

Northwest Detroit Youth Coalition



2019 Annual Report

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Letter from the President

Dear Friends, Volunteers, Past and Prospective Supporters:

Many thanks for taking the time to learn about our work in Northwest Detroit. Our efforts go back to 1996 when our leader, Fr. Don Archambault, noticed a serious increase in negative behavior, graffiti, hanging out in gangs, loud arguments and threats to senior citizens. He then spent the summer meeting with business owners, parishioners, the retired, local educators, and citizens who recognized declining conditions for raising youth. Together, they set up a structure which became the Coalition.

Since then, we have tried many ideas and suggestions to reach out to youth and parents. Fr. Don shared a story in which he and a few friends tried Christmas caroling door to door. The recipients were surprised and shocked, but eventually came to know and appreciate what he was trying to do.

"WE WANT TO MEET YOUNG PEOPLE WHERE THEY ARE, HELP THEM ACHIEVE THEIR GOALS, AND REACH THEIR FULL POTENTIAL."

In 2019, we reviewed our past efforts to determine what worked and what needed modification. We added activities and reworked programs to better meet the needs of youth and make the summer experience both rich and exciting. We want to meet young people where they are, help them achieve their goals, and reach their full potential. We hope this report provides a glimpse into the youth experience with NWDYC programming. Working together, we can make a difference for our youth!



-Therese MacKinnon, D.C.

Mission & Background 02

The goal of the Northwest Detroit Youth Coalition is to bring together community and resources to support and initiate programs and activities which enhance the positive growth and development of youth in Northwest Detroit.

The Northwest Detroit Youth Coalition was established in 1996 and received its 501(c)(3) non-profit, tax-exempt status in 1999. The Coalition is a collaboration of youth-serving agencies that came together to address the barriers that prevented youth from participating in organized sports and extracurricular programs.

The lack of communication, transportation, trained leaders, financial support, and collaboration were barriers that had to be addressed in order to provide these needed programs.

The target area identified by the Coalition is the area bounded by Woodward Avenue on the east, Telegraph on the west, Eight Mile Road on the North and Fenkell on the south.

03 NWDYC Goals



- Identify existing programs for youth in the community
- Increase communication about area programs and opportunities available to youth
- Increase and facilitate the coordination of programs for youth when needed
- Support and enhance existing programs in the community
- Increase emphasis on preventive approaches to youth related issues
- Develop new programs and activities for youth
- Promote planning and a shared community vision for youth development

Programs 04



Since its inception, the Coalition has implemented many programs, utilizing quality improvement principles. Programs have been modified, improved, and re-evaluated in order to develop content based on community need and available resources.

In 2019, three programs were offered:

- Little Free Library
- O'Hair Park Summer Program
- Summer Activities for Youth Achievement (SAYA)

05 Little Free Library

Youth ages 4-8 were the primary focus of summer 2019 programming. With a theme of Sesame Street, Big Bird, Cookie Monster, and Elmo engaged children and their families during the July and August reading series. During these special reading sessions, snacks, games, prizes, gift bags, books, and memorable photos were offered to all who attended. Three readers volunteered from Wayne State University and the Junior Police Cadets through the Grow Detroit's Young Talent initiative.

Under the direction of a new program director, a relationship was developed with SAYA camp participants -- many of whom were invited to attend summer reading sessions over at O'Hair Park. Door to door outreach in the O'Hair Park neighborhood was also conducted to get the word out about Little Free Library summer programming.

Throughout the 2019 little free library season, 5 libraries were stocked with 40 books per week. The O'Hair Park Community Association and Corpus Christi Parish provided 9 volunteers who regularly organized new books, stocked each library, repaired existing libraries and installed new boxes as needed.



O'Hair Park



Detroit Institute of Arts



Corpus Christi Parish Rainbow Room



Corpus Christi Parish Grounds



Henry Ford High School Gym

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Summer Activities for Youth Achievement



76 campers in grades K-7th registered to participate in 2019 summer programming focused on science, technology, engineering, art and math (STEAM). A theme of "anti-bullying" was incorporated throughout camp content. Students engaged in hands on science experiments, learned basic movie making techniques and language, constructed and deconstructed projects with various materials, martial arts and drum instruction, and challenged themselves with math games. A theme of "anti-bullying" was incorporated through participation in skits and interviews that made students aware of what bullying is and equipped them with tools to identify and positively affirm negative situations.

Students gathered daily at Christ the King Catholic School. The "Meet Up and Eat Up" program provided nutritious snacks to supplement breakfast and lunch offered by the SAYA day camp. Field trips took place each Friday and included a visit to Legoland, St. Clair Shores Metro Park and Nature Reserve, and CJ Barrymore's.

O'Hair Park Summer Program

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113 campers registered to participate in summer 2019 programming. Youth participated in flag football, basketball, volleyball, kickball, drum line, cheerleading, dance, dodge ball, martial arts, arts and crafts, golf skills, soccer, and anti-bullying content Monday-Thursday. Field trips took place each Friday throughout camp, and included visits to the Detroit Institute of Arts, Bell Isle Park, CJ Barrymore's, Lake St. Clair Shores Metro Beach, and Red Oaks Water Park.

A team of 11 directors, camp counselors, and camp vendors coordinated activities. Additionally, 28 junior police cadets and 2 supervisors supported camp activities this year - adding 120 hours of administrative capacity.

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Financial Statement

\$46,209.59

Initial Balance

\$63,917.22

Total Income from Grants, Fundraisers, Donations, & Fees

\$75,108.20

Total Program and Administration Expenses

\$25,456.73

Designated for 2020 Program Expenses



CJ Barrymore's

In 2019, grants were secured from:

- Adrian Dominican Sisters Ministry Trust
- Ascension Providence Health Systems
- Comerica Bank
- Daughters of Charity Mission & Ministry Impact
- Hitachi Metals, Ltd.
- Huron-Clinton Metroparks
- New Hope Non-Profit CDC
- Sisters of Mercy West Midwest



Christ the King School

Collaborative Partners

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**Adrian Dominican Sisters Ministry Trust
Ascension Providence Health Systems
Better Men Outreach
Christ the King Catholic School
Comerica Bank
Corpus Christi Parish
Daughters of Charity Mission & Ministry Impact
Detroit Police Athletic League
Detroit Police Department**

**Henry Ford High School
Hitachi Metals, Ltd.
Huron-Clinton Metroparks
New Hope Non-Profit CDC
New St. Paul Head Start Agency, Inc.
O'Hair Park Community Association
Sisters of Mercy West Midwest
St. Francis of Assisi Church, Ann Arbor, MI**

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Chirst the King School



CJ Barrymore's



Corpus Christi Parish Rainbow Room



O'Hair Park

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