

"The Other Way" Ministries Programs

Children's Ministry

- 33 3-5th graders regularly involved in D-groups with 17 adult mentors
- 28 upper-elementary students consistently participated in TEAM summer day camp
- 22 volunteers linked with students for one-on-one reading time, one hour weekly
- 4 summer interns led the TEAM program with assistance from summer teen Leaders in Training

Teen's Ministry

- 26 regular participants at middle and high school levels
- 11 different students involved in Leaders in Training or GRIL-U, learning to be cross-cultural servant leaders, positively impacting family, school, church and community

Women's Ministry

- 4 indigenous female leaders mobilized 21 others to plan and implement a weekend spiritual retreat
- 20-25 women regularly attend a greater community Bible study, growing in faith and forging new relationships

Family Development Ministry

Family Camp

- 10 families, 30 individuals at CranHill Ranch

Family Coaching

- Pilot program with 6 families completed
- Feedback used to adapt materials for use in 2009

Family Resource Co-op

- Materials collected and stored at Czarnecki Family Center for 2009 start up

Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry

- Served 3218 adults, 2324 children (5,542 individuals) during 1,755 visits for emergency food
- Served 2,471 individuals and their families through Holiday Giving Network (Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets)

Christmas Store

- 150 families with app. 375 children participated (1/3 were Spanish speaking)
- 2376 hours of credit earned through taking classes, volunteering at school, working in the store
- 3000+ gifts donated

Youth Employment Service

- Under the direction of a college level supervisor, 2 teen assistants managed the work of 10 other teens hired for the summer landscaping service
- 52 neighbors were served in the program
- Teens completed job-readiness training with a local attorney, wrote resumes and participated in mock interviews

Community Garden

- 10 neighborhood families grew their own vegetables in the Garden of Eatin'
- 2 volunteer master gardeners assisted late in the season and will work with 2009 gardeners.

"The Other Way" Ministries Key Partners

Westown Jubilee Housing

- 2 families involved in children, teen and family development programs at "The Other Way" Ministries became first time homeowners through WJH

Servant's Community Reformed Church

- The same 2 families are now regular participants at Servant's Church
- 28 Summer TEAM students participated in a week long art camp facilitated by Servant's members

"The Other Way" Ministries Partnerships

Healthy Marriages Healthy Relationships

- 107 individuals attended Family Wellness classes
- 80 graduated, completing at least 4 out of 6 classes
- The 5 year federally funded program ended in June
- A new state funded 3 year collaborative began in October

Christian Counseling Center

- "The Other Way" Ministries offers 1 ½ days of counseling per week through English and Spanish speaking counselors. 231 client interactions for the year

GVSU-KCON

- 49 different student nurses completed 6 community health rotations using "The Other Way" Ministries as their base of operations to hone their skills, plan and present teaching/learning projects and provide education and advocacy for scores of neighbors.

Spectrum Healthier Communities-Urban Health

- Conducted surveys, provided a community health worker to assess and refer neighbors with health concerns and conducted an 8 week pilot class for 10 neighbors dealing with chronic illnesses

Pine Rest

- Two clinical psychology doctoral interns completed 200+ hours of research, curriculum development, class instruction and individual and family coaching at TOW

Family to Family

- The goal of Family to Family is to place children who must be removed from their families with one permanent and stable family in the child's own community until reunification with birth families can occur or until the child is released for adoption. "The Other Way" Ministries is a regular site for these intervention meetings

"The Other Way" Ministries Staff

- 5 staff members participated in HMHR trainings underwritten by the collaborative. After completing shadowing with seasoned facilitators, these staff will be able to facilitate our Family Wellness and No Jerks classes.
- 1 staff member visited Mexico for three weeks of Spanish immersion. He continues with a local mentor and is interfacing effectively with Spanish speaking families.
- All administrative and program staff participated in a 1 day Anti-Racism training to begin preparing for greater cultural diversity on staff. 4 staff members completed a 2 ½ day Understanding Racism training. It is our intention to require all TOW staff to participate in this training and to urge our board to do so as well.

2009 Updates

- We hosted two family dinners for English and Spanish speaking families to introduce Family Development and invite registration in family coaching program. 35 families attended. One dinner catered by Cornerstone Golf Team, the second by a Hispanic couple from our neighborhood.
- ESL pilot class begins Thursday, Feb. 26. Our goal is 25 students.
- We will host a Teacher Appreciation Luncheon for Sibley school on March 27.
- An open house for Czarnecki Family Center will be held on Thursday, April 2.
- Family Development Team is meeting regularly to plan and prepare for official opening of the Czarnecki Family Center.
- 25 adults are attending the current Spanish Family Wellness class