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# The Saint Florian Center

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## **2022 Annual Report Synopsis**

The Saint Florian Center made a positive impact throughout Indianapolis after the effects of the pandemic by serving 1,100 youth through direct and indirect programs. We maintained the program integrity with consistent challenging creative challenges that motivated the cadets to strive for excellence each day. The firefighters listened to the cadets, parents, educators, and other youth professionals to create effective programming that was educational, safe, challenging, and fun with the overall objective to build leaders for today and tomorrow. Even with staffing and supply chain issues in the wake of the pandemic we were able mentor and lead by example. The firefighters and staff demonstrated that adversity makes you stronger. In 2022, our dreams of traveling to Washington DC became a reality after five years of planning and falling short of our financial goals. The cadets will never forget it.

### **2022 Summer Leadership Camp**

We were very excited to start the 2022 Summer Camp because our enrollment was back to normal before the days of COVID. We were also excited because we were celebrating our 30<sup>th</sup> year of operation and the firefighters planned a challenging and exciting summer. The daily hours of operation were the same (Monday-Friday) 8 am – 4 pm for seven weeks. We incorporated onsite before and after care which was convenient for the parents and the firefighters. Overall, the cadets had a lot of fun. They developed new friends and positive attitudes. They conquered their fears and operated out of their comfort zones. They went swimming, bowling, skating, to the movies, rock climbing, a 5K run/walk, bike riding, go carting, college tours, parent cook outs, camping, and to Washington DC to the African American Museum and College Tour (Howard University).

#### **A snapshot of the leadership training in each module include:**

- Week 1 Health & Safety with CPR & emergencies; undoing racism; teambuilding, skating, etc.
- Week 2 Arts in Learning with STEM; Camptown natural wonders; cultural competency; etc.
- Week 3 Technology with 3-D printing; Writer’s center; sports, firefighter fitness challenge; etc.
- Week 4 Philanthropy & Social Justice; Camptown problem solving; change the world projects.
- Week 5 Business entrepreneurs; skills my parents never taught me; financial literacy, etc.
- Week 6 Empowerment out of state trips; college tours; smart goals to accomplish dreams, etc.
- Week 7 Civility with camping trip; Indiana Dunes; parent cookout and graduation breakfast.

#### **Youth Employment Program:**

The Youth Employment Program overall goal was to provide the High School Cadets with knowledge and hands-on experiences through leadership development, youth employment training, focused business enrichment activities, financial literacy, philanthropic awareness and practice, and alcohol, tobacco and other drug awareness and violence prevention practices.

- Week 1 Leadership Module: Teambuilding; Health & Safety; Undoing Racism; Spoken Word.
- Week 2 Pre-Employment Skills: Things to get a job; College Readiness; Book Club, etc.
- Week 3 Key-Employment Skills: Things to keep a job; Financial literacy; Shadow Experiences.
- Week 4 Start your own business: Corporate interviews; Philanthropy & Social Justice; etc.
- Week 5 College Readiness: Graduation plan; scholarships, essays; financial aid; life skills; etc.
- Week 6 Empowerment out of state trips; college tours; smart goals to accomplish dreams, etc.
- Week 7 Civility with camping trip; Indiana Dunes; parent cookout and graduation breakfast.

### **2022 Firefighters Afterschool Program (My Brother’s Keeper)**

The Firefighters After-School Program is a year-round opportunity for children ages 10-14 (currently in the 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> grades) attending IPS School #79, to gain valuable educational, leadership, and prevention skills, while having fun with friends. 100% of the enrolled youth received focused leadership and prevention skills training which will help them avoid making bad decisions now and will enable them to become self-sufficient adults. We encouraged the youth to strive for excellence to achieve A-B honor roll in both cohorts. We rewarded each cadet that submitted A-Papers to the firefighters each Thursday.

After homework assistance we were blessed to motivate the cadets to accomplish their dreams through (1) The SFC 10 Leadership and Lifestyle Principles where Character is the most important part of being a leader. (2) The SFC Prevention Curriculum providing tools and skills to avoid making bad decisions that can impact the rest of their life. (3) The Readers are Leaders Challenge (4) My Brother’s & Sister’s Keeper Rites of Passage (5) Our STEM Education & Project Based Activities (6) College Education & Graduation Plan (7) Our Fire Fit kids.

***Our purpose is to teach youth to “Do Something Positive - Be Someone Positive - Have Something Positive”***

***Mission:*** To provide at-risk Indianapolis youth an opportunity to foster leadership skills, develop problem solving methods, and survival tactics through a variety of programming and opportunities in the community in order to create leaders of tomorrow.