2018 WEST BLOOOMFIELD YOUTH ASSISTANCE REPORT



OUR MISSION

To strengthen youth and families and to reduce the incidence of delinquency, abuse and neglect through community involvement.

OUR SERVICES

Youth & Family Counseling • Referral Services • Skill Building Youth Recognition • Mentors PLUS program • Summer Camp Scholarships Family Education • School Programming • Parenting Programs

CONFIDENTIAL, PROFESSIONAL CASEWORK SERVICES

Youth Assistance provides confidential, short-term, family-centered counseling and referral services for young people, 17 years of age or younger and their families, who live within the boundaries of West Bloomfield School District in Keego Harbor, Orchard Lake Village, Sylvan Lake and West Bloomfield Township.

Referrals are accepted from schools, police, family members, neighbors and parents themselves with concerns about their child. In addition, the Family Division's Intake Unit diverts cases when, in their judgment, Youth Assistance services are most appropriate; there could be additional costs for court diversion agreements. Typical reasons for referral include retail fraud, school and home problems, truancy, behavior changes, assault, alcohol or other drug abuse and violations of local ordinances.

What's Inside:

Caseworker's Reportpage 2
Chairperson's Reportpage 3
By the Numberspage 3
Financial Reportpage 4
Family Education Committeepage 5

Youth Assistance along with West Bloomfield Optimist took area children to the Detroit Institute of Arts





Caseworker Stacy Pasini 2018 Caseworker's Report

West Bloomfield Youth Assistance's numbers have increased in scope and services over the last year and most recently the last several months. The purpose and compliment of the relationship

between WBYA and WBSD is two fold. First, the ability of WBYA to fulfill its mission of strengthening youth and families to avoid abuse, neglect, and delinquency. Second, to help children maximize their full potential to achieve academic success. Our goals are simple and similar; helping children and families to find success in life both personally and academically.

Through the district donation over this past year we have been able to provide both prevention and intervention services to over 100 caseload families. Our referrals consist of school incorrigibility, school truancy, educational neglect, and prevention services. All of these services are give to families with a one time processing fee of \$25 which is waived based on need. It should be noted that this money goes to the court and not the local YA.

WBYA services those within the school district boundary which means all of West Bloomfield, Keego Harbor, and Orchard Lake families are serviced locally.

Having a Youth Assistance caseworker available to staff to help talk through a students needs or help families articulate their needs to help best serve their child is utilized on a daily basis. In areas related to educational neglect and school truancy, our caseworker supports the family to rectify conditions or behaviors that have caused the deficit in education. Helping get children back into the classroom helps increase academic achievement. It is often difficult to achieve academic success if you are not present in the classroom on a consistent basis.

In the area of school incorrigibility a YA caseworker is helping rectify behaviors that are causing a disruption during the school day. Our caseworker works with the family to help break down obstacles that are occurring which may be causing distractions for the student.

We continue to work side by side with the Greater West Bloomfield Coalition on prevention. Our caseworker is able to identify and monitor concerning behavior so prevention education planning can be implemented quickly.





Chairperson's Report to Our Sponsors

Chairperson Curt Lawson



I am proud to be part of Youth Assistance. Our team continues to build upon past successes while continuing to find innovative ways to help children and families. Our casework services continues to provide vital assistance to hundreds of children. Our caseload has sharply risen over the past year and a half due to the fact more and more school staff, parents, and law enforcement personnel have seen the positive impact Youth Assistance has had with children.

Our partnerships with the local school district and the Greater West Bloomfield Coalition has also had a meaningful impact. Our programs were well received by students, teachers, and parents and we look forward to continue our partnerships well into the future.

In 2017 we launched a brand new program called *Parenting on the Go.* Funded by Belfor Property Restoration and produced by West Bloomfield Civic Center TV. Parenting on the Go has provided hundreds of parents with new tools to deal with real life problems that affect their children. These videos are easily accessible and provide great tips for parents from local experts. We have continued the success of this program through 2018.

On June 8th, we hosted a huge community event, Food Truck Rally at the Orchard Mall which will include 14 food trucks, bounce houses, over 20 vendor tables, live music all to benefit local youth. The money raised will be used by YA to continue to help children throughout our community. We had over 5000 attendees!

Find more information on our website at http://www.wbyouthassistance.org



Promo on Fox 2 News

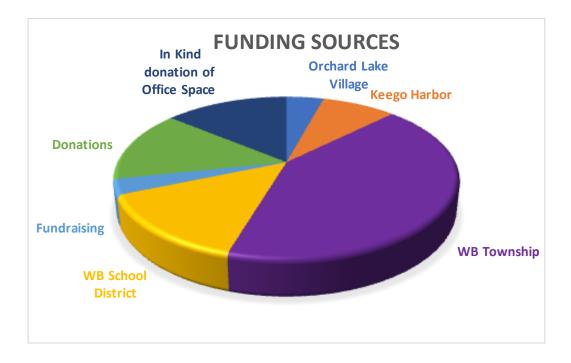




WBYA Food Truck Rally

Financial Report

We want to thank West Bloomfield Township, the City of Keego Harbor, City of Orchard Lake Village, the West Bloomfield School District and the Oakland County Probate Court for their financial support. Together we do make a difference!



As of May 2018 our caseload this school year is <u>double</u> from the same time period last year!

Cases referred to us by entity:

WB Schools = 81 open cases / 74 closed cases

Police = 10 open cases / 8 closed cases

Parent or Guardian = 3 open cases / 2 closed cases

Major Reasons for referral include:

Prevention = 69

School Incorrigibility = 32

Educational Neglect = 10

Truancy = 21

Youth Assistance Program Structure

Youth Assistance programs are community-based, & developed by volunteers who live and/or work in the communities in which they serve. The Circuit Court provides the professional staff to work with the volunteers & provide direct casework services. Each Youth Assistance Program is sponsored by the municipalities and Board of Education contained within that particular school district and the Probate **Court/Circuit Court - Family Division of Oakland County.**

Local Funding For Youth Assistance

WBYA's continued annual local funding is a result of sponsorship resolutions passed by each municipality in 1969.

The local sponsors (school district & municipalities) are responsible for the operational & programmatic expenses of running the local Program.

West Bloomfield Youth Assistance operates under the sponsorship of the West Bloomfield School District, the City of Keego Harbor, the City of Orchard Lake, West Bloomfield Township, and the Probate Court/Circuit Court-Family Division. Additional funding is obtained through grants, donations, & local fund-raising efforts.

The Oakland County Youth Assistance Coordinating Council, Inc. provides advice, consultation, and support to the Central Office and to the local Youth Assistance Boards. The Council provides training for local officers and coordinates county-wide events. It seeks and distributes grant monies to the local Boards, and produces the Youth Assistance newsletter.

Family Education Committee Report

Committee Members: Kelly Hyer Diane Maury, and Melanie Torbert

The Family Education Committee presented a robust agenda filled with new speakers, new partnerships and a brand new parenting program called Parenting On The Go. The online program, which features short videos presented by local experts, is designed to support busy parents and guardians of children who reside in Greater West Bloomfield and direct families to local resources that they might otherwise be unfamiliar with. The videos are produced in collaboration with Civic Center TV. The first set of videos shed light on over scheduled families, opioid and heroin abuse, and suicide prevention.

To further strengthen families, West Bloomfield Library is also a partner of the Parenting On The Go campaign and will lend a hand by stocking parenting books that build on the presenter's expertise.

Please visit wbyouthassistance.org to view the videos and when visiting the library ask to see the **Parenting On The Go** section in the youth services department.



21st Annual Youth Recognition Awards Ceremony

Committee Members: Kelly Hyer, Curt Lawson and David Flaisher

Hosted by Judge Diane D' Agostini from the 48th District Court and including over 50 youth awards the 21th annual youth awards were a success.



Judge Diane D'Agostini



Each year, West Bloomfield Youth Assistance recognizes the positive actions of young people at our Youth Recognition Awards Ceremony. They are honored for their volunteer service, acts of heroism or personal achievements.

Our May 2nd 2018 West Bloomfield Youth Assistance was able to recognize over 40 young adults who went above and beyond what was expected of them. Numerous local and state dignitaries were on hand to congratulate our nominees along with parents, relatives and other well wishers.

Youth who are selected for this honor have demonstrated an active commitment to making our community a better place to live or to improving themselves. They serve as role models for their peers and reassure our community that the future is in good hands. We are proud to acknowledge, encourage and thank these young people for their efforts.