

## NN/LM Final Project Report

Report ID: 964

Award Type:  Subcontractor ≥ \$20,001 Project

Region: MIDCONTINENTAL

Contract Number: HHS-N-276-2011-00006-C

Project Title: **Youth Mental Health Outreach (Library Partnership with Sevier County School District)**

Name of Organization: **Richfield Public Library**

Mailing Address:

City: Richfield

State: UT

Zip Code: 84701 - 0000

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Reporting Period Covered: **19-AUG-2015 - 30-APR-2016**

Project Date: 19-AUG-2015 - 30-APR-2016

Extended Project End Date (if applicable):

Date Submitted 19-MAY-2016

Special Funding Initiative:  Yes

Minority Populations Served:  African Americans

American Indians/Alaska Natives

Asian Americans

Hispanics/Latinos

Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders

Other. Please Specify:

## **Executive Summary**

1. PRIMARY GOALS:
  - a. Increase parent and student awareness of information resources and solutions related to prevention of teen addiction, teen depression, dating violence, and teen suicide.
  - b. Demonstrate to students, families, and local agency staff the ease of access for NLM resources, and demonstrate to students and teachers methods of evaluating the accuracy and reliability of health information.
  - c. Support the ongoing prevention efforts of the local school district, mental health and health departments, and juvenile justice agencies.
2. Target Population: We want to be part of the solution to the near overwhelming problem of teen depression and suicide that our population suffers.
3. We are partnering with members of the six-county Prevention Coalition (School District, Health & Mental Health Departments, Law Enforcement, Faith-Based organizations, Native American organizations, etc.) to help in addressing these problems.
4. Our major accomplishments have been solidifying our partnerships with CUYC (Central Utah Youth Corrections), the local elementary school, and HeadStart. We recently used the projector and screen at movie day at HeadStart so they didn't have to project on a sheet on the wall. We have shared information on NLM with all of our partners, as well as with our library patrons (general public) on an ongoing basis. We continue to post info on NLM on our Facebook page, as well as informing every patron who requests information on health issues, about NLM resources. At our recent DIA Literacy Festival, we provided participants with information on suicide prevention, as well as information on health issues from our local Health Department, as well as NLM brochures and bookmarks.

## **Approaches and Interventions Used**

1. PRIMARY GOALS:
  - a. Increase parent and student awareness of information resources and solutions related to prevention of teen addiction, teen depression, dating violence, and teen suicide.
  - b. Demonstrate to students, families, and local agency staff the ease of access for NLM resources, and demonstrate to students and teachers methods of evaluating the accuracy and reliability of health information.
  - c. Support the ongoing prevention efforts of the local school district, mental health and health departments, and juvenile justice agencies.
2. Steps and activities:
  - a. We sponsored a workshop for health education and education professionals at our library where John Bramble presented about NLM resources.
  - b. We ordered NLM Materials and bookmarks and have shared this widely with all of our partners and our public.
  - c. We have used the

projector and screen we purchased with grant funds on four occasions, two of which were related to health/mental health programs. We are also letting our public know that we have a projector and screen that can be checked out. We feel that this may be a service that local organizations (and families) may make use of. So far, we have had the Utah Library Association use it for a training held in our town.

3. Members of the six-county Prevention Coalition all share information about their programs, resources, and projects with one another, helping to publicize and support each others' efforts in prevention and education. We will continue to use NLM as a resource and encourage others to do the same.

### **Evaluation Activities**

1. Although we planned to do pre-and post surveys, the structure of our program did not present opportunities for valid input. For example, different students cycled in and out of the CUYC (Youth in Custody) programs, so we did not have access to the same youth over a period of time. The only program we presented with surveys, were post-surveys presented at our recent DIA Literacy Festival, where we also shared NLM resources. 37 of 50 respondents stated they knew "much more" about community resources by having attended the program.

2. These goals are ongoing, to increase awareness of health and mental health resources, and to support the efforts of the prevention coalition. I feel that we have made progress, and that our relationship with NLM is powerful, in that we have a great resource to offer all of our patrons and partners.

### **Problems or Barriers Encountered**

We had a bit of a struggle learning how to use the projector at first, so that was both a "training", and an "equipment" issue. We have not used the equipment as much as we anticipated, only 5 times so far.

As for programs we intended to present at the Richfield Residential Hall, we never settled on a curriculum for that program, and have not yet presented it. However, we established a solid relationship with the Culture Club and Dorm staff, as well as with several of the students there, and are planning outreach programs as well as in-house programs to attract the Dorm students for this upcoming fall.

### **Continuation Plans**

We will continue outreach to CUYC, as well as our partnership with the Prevention Coalition. We will continue to offer NLM and other health resources to our patrons. We appreciate the projector and screen that we were able to purchase with this grant, and intend to continue using it for our programs and activities.

### **Impact**

Because of our efforts with the Prevention Coalition, the library is now seen as a powerful partner in disseminating information from all different agencies, to our combined public. When we get information

from the various organizations and agencies, we pass that on to our public. We shared our project (and others) in a recent Utah Library Association presentation (May 6), "POWERful Partnership" - it was a panel discussion about library partnerships and coalitions.

### **Lessons Learned**

We've been trying to host discussion meetings for suicide survivors ("Bouncing Back"). Although quite a few people have expressed interest, and one gentleman offered to be the "chairperson" for these discussion meetings, we have had a difficult time setting a date to begin. We have gotten feedback from some of the key people in the Prevention Coalition, that we can't push our community too hard on initiating discussions on mental illness, or they will "Lock us out." So we will continue to offer our facility and support, and will remain sensitive to the needs and preferences of our public.

### **Other**

Thank you for your support!

NOTE: if the project is continued, there would be a stronger evaluation implemented, incorporating the partner's experience.

### **Attachment 1**

OARF summary data: Subcontractor activities