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Monthly Report

Boys & Girls Club Programming, SMART Girls, One-on-one Mentoring March, 2015

Boys & Girls Clubs programs...

The Boys & Girls Club of Valencia County continued to serve 71 youth members throughout the month of March. No youth excited the program.

SMART Girls programming was provided to the girls that attended the club. A new series of SMART Moves programming began in March, and will continue throughout the program year. Staff began providing pre-tests to members to determine the level of knowledge youth had regarding issues they face on a daily basis. Sessions are then presented to provide information regarding those issues. Curriculum includes information about tobacco use, drug and alcohol use, gang involvement, and other critical topics our young folks are dealing with.

'Healthy Lifestyles Daily Challenges' are a part of every day programming. Members continue to walk or run laps, and the number of completed laps is recorded. Other challenges include relay races, jump rope competitions and hoola-hoop games.

St. Patrick's Day activities took place, and youth took home several projects that were completed at the Club.

Youth worked on numerous Easter activities and arts and crafts projects. Members also prepared and delivered Easter cards for residents of our local nursing home.

National Boys & Girls Club Week was celebrated across the Country, and our local Boys & Girls Club provided activities in conjunction with the event. Anti-tobacco, drug and alcohol use pledges were signed and displayed at each respective school where our clubs are located. Members constructed a giant size model cigarette, which displayed actual samples of dangerous ingredients, such as acetone. Special guests presented their testimonial as to why they stopped smoking.

Our local Youth of the Year representative, Isabela, age 10, competed in the statewide contest held in Albuquerque, NM. 3 staff and Isabela's parents attended the event.

One-on-one time with mentors...

Our 18 matched youth continued meeting on a one-on-one basis with their mentor. Activities continue to be derived from general programming, including topics that were discussed throughout the day. Mentors encourage their mentees to discuss issues they may be facing, accomplishments they've achieved, and/or challenges they may be experiencing.

Mentees are always guided toward staying in school, making positive life choices, and staying away from negative behaviors and influences.

Respectfully submitted, Boys & Girls Club of Valencia County