Organization: Wood River Community YMCA

Project Title: Power Scholars Academy

Grant Amount: $25,000

1. The goals of the Power Scholars Academy (PSA) are to: Increase scholars' literacy and math skills; mitigate summer learning loss; strengthen scholars' self-confidence, social emotional development, and physical health and well-being.

We started the summer with 128 scholars and finished with 102. Families are screened prior to the program for commitment and availability, many of these families left for family “unplanned” vacations, causing a higher withdrawal rate than what we observe with the younger ages. Attendance is a mandatory part of the program and missing more than 3 days results in removal from PSA. This was the first summer we served 5th and 6th graders. This age group withdrew from the program the most.

Our pre-test and post-test showed an average gain of 1.5 months in reading skills and 2 months gain in math skills. 93% of our parents reported that they enjoyed PSA while 90% reported an increased involvement in their child’s education. 100% of the staff reported that the program was a positive and professional development opportunity for themselves.

1. Some of the most valuable feedback we receive comes months after PSA ends from the school principals. Hearing that these specific scholars are now learning at a higher rate than their peers during the school year is heart-warming. This speaks volumes to the social emotional growth that happens during PSA. Allowing them the opportunity to try new things and find something that they are really good at offers such a confidence boost in the classroom it is unmeasurable. This growth shows up in other parts of their life as well.
2. Photo PSA Paper Towers: During the first week of camp in afternoon enrichment our scholars participate in team builders and problem solving situations that requires teamwork and critical thinking. These boys just built a paper tower that held more weight in books than any other tower. They also represent each school in BCSD.

Photo PSA Scholars at Park: We are learning this summer but it is also summer camp and we are having fun playing and making new friends!

1. Our original organization program budget to not account for the number of scholars we actually served. While budgeting we were conservative and budgeted to serve half as many scholars. The Y was very fortunate in its fundraising in 2017 that allowed us to open up the program to more scholars and serve more youth in the valley. This reasoning is why our salary and program supply budget double.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Expenses** | **Total Project Expense** | **Amount Requested from WRWF** | **Actual Expenditures** |
| Salary and Benefits | $50,000.00 | $25,000.00 | $96,125.00 |
| Contract Services | $1,850.00 |  | $1,200.00 |
| Occupancy | $13,000.00 |  | $13,000.00 |
| Training and Professional Development | $1,000.00 |  | $1,000.00 |
| Travel | $7,600.00 |  | $7,600.00 |
| Supplies | $13,250.00 |  | $30,750.00 |
| Printing, Copying & Postage | $500.00 |  | $500.00 |
| Marketing | $500.00 |  | $500.00 |
| Administration | $10,000.00 |  | $10,000.00 |
| **Total** | $97,700.00 |  | $160,675.00 |