

Positive Youth Development



United Way
of East Central Iowa

Community Goal: *Increase the number of youth from economically-disadvantaged households with 21st century skills by 25% by 2014.*

Investment: *\$1,068,500 distributed to 12 agencies.*

Number Served: *10,565 youth participated regularly in after-school, summer, scouting, and mentoring activities*

Outcome 1: Youth are able to respond to and cope with positive and adverse situations and sustain caring friendships and relationships with others.

Investment: \$672,417

Results:

- 79% of Youth Leadership Program participants exhibited improved social skills.
- 76% of Girl Scout members demonstrated cooperation and team building skills, and 72% demonstrated healthy relationships.
- 94% of divorce/custody cases that settled (rather than going to trial) have done so because of Kids First Law Center involvement; and 86% of youth experience positive family changes and improved well-being.

Outcome 2: Youth are able to work collaboratively with others toward a common goal.

Investment: \$79,317

Results:

- 85% of Boy Scouts achieved individual requirements to advance a rank.
- 76% of Girl Scout members demonstrated resource problem-solving skills.
- 74% of youth enrolled in Salvation Army Summer Day Camp demonstrated positive leadership qualities.

Outcome 3: Youth are able to gain basic knowledge, learn in school and other settings, and use critical thinking, creative, problem solving and expressive skills.

Investment: \$316,766

Results:

- 97% of children in the Big Brothers Big Sisters Lunch Buddies program maintained or improved a positive attitude towards school.
- 191 Boys & Girls Club members participated regularly in academic assistance sessions.
- 86% of children participating in the Foster Grandparent Program exhibited an increase in reading skills.

Next Steps

- Partner with Cedar Rapids Community School District on community-school collaboration
- Expand middle school out-of-school time opportunities