expenses \$ 1,836

Total \$ 471,113

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Donald Gries, President • Marlies Schweitzer-Schutte, Vice President
Mikki Wolfberg, Secretary • Pamela Gleisser, Treasurer

Gail Arnoff
Corinne Croom
Blair Harris
Reuben Harris Jr.
Patrick Kilts
Ed Long

Tyrone McGuinea
Judy Pate-Shields
Ouimet Smith
Jordyn Torbert
Christine Williams

ADVISORY BOARD

John Addison
Peggy Bourguignon
Jan Devereaux
Sandra Holmes
Stuart Kline

Nancy Moore
Robert O'Neal
Candace Sheffler
Bart Simon

SHAKER HEIGHTS YOUTH CENTER STAFF

Executive Director, John Lisý

Sharon Bell
Laura Chapman
Cheryl Darden
Carolyn Dolan
Emily Geier
Norman Graham
Ysian Hassel
Terry Karp

Harriet Lyons
ConnieMarie Mahaffey
Holley Martens
Alicia Sims
Tameka Taylor
Linda Wiest
Svetlana Wolfson

The Shaker Heights Youth Center is funded by:

- *Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services Board of Cuyahoga County*
- *The Cleveland Foundation*
- *Shaker Heights City Schools and Ohio Department of Education*
- *City of Shaker Heights*
- *Starting Point*
- *Individual and corporate contributions, fund raising events*

Shaker Heights Youth Center

17300 Van Aken Boulevard

Shaker Heights, Ohio, 44120

Phone: 216-752-9292 • Fax: 216-752-7217

shakerheightsyouthcenter.org

An Equal Opportunity Employer And Equal Provider Of Services