

SPRING 2011



PROJECT SUCCESS

WORKING TO HELP CHILDREN SUCCEED IN SCHOOL

PROJECT SUCCESS

FINAL EDITION!

EPILOGUE

As we prepare to wind down the affairs of Project Success this June 30th, we wanted to take this last opportunity to share with you some of the highlights of our endeavors since the program began as a pilot program in 1992.

Project Success was originally developed to help our community identify and respond to the unmet needs of children and their families to help increase school success. Homelessness, inadequate medical care, poor nutrition, substance abuse, poverty, and domestic violence are but a few of the factors that put many children at risk of school failure. As we worked with the Decatur Public Schools and local organizations to identify these needs in our schools, we developed and implemented programs including after school tutoring, identification and school enrollment of area homeless children, linkage to community support services, and activities to promote family involvement. We provided Family Liaisons in the schools, the "Seniors for Success" volunteer program, school supplies for needy children, the *Right Track* truancy prevention program, and the annual **STICK WITH YOUR KIDS!** back to school event.

We have loved the work we do. I have been very fortunate to work with an inspiring staff that has always considered Project Success more of a mission we were committed to than a nine to five job. We have appreciated the support of the many teachers, principals, administrators and families we have had the privilege to work with over the years. We thank the Family Liaisons whose hard work made it possible to accomplish our program goals. We are grateful for the strong partnerships with other community agencies and organizations that our work has allowed for, and have been extremely honored and proud to receive support as a United Way agency.

Most importantly, we are thankful to have had the unique opportunity to provide services with measurable results and positive community impact to help promote school success and help at risk children come to school ready to learn. Over these many years we never closed the door at the end of any day feeling we had not helped *some child to succeed in school*.

I hope you will take time to look at the positive impact of our work over the years as summarized inside this newsletter.

Thank you!

Jane Shade

Executive Director



Community Partner

2010 - 2011 ...

Another Great Year With Much to Offer!

Project Success has had a great year serving thousands of area children and families. Activities this year have once again provided many opportunities for students and parents that work to increase student achievement, school attendance, and parent involvement. Looking back over this year, Project Success has much to be proud of!

- ◆ **School Supplies** - 1,900 needy children received free school supplies before school started in the fall so they could start school with everything they needed.
- ◆ **Stick With Your Kids!** - More than 4,500 children, parents, and grandparents filled the Civic Center to learn how they could be more involved in their children's education.
- ◆ **Homeless Initiative** - 329 homeless children (205 families) received services to help stabilize their living situations - backpacks, school supplies, shoes, clothes, food, and service linkages all helped the families so the children could go to school ready to learn and succeed.
- ◆ **After School Tutoring** - 492 Students from 11 schools and the Boys & Girls Club received free tutoring from 46 tutors paid by Project Success - Cost \$35,000
- ◆ **Family Activities in the Schools** - Project Success sponsored 111 family activities in 16 elementary schools to encourage parents to be more involved in their children's education - 6,456 children and 5,104 adults attended - Cost \$16,730
- ◆ **Family Liaisons** - Provided salary support for Family Liaisons in all 16 elementary schools and Homeless Liaisons - Cost \$120,769
- ◆ **Seniors For Success** - 53 senior volunteers have worked weekly with children at 14 schools to give elementary students the extra help and support they need.
- ◆ **Right Track Truancy Intervention/Prevention** - 362 elementary students have been referred to Right Track for having 5 or more unexcused absences. Family Liaisons worked with the families to correct the poor attendance.



School Supplies



STICK WITH YOUR KIDS!



Family Activities



Family Liaisons



Seniors for Success



Right Track
Truancy Program

Since August, 1992:

\$4,618,201 - Total dollars raised to support Project Success programs in Decatur Public Schools

More than 200 grants (\$3,344,918) were awarded to Project Success

Over the years, Project Success has accomplished much. Look at the numbers!

♦ Tutoring:

6,155 students have received free after school tutoring 2-3 times weekly
62-68% of them improved their grades in one or more subjects each year
405 teachers have served as Project Success tutors

♦ Truancy:

2,574 students in grades 7-8 were referred for truancy from 2001-2008
67-78% improved attendance each year
2,897 students in grades K-6 were referred for truancy from 2002—2011
84-89% improved attendance each year

♦ Homeless Initiative:

1,570 students were referred and identified as homeless from 2004-2011

♦ Family Involvement:

\$172,491 supported 1,010 Family Activities in the schools
113,471 children and adults attended the activities

♦ Seniors for Success:

473 Senior volunteers worked weekly with elementary students

♦ School Supplies:

29,450 students received free school supplies for the first day of school

♦ Stick With Your Kids!

34,000+ children and families attended 11 **STICK WITH YOUR KIDS!** showcases

♦ Family Liaisons:

\$822,211 in salary support was provided by Project Success for Family Liaisons in District #61 elementary and middle schools

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*For more information regarding
Project Success
Our website will remain active past
June 30th at
www.projectsuccesdecatur.org*

PROJECT SUCCESS
310A West William Street
Decatur, Illinois 62522

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

