



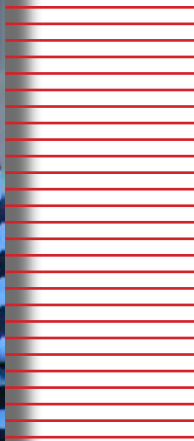
PULASKI COUNTY YOUTH SERVICES

How You Can Become Involved:

- Become a Sponsor
- Volunteer Your Time
- Sign Up for Our Monthly E-mail Blast
- Make a Donation

For more information on what you can do to become involved with the PCYS, please contact us at 340-8250 or visit us on the web at www.pulaskicountyyouthservices.org

PULASKI COUNTY YOUTH SERVICES



Through a wide array of programs, Pulaski County Youth Services strives to provide quality activities for all youth in an effort to expand their minds, strengthen their bodies, and encourage their spirits. After school, summer activities, educational, family orientated, and mentoring programs round out the offerings of PCYS. Through providing enrichment opportunities, the county believes the youth of today will better develop into the adults of tomorrow.

ACT Prep Program

The ACT Prep Program was initiated in the Fall of 2006. The program is typically held during a five week span on Saturday mornings from 9:00-12:30. The programs provides 10th-12th grade students with both test taking strategies as well as intense training on the four ACT subject areas: math, reading, English, and science reasoning. In an effort to expose youth to institutions of higher education, training sessions are typically held at local universities. PCYS pays the costs and fees associated with the ACT registrations as an incentive for perfect program attendance.

Cooking for the College Bound

In 2006, in partnership with Arkansas Kids Cook™, PCYS developed Cooking for the College Bound courses to prepare older teens for a healthy post-high school lifestyle and to promote balanced eating through education and experience. Throughout the course of six sessions, 11th and 12th grade students are taught basic meal preparation skills. The program helps teens learn and enjoy healthy eating through hands-on cooking experience. The classes provide independent and college-bound youth with the tools and skills necessary to prepare meals on their own; which help prevent teens from resorting to fast food or other quick-fix, high calorie meals. At the end of the program, students are given the



basic tools and kitchen equipment necessary to prepare nutritious meals for themselves.

Family Literacy Night

The purpose of the program is to enhance literacy skills in school-aged children enrolled in first, second and third grades through collaboration with local elementary schools. The program is designed to educate parents on the various ways in which they can engage their children. At the event, parents participate in a series of sessions outlining different ways in which they can help their children enhance his/her reading skills. The various sessions are taught by certified teachers and fluctuate based on the different stages of the students. Parents are not only taught skills on engaging their children, but are also provided with materials to assist in this process.

No Boundaries

No Boundaries is a group-mentoring program designed to work with "middle-of-the-road" students through tutoring and by exposing them to higher education. Through this program, middle and high school students in Pulaski County meet bi-monthly with mentors from local college and universities.

Our Club

The concept of Our Club was developed by neighborhood groups and professional organizations to build and coordinate comprehensive prevention programs in at-risk neighborhoods and communities. Our Club allows community residents to "take back" their neighborhoods from negative and harmful influences. The basic idea is that children and families need activities in their neighborhood which are accessible at times when they are not occupied with work or school: in the evenings, on weekends, and during the summer. An Our Club afterschool program provides a haven where young people can escape from the streets and begin to build a life filled with hope and promise. Not all Our Clubs look exactly alike. Each Our Club has its own mix of programs and services directed to specific needs in the community. Components include education, health and physical fitness, cultural enrichment, and community service.

Please contact our office for an updated list of sites.

Public Service Internship

The Public Service Internship Program is a paid six week summer work experience program



designed to help students gain knowledge, skills, and exposure to careers in private sector, non-profit, and government work. Through this program, youth learn valuable lessons about leadership, community service, and how to work effectively with individuals and organizations to build healthy communities. Students ages 16-18 are eligible for this program.

VILLAGE Initiative

The VILLAGE Initiative is a collaborative project using community based and faith based resources with targeted programming and mentors to address and prevent the involvement and over-representation of minority males, ages 15-18, in the juvenile justice system. The concept of this project is based on an African proverb which states, "It takes a village to raise a child." The principles of the VILLAGE Initiative are Vision, Integrity, Leading, Learning, Advancing, Giving, and Encouragement.

Week of the Arts

The Week of the Arts program is a one week, full day program with a goal of providing art enrichment activities to underprivileged youth in Pulaski County. Each day, students are exposed to a different form of art, ranging from fine art to theater and dance. Eligible students are those entering fifth and sixth grades.

Youth Leadership Institute

The fall of 2007 marked the implementation of an academic year long leadership program for students in ninth and tenth grades. The goal of the program is to bond youth from different communi-



ties in the county and to develop a future adult leadership base that will remain in the county after college.

A wide array of activities gives participants the

Entrepreneurship program for middle and high school students.

PCYS is consistently developing new ways to serve the youth of Pulaski County. In addition to these services, we also have:

Family Math Night • Ropes Course • Abstinence Education • Job Shadowing

All programs are free and open to residents of Pulaski County. Please ask to be added to our monthly e-mail list.

opportunity to think about and practice life skills and workforce preparation skills. Focus areas include leadership,

communication, goals and decision-making, community involvement, civic responsibility, career exploration, and more. Students are also expected to complete a service project and a fundraising project. The program includes an overnight retreat and a graduation ceremony. Students are expected to meet two Saturdays per month throughout the academic year.

Youthonomics: Investing in Your Future

Youthonomics is a one-week, half-day financial literacy camp open to students in 7th through 12th grades. The program includes topics on credit, savings, financial planning, and identity theft. On the last day of the program, participants complete in a life-sized version of the Financial Game of Life created by PCYS and adapted by Milton Bradley's Game of Life.

