

Mission Statement



The mission of St. Louis Park Community Education Youth Department is to work with the city and the community to inspire our youth to fearlessly pursue lifelong learning and personal development by inviting youth to be partners in the process of creating the building blocks for a healthy, happy life.

St. Louis Park Community Education

February, 2002

Youth Development Plan



Values

- We value safe and barrier free opportunities for youth.
- We value that youth have respect for self and others.
- We value youth having many positive relationships and interactions with peers, adults, and their families.
- We value the importance that youth feel invited, included and welcomed at school, at home and in the community.
- We value and embrace creativity, critical thinking and expression in our youth.
- We value the diversity youth bring to each experience.



Objectives

- Every St. Louis Park child will participate in at least one educational, recreational, and enrichment program or activity on an annual basis.
- Every St. Louis Park Child will participate in at least one leadership and service experience on an annual basis.



Strategies

- We will involve community organizations in providing asset-building opportunities for youth.
- We will advocate for the inclusion of youth in the planning of programs in SLP.
- We will develop and implement a k-12 leadership plan.
- We will involve community organizations in implementing a city wide outreach and marketing plan.
- We will ensure that youth are involved in Education, Recreational, Enrichment, Academic and Social programs.
- We will develop youth drop-in centers for the Junior High & Senior High Schools.
- We will involve the community in sponsoring an annual youth summit.



Action Plans

Action plans are the important work to insure the Mission Statement and the Broad Objectives become a reality. We have created 26 detailed action plans. Following are the highlights:

- Increase by 50 the number of businesses and organizations involved in asset building.
- Support and network with businesses involved in asset building.
- Expand youth mentoring programs.
- Support and involve youth on boards, commissions, and committees.
- Measure the effectiveness of youth currently involved on boards, commissions and committees.
- Establish a central clearinghouse for leadership and service learning opportunities.
- Expand student mentoring programs.
- Increase by 20 the number of business in service learning/leadership opportunities.
- Train school staff in how to involve youth in leadership/service learning opportunities.
- Develop a marketing plan to increase participation by youth in all programs.
- Develop a plan to market youth programs to parents.
- Increase participation of youth in enrichment, recreational, academic and social programs.
- Expand academic programs for youth in need.
- Create a directory of all educational, recreational, enrichment, and social programs for youth.
- Survey K-8 students regarding need and interest in educational, recreational enrichment, and social programs.
- A minimum of 50 Jr. High Students will be in engaged in after school youth/activities center programs on a regular basis.
- We will create new opportunities for youth to be involved in intergenerational activities.
- A student/parent advisory group will be formed involving the Jr. High.
- Develop a Sr. High drop-in center hang out in St. Louis Park.
- The Annual Youth Summit will become permanent.

If you or a member of your family would like to get involved in implementing the action plans, please call Linda Saveraid, 952-928-6063.