

SHAKER HEIGHTS YOUTH CENTER



ANNUAL REPORT

July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019

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:

Another fantastic year for the Shaker Heights Youth Center. I hate to sound repetitive, but the agency continues to meet goals of helping and nurturing young adults as they encounter the proverbial bumps in the road on their journey to becoming productive members of society. The question is not if our youth will have difficulty along the path, but when, and the SHYC is always ready to step up and assist during challenging periods. I believe that growing up is not easy, and with constant changes such as social media, technology, and family dynamics, the minefield that one must navigate gets more challenging every day.

The Youth Center staff, along with the programs, continue to be first rate and I would like to personally congratulate the staff on another rewarding year. This nurturing would not be possible without the buy in of the Shaker Heights City School District, The City of Shaker Heights, the Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services Board of Cuyahoga County and MyCom Youth Development Initiative of Greater Cleveland/The Cleveland Foundation who provide the financial support.

Now that I have transitioned to an empty nester with children who have successfully graduated college, I constantly think back to the expression that "it takes a village to raise a child". Shaker Heights, the community, understands that and I believe does an excellent job in preparing our youth to go out into the world and be passionate and find a calling.

I would once again like to ask all who read this to give of yourself to help someone who is currently going through a difficult time. My experience continues to show that the reward is much greater than the effort expended.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Donald Gries

From The Executive Director

Dear Friends of the Shaker Heights Youth Center:

As we approach our fiftieth anniversary of serving the Shaker Community, I cannot help but look forward AND back. The Shaker Heights Youth Center has a rich history of service. From its founding by the Shaker PTA Council, individuals from the Shaker Heights Board of Education and Shaker Heights High School, City of Shaker Heights, Dads' Club and Heights Clergy Council, we have been a collaborative entity focused on serving Shaker youth. Under the initial leadership of Fran King and Anne Landefeld, the organization grew to over twenty partners and began a drop-in center for Shaker teens. The City of Shaker Heights and Shaker Heights City Schools were the first to step forward with valuable financial support and they continue to contribute significantly.

Although programs and funding sources have expanded, many of the key strengths of the Youth Center have remained consistent throughout the years. The Shaker Heights Youth Center remains committed to Shaker youth and continues to collaborate with many organizations and individuals who share our passion for helping youth reach their full potential. It is gratifying to work with so many wonderful individuals and groups in the Shaker community. It is because of them that we have in place a large array of supports for our youth. We continue to work to improve and increase those supports.

The future looks bright. The organization is stable, fiscally sound and has a talented and caring staff. The Youth Center is beginning a planning process that will carry us into the future. We are excited about the transition over the next five years that will build on a solid base as well as add new ideas and expertise to the organization.

On a personal note, I am very proud of the staff and Board of the Shaker Heights Youth Center and the work they do every day.

We ask that you continue to support us on our journey as we grow to better serve this community.

Sincerely,
John Lisy

Major Programs

- Intensive Prevention Program
- MyCom South Shaker
- School-Based Student Assistance Program

Intensive Prevention Program (IPP)

This agency-based prevention program runs for the entire school day, Monday through Friday, and allows youth to receive academic tutoring and/or online schoolwork for Shaker Heights Middle and High School students who are suspended or expelled. By being at the Youth Center we are able to keep students current with their schoolwork because of the close working relationship the Youth Center has with Shaker Heights City Schools. Group discussions are conducted in an intensive but caring setting. They focus on examining the behaviors that led to being suspended or expelled as well as gaining life skills for addressing conflict. In the 2018/2019 school year, the Center served 57 High School and Middle School youth.

School-Based Student Assistance Program (SAP)

Last year the SAP staff provided in-school services to 105 students in grades 5-12 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 include problem identification and referral, positive social groups, resiliency training and support, resource provision and community-based collaboration.

Shaker MyCom Youth Initiative

As one of the Cuyahoga County neighborhoods receiving MyCom 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 neighborhood-based collaboration has resulted in very positive opportunities for our youth. Over the past ten years we have worked with Youth Opportunities Unlimited (YOU) to provide a successful summer jobs program. This year a total 71 area youth were employed in local summer work sites with the program maintaining a consistent completion rate of 99%. The City of Shaker Heights, the Shaker Heights School District and many other Shaker institutions benefited from the employment of these young people who gained real world job skills.

Services to youth include:

MyCom Youth Council that is composed of 12-15 students from both Shaker Middle and High Schools who meet bi-monthly to design and participate in an array of positive, leadership-building activities and community service projects. This past year those projects included working with: Moreland Rising, Sussex and Lomond Associations,

Heights Christian Church, Making Our Own Space (MOOS) Urban Design Program, Shaker Annual Memorial Parade, Annual Make a Difference Day, Martin Luther King Day of community service at Shaker Heights High School and the Annual Global Youth Service Day.

IMPACT Youth Enrichment Program

Shaker Heights Youth Center and MyCom continued their collaboration with the First Unitarian Church, (now known as Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Cleveland), 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 worked with The Cleveland Urban Design Collaborative, an outreach program from Kent State University that teaches youth how to design and construct environments and playscapes for their own neighborhoods. They learn safety requirements, design techniques and construction details and produce a wide variety of useful structures that are then placed in their neighborhood parks. The intent of this program is to teach youth how to design and build their own public space improvement projects while creating a deeper sense of respect and pride for their neighborhoods. The Shaker Heights Youth Center administers the MyCom grant that makes MOOS possible.

Summer Leadership Camp

This is a Summer Leadership Camp for middle school girls that 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. Nine students participated in and completed this program.

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

PEERS students developed a Youth Participatory Action Research (YPAR) plan for the Shaker Community through professional instruction from Case Western Reserve University. They solicited information from over 300 youth in the community in order to evaluate the challenges that needed to be addressed and the strengths that could be increased. Students also benefited from using the Social Norms Model, Resiliency Model and the Life Skills curriculum. Thirteen youth participated in this summer program.

Donations

Our Leaders (\$2,500 and above)

- Donald & Lynn-Ann Gries
- Barbara Sheffler
- Donations in Memory of Katherine Piraino

Our Champions (\$1,000 to \$2,499)

- Robert & Sally Gries
- The David & Inez Myers Foundation
- Christine Williams & Kenneth Frisof
- Anna L. Zverina

Our Innovators (\$500 to \$999)

- Adam & Sue Roth
- Doug & Lisa Schattinger
- Isaac & Margot Schulz
- Marjorie Shorrock

Our Builders (\$100 to \$499)

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| John & Pamela Addison | Howard & Marilyn Karfeld |
| Gail Arnoff & George Woideck | Stuart & Terri Kline |
| Leon & Marguerite Bibb | John Lisy |
| Dennis & Madeline Block | Gil & Carol Lowenthal |
| Michael & Susan Cristal | Joe & Eleni Matts |
| Richard & Dolores Christi | Kurt Miller |
| Michael & Nicole Coxon | Judge K.J. Montgomery |
| Charlie & Mary Crowley | Marc & Amy Morgenstern |
| Charles & Nancy Davis | John & Nancy Moore |
| David & Ginnie Dawson | Tim & Leslie Moore |
| Michael & Jan Devereaux | Richard & Elspeth Peterjohn |
| Hank Doll | Diana Ramirez & Aaron Proweller |
| Judge Stuart Friedman | Carole Roth |
| Brian & Pamela Gleisser | Donald & Toni Scherzer |
| Jessica Goldstein | Marlies Schweitzer-Schutte & Mark Schweitzer |
| Norman & Toni Graham | Shaker Heights F.O.P. Lodge No. 23 |
| Rich & Barbara Gray | Andre & Alisa Smith |
| Richard & Vona Griggs | Mark & Annette Sutherland |
| Richard & Wendy Halle | Mikki Wolfberg & Howard Weisbrot |
| David & Loraine Hammack | Daniel & Nancy Zavelson |
| Brett & Annette Himes | |

Our Believers (\$50 and above)

- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------|
| David & Kate Burleigh | William & Shirley Nook |
| James & Karen Dakin | Laura Rocker |
| Jeffrey & Tina Fast | Geoffrey & Molly Ritts |
| Jon & Joan Flinker | Edward & Teresa Ruch |
| Carol Gobel | Bart & Sheryl Simon |
| Murray Goldstone | Cynthia Taylor |
| Bill & Jean Koehler | Marilyn Weston |
| Timothy & Stephanie Lanese | Brian & Cathy Zbanek |
| Christopher & Kelly Moody | |

State Fiscal Year 2019 Operating Activity

INCOME

Board	
Contributions/Gifts/Special Events	\$ 21,681
City of Shaker Heights	
Grant	\$ 55,600
Prevention and Education	\$ 13,900
Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services Board of Cuyahoga County	
	\$ 193,372
Shaker Heights City Schools	
Student Assistance Program	\$ 45,000
MyCom	
Cleveland Foundation	\$ 50,354
Starting Point	\$ 14,678
IMPACT Youth Enrichment	\$ 6,728
Other	
Interest/Miscellaneous	\$ 3,797
Total	\$ 405,110

EXPENSES

Salaries & Benefits	\$ 327,158
Professional and Contract Services	\$ 10,721
Program Cost	\$ 19,062
Occupancy	\$ 20,635
Office Expenses	\$ 3,0324
Insurance	\$ 8,625
Staff Development	\$ 570
Printing, Advertising & Publication	\$ 200
Other Expenses	\$ 3,550
Advocacy	\$ 1,150
Total	\$ 394,703

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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

Gail Arnoff
Cottrell Hancock
Patrick Kilts
Paul Larick

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Judy Pate-Shields
Jahleela Pyles
Christine Williams

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Nancy Moore
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Bart Simon

SHAKER HEIGHTS YOUTH CENTER STAFF

Executive Director, John Lisy

Sharon Bell
Laura Chapman
Corrine Croom
Carolyn Dolan
Emily Geier

Norman Graham
Ysian Hassel
Harriet Lyons
ConnieMarie Mahaffey
Tameka Taylor

The Shaker Heights Youth Center is funded by:

- *Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services Board of Cuyahoga County*
- *MyCom Youth Development Initiative of Greater Cleveland /The Cleveland Foundation*
- *Shaker Heights City Schools*
- *City of Shaker Heights*
- *Starting Point*
- *Individual and corporate contributions, fund raising events*

Shaker Heights Youth Center

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shakerheightsyouthcenter.org

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