


DuPage County
Human Services Grant Fund

FY08 Final Report



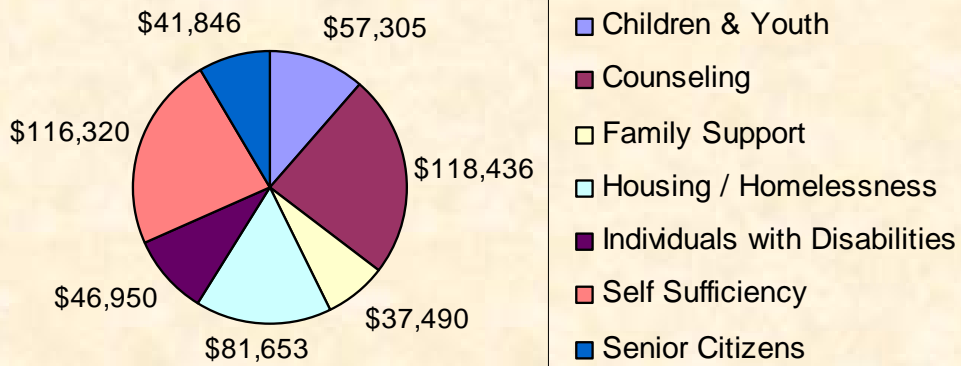
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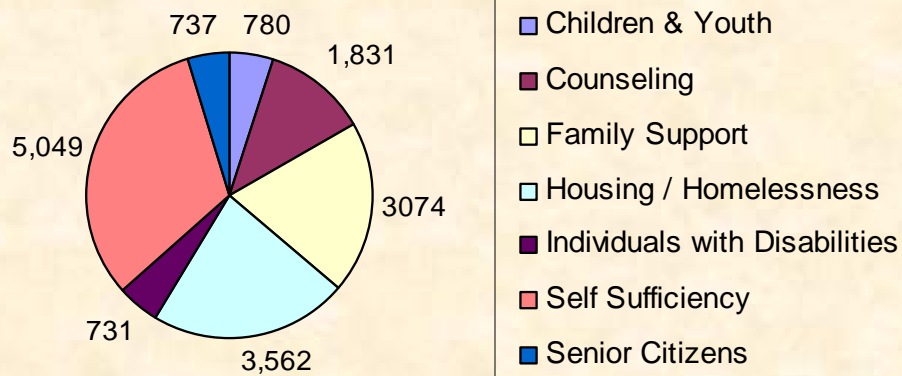
FY2008 Grant Overview

Category	HSGF Funding	Persons Served	# Projects
Children & Youth	\$57,305	780	7
Counseling	\$118,436	1,831	10
Family Support	\$37,490	3,074	4
Housing / Homelessness	\$81,653	3,562	8
Individuals with Disabilities	\$46,950	731	6
Self Sufficiency	\$116,320	5,049	7
Senior Citizens	\$41,846	737	4
TOTAL	\$500,000	15,764	46

FY08 Funding by Category



Individuals Served by Category



Human Services Grant Fund 2008 Final Report

Grantee: BRIDGE COMMUNITIES
505 Crescent Blvd., Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

Funded Project: Transitional Housing for Homeless Families

Award Amount: \$10,560

Population Category: Housing / Homelessness

Organization Summary: Bridge Communities provides transitional housing and supportive services for homeless families. In addition to safe housing, the program provides case management, budgeting skills, employment counseling, job readiness, after school tutoring, adult tutoring (GED, ESL, math and vocabulary skill work), aptitude testing, and transportation. After the family is stabilized in their new environment, the goal of the program is to bring about self-sufficiency for the client family by increasing their income, decreasing their debt, and improving their education and/or job skills with the end result of maintaining permanent housing.

Use of Funds: Partial salary and benefit support for Case Management staff.

Clients to be Served: 200

Actual Clients Served: 241

Project Outcomes:

- 100% (87) clients demonstrated improved life skills in money management, parenting, decision-making and household management skills.
- 30 clients worked with the Employment Director for a total of 1,500 hours of employment counseling and secured and maintained full-time employment that will sustain economic self-sufficiency.
- 100% (87) of clients created and lived on a budget, learned to save money while in the Program, and 52% were able to reduce their debt with 4,872 hours of life skills volunteer mentoring, an increase of 672 mentoring hours provided.
- 4,872 hours of case management were provided; an increase of 672 hours over the last fiscal year.

Notes from Agency: We did exceed our target outcomes, but due to the economy, our families are losing their jobs and needing more support from our employment director who is spending more time with each client.

The funding Bridge Communities received from the Human Services Grant Fund supported our work as an organization to meet the needs of extremely low to very low income at-risk and homeless families and make a difference in their lives. The County Board's commitment to assist human service providers such as Bridge Communities is greatly appreciated.

We commend the DuPage County Board for their commitment to support the human service providers in the County as they work together to equip people with needs in DuPage County to become financially stable.

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Grantee: CASA OF DUPAGE COUNTY
505 N. County Farm Rd, 3rd Fl, Suite C, Wheaton, IL 60187

Funded Project: Court Ordered Advocacy

Award Amount: \$7,920

Population Category: Children

Organization Summary: Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) are appointed by a judge to represent the best interests of an abused or neglected child in court proceedings. A CASA advocate attends 30-40 hours of training before he or she can become a child's advocate in court. Once trained, volunteer advocates are assigned to monitor a child's case through its duration resulting from a formal court order. Advocates are responsible for visiting the child on a monthly basis, review records, research information and talk to the foster parents, case workers, teachers and others involved in the child's case. Utilizing this information, the advocate then writes a report and submits it to the Judge. The Judge uses the report to make knowledgeable and educated dispositions about each child's placement and treatment needs.

Use of Funds: Partial salary and benefit support for Training Coordinator/Advocate Supervisor.

Clients to be Served: 160

Actual Clients Served: 298

Project Outcomes:

- 30 individuals were recruited and trained as volunteer Court Appointed Special Advocates.
- 35 hours of training was provided to each new volunteer Advocate.
- 95% of the assigned volunteer Advocates remained with the same client until completion of the case.

Notes from Agency: The quality and comprehension of our pre-service training has continued to improve with each class offered. However, the economic downturn, starting in late 2008, had an impact on the number of advocates available for this training curriculum. Though community interest in our program remains tremendously strong, many who were desirous of participating felt unable to during this time frame so as to not compromise job security. That caused our training enrollment during this reporting period to drop from the standard 18 to 22 participants per class to 15 participants.

As a consequence of the dynamic described above, we have scheduled an additional training for June of 2009 to make up this shortfall. As of this writing, 21 individuals are committed to taking this training. All are expected to be sworn-in on June 18th and available for case assignment immediately thereafter. The additional class is also necessitated by virtue of the fact that there are 54 more children in need of a CASA from the previous year.

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Grantee: CATHOLIC CHARITIES, DIOCESE OF JOLIET
203 N. Ottawa, Joliet, IL 60432

Funded Project: Emergency Services & Transitional Housing

Award Amount: \$11,220

Population Category: Housing / Homelessness

Organization Summary: Catholic Charities provides professional human services, advocates for a just and compassionate society, and brings together members of the community, church, business, health care and government to develop effective responses to human needs. The Emergency Services / Homeless Prevention / Transitional Housing project assists homeless families with stable housing as well as employment, improving education/job skills, budgeting, savings, and accessing medical, dental, credit, and legal help. The goals of this program is to assist low-income persons in retaining their housing or gaining self-sufficiency by obtaining permanent housing, increasing their income and accessing health care, credit, and legal help.

Use of Funds: Partial salary support for Case Management team.

Clients to be Served: 4,900

Actual Clients Served: 1,337

Project Outcomes:

- 2,708 (100%) of the persons requesting emergency services received services or referrals.
- 93% of households (37 of 40) were still housed at the 6-month mark.
- 100% (3 of 3) households exited the Transitional Housing Program with increased income through wages and/or benefits.

Notes from Agency: The numbers of persons projected to request emergency services, receive rent and/or utility assistance, and remain housed for 6-months was based on annualized data from last FY and fell short due to the 6-month time frame.

2008 Human Services Grant Fund Final Report

Grantee: CATHOLIC CHARITIES, DIOCESE OF JOLIET
203 N. Ottawa, Joliet, IL 60432

Funded Project: Hope House Shelter

Award Amount: \$16,500

Population Category: Housing / Homelessness

Organization Summary: Catholic Charities provides professional human services, advocates for a just and compassionate society, and brings together members of the community, church, business, health care and government to develop effective responses to human needs. The Hope House Program provides 24-hour, year round shelter for individuals and families who are homeless often due to job loss, divorce or depleted savings.

Use of Funds: Partial salary support for Residential Management team.

Clients to be Served: 70

Actual Clients Served: 61

Project Outcomes:

- 61/61 (100%) of clients admitted to Hope House in six months received 3 meals per day.
- 61/61 (100%) of homeless persons who were able and willing to return to self-sufficiency were admitted to Hope House during the six month grant period.
- 25/34 (74%) of employable adults at Hope House who stayed at least 7 days during the six month grant period obtained full-time employment.
- 25/44 (57%) of residents in the program during the 6 month grant period secured permanent housing.

Notes from Agency: Full-time employment continues to be a challenge for unemployed, employable adults during this economic downturn. Additionally, it is difficult to afford permanent housing without full-time wages and as a result, outcome measures for these goals fell slightly short of our projections.

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Grantee: ALMOST HOME KIDS (FORMERLY KNOWN AS COACH CARE CENTER)
7 South 721 Route 53, Naperville, IL 60540

Funded Project: Improving Quality of Life for Children who are Medically Fragile

Award Amount: \$12,500

Population Category: Children

Organization Summary: This project provides Respite Care Services and Transitional Care Services for children who are medically fragile and who may be technology-dependent.

Use of Funds: Partial support of unreimbursed daily rate costs of Respite Care Services and Transitional Care Services.

Clients to be Served: 7

Actual Clients Served: 11

Project Outcomes:

- 21 days of transitional care were provided to 5 families.
- 100% of caregivers receiving transitional care will demonstrated the knowledge and skills necessary to care for their children in the event nursing staff does not report for duty in the family's home.
- 28 individual/group sessions were provided to siblings in order to ease their concerns and re-align their role within the new family dynamic.
- 42 days of respite care were provided to 7 families, allowing their caregivers time away from the stressors associated with a medically fragile child.

Notes from Agency:

- The need to supplement transition and respite care is a continual challenge for us; the need always outweighs the means.
- We have changed our name to Almost Home Kids.

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Grantee: COMMUNITY HOUSE
415 West Eighth Street, Hinsdale, IL 60521

Funded Project: Intensive Outpatient Psychotherapy Services

Award Amount: \$6,125

Population Category: Counseling

Organization Summary: Community House seeks to offer equal opportunity for socially and economically disadvantaged individuals and to promote self-sufficiency. The program is designed to maintain and improve existing services, provide additional services that protect and support vulnerable residents, to decrease risky behavior especially among children and youth, and to foster academic appreciation among youth. This project provides mental health services to individuals and families with extremely low and low socioeconomic status.

Use of Funds: Partial salary support for part-time psychotherapist.

Clients to be Served: 48

Actual Clients Served: 149

Project Outcomes:

- 48 (100%) of uninsured/underinsured clients had immediate access to high-quality mental healthcare based solely on the clients' individualized needs.
- 46 (95%) of clients who presented in crisis were stabilized without hospitalization.
- 35 (73%) of all clients who completed the 4-week Assessment Phase demonstrated an increased understanding of the factors contributing to the presenting problem.
- 46 (96%) of all clients who completed the 4-week Assessment Phase reported a reduction in symptoms.

Notes from Agency: We have found that our client population is under tremendous stress in the current economic environment. Clients are presenting with multiple difficulties and this slows the therapeutic process down. We predicted that 38 clients (80%) would demonstrate an increased understanding of the contributing factors to the presenting problem by the time they completed the 4-week Assessment Phase, but only 35 clients (73%) demonstrated this understanding. We're finding that some clients are so overwhelmed when they present that facilitating symptom reduction is all that can be managed in the initial weeks of therapy. Happily, 96% of clients reported a reduction in symptoms in that crucial first month and continued on in therapy to work on understanding the underlying causes of their difficulties.

We feel truly privileged to be able to do this important work, made possible by our generous funders, serving the community residents that have the most pressing needs. During the 6-months covered by this grant, we were able to provide 1,486 sessions to 149 clients most of whom would have gone untreated without access to heavily subsidized session fees. The positive impact of treatment is multiplied many times over as clients' children, spouses, parents, employers, and society all benefit from the improved functioning of our clients.

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Grantee: COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES
9021 Ogden Ave, Brookfield, IL 60513

Funded Project: Vocational Training Program for Adults with Developmental Disabilities

Award Amount: \$12,123

Population Category: Self-sufficiency

Organization Summary: This project provides adults with developmental disabilities vocational training related to animal-care, and basic business/retail operations such as stocking, inventory, cashiering, and facility clean-up. Graduates will be employed at the doggie daycare and/or CSS will help them acquire paid or unpaid opportunities in the community at vet clinics, doggie day cares, boarding facilities, grooming facilities, or pet shops.

Use of Funds: Partial support for assorted program expenses including salaries, benefits, curriculum development, transportation and supplies.

Clients to be Served: 10

Actual Clients Served: 4

Project Outcomes:

- 40 hours of employment training sessions were provided to 4 individuals with developmental disabilities.
- 1 (25%) of participants found employment meeting her individuals goals within 30 days of completing training.
- 4 (100% of those who received training) have expressed satisfaction with their opportunities for social interaction during training.
- 4 (100% of those who received training) increased their daily exercise.

Notes from Agency: The Target Outcomes above were estimates for a year. Due to initial funding challenges, the Program did not get started until January, 2009. Thus this report covers five months, through May 15. We also had one major challenge in scheduling the classes. We had planned to hold the training sessions during the day, during the week. This proved to be problematic because when CSS started recruiting, most of the people who expressed interest were high school seniors who were still in school, and young adults who were in sheltered workshops during the day.

Once CSS determined that our target group would be high school seniors, and young adults, we developed entirely new marketing plans. These included designing and printing a brochure for the DuPage area Special Education Cooperatives, as well as junior colleges, libraries, and doctors' offices. In addition, our Vice President for Adult Services began discussions with Illinois State Board of Education representatives in order to set up a feeder system that may be put into place during the coming year. Since May 15, we have scheduled summer classes, and made some adjusts to the curriculum based on feedback and observations from the first 4 trainees.

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Grantee: DONKA
400 N. County Farm Rd, Wheaton, IL 60187

Funded Project: Empowering Persons with Disabilities thru Assistive Technology & Computer Training

Award Amount: \$9,900

Population Category: Self-sufficiency

Organization Summary: Donka provides persons with physical and visual disabilities comprehensive programs that combines computer training, assistive technology management, job placement activities, and community outreach. The Assistive Technology Training program provides clients with hardware, software, and a curriculum that will allow each student to use a computer independently, regardless of disability. Assistive technology and training gives persons with disabilities the ability to be equal with their peers in school, at home and in the workplace.

Use of Funds: Partial salary support for Mobile Instructor.

Clients to be Served: 4

Actual Clients Served: 4

Project Outcomes:

- 4 (100%) participants demonstrated the ability to use assistive technology with independence after 67 hours of training.
- 4 (100%) participants demonstrated the ability to use internet and electronic communication on a regular basis.
- 4 (100%) participants demonstrated the ability to use computer applications to be independent in achieving tasks at school / work. 100% achieved their goals of learning skills for work and / or school. 2 participants are employed; 1 is seeking employment

Notes from Agency: Donka is working towards having an "Assistive technology loaner program" so that students can use their technology for school and / or work. We were able to loan assistive technology to two of the participants during their training time at Donka. This is helping the Donka participants achieve goals and be more productive in their "work". The program also demonstrates, to the community (employers and teachers), the benefits of the technology and how independent people with disabilities can be with this technology and training.

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Grantee: DUPAGE CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING
739 Roosevelt Rd, Bldg 8, Ste 109, Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

Funded Project: Visually Impaired Program

Award Amount: \$5,280

Population Category: People with Disabilities

Organization Summary: The DuPage Center for Independent Living assists individuals with disabilities by providing them the skills and information necessary to advocate for themselves in conjunction with Community and Systems Advocacy. The agency assists individuals in a variety of ways including but not limited to: advocating for reasonable accommodations on the job, providing assistance so that individuals obtain transportation services and providing information on housing resources. The Visually Impaired Program strives to ensure that the four core services of independent living: Community and Systems Advocacy, Information and Referral, Peer Counseling and Support and Independent Living Skills training are offered to individuals who are blind or visually impaired.

Use of Funds: Partial support for assorted program expenses including salaries, benefits, transportation and supplies.

Clients to be Served: 145

Actual Clients Served: 148

Project Outcomes:

- As a result of the monthly support group 22 consumers raised their self esteem and gained a greater sense of independence.
- 83 persons will receive increased knowledge of adaptive equipment for persons with visual disabilities as a result of Visually Impaired Awareness Day.
- 41 individuals received per support on a monthly basis.
- 132 individuals with visual disabilities received information and referral services during the reporting period.
- Through Advocating in a collaborative effort with Yorktown management, visually impaired consumers and DCIL, this bus route is now more accessible to visually impaired riders.

Notes from Agency:

- During the long inclement weather over the winter months, attendance to activities was down.
- Plans are already well under way for the next annual visually impaired awareness day. There are currently 28 vendors registered for this year's event with more expected.
- Members of the VIP Committee increased knowledge of the expanded Ride DuPage Program in Wheaton & Milton Township.
- Current committee plans include ongoing support towards Ride Dupage implementation into Elmhurst.

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Grantee: DUPAGE COMMUNITY CLINIC
1506 E. Roosevelt Rd, Wheaton, IL 60187

Funded Project: Dental Clinic

Award Amount: \$9,240

Population Category: Families

Organization Summary: DuPage Community Clinic provides free primary, diagnostic and therapeutic medical and dental intervention to low-income DuPage County residents who are medically uninsured. Over 300 on-site health and dental care professionals and referral specialists voluntarily provide laboratory and other diagnostic testing and therapeutic procedures at no cost to patients.

Use of Funds: Partial salary support for Bi-lingual Dental Receptionist/Translator.

Clients to be Served: 200

Actual Clients Served: 260

Project Outcomes:

- From May 2008 to April 2009 we provided 595 unduplicated patients oral exams and treatment plans.
- From May 2008 to April 2009 we provided 1,364 dental appointments. On average it took 2.7 appointments per patient to resolve dental complaints, with several patients requiring more than 10 visits to complete their dental work.
- In total, 292 patients, or 58% of our patients, completed their treatment plan.
- In follow up phone calls, 75% of the patients report that they have complied with oral health teachings, instructions and referrals. However, for patients who are seen in a re-care appointment, the clinical staff report that 62% of the patients show evid
- 70% of patients for re-care appointments had no new dental caries.

Notes from Agency:

- We had no difficulty in reaching our capacity targeted outcomes; we had greater difficulty in meeting this new surge of need in our community.
- Like most non profits, we are seeing a significant increase in demand for our services. These patients are also different; they are patients are the "new" unemployed- they are patients who are used to getting some regular care in the past but have recently lost health insurance.
- In the month of March alone, we added 62 new patients to our waiting list, and then in April we added an additional 51 patients.

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Grantee: DUPAGE COUNTY 4-H FOUNDATION
1100 E. Warrenville Rd, Suite 170, Naperville, IL 60563

Funded Project: NRC Science Explorations Project

Award Amount: \$10,385

Population Category: Children

Organization Summary: DuPage County 4-H Foundation will encourage youth served at various Neighborhood Resource Centers to investigate a future career in science, engineering, or technology. Youth will receive 360 supplemental minutes of science instruction (over 6 weeks), with experiential learning activities and low teacher/student ratio. Career information will be presented at each session. Science books and kits will be provided to youth and NRCs for future use.

Use of Funds: Partial support for assorted program expenses including salaries, benefits, insurance, transportation and supplies.

Clients to be Served: 100

Actual Clients Served: 102

Project Outcomes:

- 2 NRCs each received six one-hour sessions of science education reaching a total of 102 youth.
- 70 (95%) youth who completed the final evaluation demonstrated increased knowledge of science.
- 66 (89%) youth who completed the final evaluation demonstrated increased knowledge of science vocabulary.
- 67 (91%) youth who completed the final evaluation demonstrated increased interest in independent study of a science topic or in Science, Engineering and Technology (SET) post-secondary education or career fields.

Notes from Agency:

- 102 unduplicated, targeted youth attended at least one session of the program. The average daily attendance was 82 youth per day.
- 106 youth came to kick-off events – younger youth were invited
- Average daily attendance – 82 youth
- 79 youth attended at least 4 of the 6 sessions
- 102 targeted youth attended at least once

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Grantee: DUPAGE HOMEOWNERSHIP CENTER
1333 N. Main St, Wheaton, IL 60187

Funded Project: Comprehensive Homeownership Services

Award Amount: \$9,900

Population Category: Housing / Homelessness

Organization Summary: DHOC provides prepurchase education, counseling, and special mortgage assistance programs to first-time homebuyers in DuPage County, with an emphasis on serving low-income, minority and other traditionally underserved populations. Additional services include providing foreclosure prevention counseling for homeowners in financial crisis and reverse mortgage counseling for financially vulnerable senior homeowners.

Use of Funds: Partial salary support for Housing Counselor.

Clients to be Served: 400

Actual Clients Served: 332

Project Outcomes:

- 239 individuals (95%) reported being satisfied with the information they received at free homebuyer education classes, enabling them to make informed choices without falling victim to predatory lending practices.
- 14 households completed the counseling program during the grant period and purchased homes.
- 38 default clients completed the counseling program and prevented foreclosure.
- 28 financially vulnerable seniors completed the counseling program, enabling them to make informed choices and access appropriate financial products to address their cash-flow needs. Services received 100% satisfaction ratings.

Notes from Agency: The foreclosure crisis and subsequent economic downturn have been profound.

- Foreclosure Prevention Counseling: Since 2006, the volume of foreclosure prevention clients has increased more than 400%, and the average length of the initial counseling appointment has doubled from 1.5 hours to about 3 hours per session. It is taking longer to get resolutions (63% of the clients who have come in for counseling since the foreclosure crisis hit in 2007 are still in counseling with us).
- Home Buyer Education Classes: Attendance was lower than expected, especially in the last quarter of 2008. Attendance has picked up since January 1 due to tax incentives for first-time buyers and the relatively low interest rates.
- Home Purchases: IHDA suspended the I-Loan Program due to turmoil in the bond market, including the DuPage Bond Program. We had to find a new secondary market outlet for the Homestead first mortgages and had to make changes to the program underwriting to reflect current market conditions. The market-ready group of clients slated to shop for homes in January have had to wait until June.

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Grantee: DUPAGE PADS
705 W. Liberty, Wheaton, IL 60187

Funded Project: Overnight Shelter and Support Center

Award Amount: \$12,375

Population Category: Housing / Homelessness

Organization Summary: DuPage PADS provides a sleeping site, meals and short-term case management in twenty church facilities, seven nights a week, year round. The shelter has the largest service capacity in DuPage County. DuPage PADS also has a permanent daytime Support Center which provides lunch, laundry facilities, showers, phones, case management, health care, legal assistance, support and employment services, five days a week.

Use of Funds: Partial salary and benefit support for Employment Specialist.

Clients to be Served: 1,100

Actual Clients Served: 721

Project Outcomes:

- 70% of those individuals who participated in employment readiness met 3 of the 5 goals. However it should be noted that addressing substance abuse is an ongoing issue and does not mean that they are substance abuse free.
- 70% of individuals referred from case management obtained full or part time employment.
- 35% of those placed into employment obtained their employment for 90 days or longer.

Notes from Agency: Since funding and this report was only for a six month period, it was difficult for some individuals to achieve the last target outcome of job retention for 3 months or longer as many of the individuals who did obtain employment have not been employed long enough to reach this outcome.

The first target outcome is based upon the United Way outcome measure for their financial stability grant. This is not an easy outcome to measure as addressing substance abuse fluctuates based upon the internal motivation of the individual that also fluctuates. The clients that met this outcome was due to obtaining experience on the job, accessing transportation to get to their employers and beginning to engage with the substance abuse counselors at PADS Support Center and with Healthcare Alternative Systems (HAS).

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Grantee: EDUCATION CENTER OF DEVELOPMENTAL RESOURCE
113 E. Van Buren, Naperville, IL 60540

Funded Project: Outreach and Counseling Prevention Project

Award Amount: \$5,000

Population Category: Children

Organization Summary: The Education Center of Developmental Resources is a counseling and referral center that provides life coaching as a means to help children and teens gain self-confidence, independence, and skills to last a lifetime. Through an individualized step-by-step approach of listening and mentoring, participants overcome negative situations and influences, get on the right track in school and gain the self-esteem vital to realizing their dreams. The program focuses on helping kids understand that they are ultimately responsible for their lives, no matter what emotional hits they may have taken in the past, it's up to them to move forward.

Use of Funds: Partial salary and benefit support for Agency Counselors and Outreach Coordinator.

Clients to be Served: 50

Actual Clients Served: 50

Project Outcomes:

- 16 Students showed an improvement in their coping skills. Each student received between 20-25 counseling sessions. Students were not cited for any further criminal behavior during this period.
- 10 Students improved their grades and will graduate in May. 6 students improved their grades and will move to the next appropriate grade level. All 16 students received between 20 and 25 academic tutoring sessions.
- 15 Students received jobs skills training and attended a social or business event with their mentor. They each showed confidence and exhibited appropriate behavior during their meetings.

Notes from Agency: Spring is a difficult time for students with behavior disorders and learning disabilities, as performance expectations are high, and pressure mounts from parents and teachers. We were concerned our students would lapse, but with the structure of The Education Center, they overcame obstacles and were successful.

Thank you to the Human Services Fund for truly making a difference in the life of these kids. Your support has made it possible for them to have a brighter future, and cause their return to a better quality of life. These Students know that your help gave them a second chance, and they are grateful.

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Grantee: ELMHURST WALK-IN MINISTRY
125 Church Street, Elmhurst, IL 60126

Funded Project: Basic Needs Assistance

Award Amount: \$3,038

Population Category: Housing / Homelessness

Organization Summary: Elmhurst Walk-In Ministry provides food, clothing, essential bills such as utility, housing, car repair, prescriptions, train or bus tickets or vouchers of certificates for local businesses.

Use of Funds: Partial support for assistance with rent, utilities, vehicle repair and food.

Clients to be Served: 142

Actual Clients Served: 250

Project Outcomes:

- All clients were asked if they needed food assistance.
- All utility requests were evaluated for increased funding. Additional funding distributed as needed.
- All rental requests were evaluated for increased funding. Additional funding distributed as needed.

Notes from Agency: None

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Grantee: EVANGELICAL CHILD & FAMILY AGENCY
1530 N. Main St, Wheaton, IL 60187

Funded Project: West Chicago In Community (Latino Mental Health Services)

Award Amount: \$4,980

Population Category: Counseling

Organization Summary: ECFA provides many services, including adoption, pregnancy counseling and care, family counseling, and child welfare services which includes foster care and family preservation. The Latina Outreach Project provides Spanish language parent education classes, mental health education, and a West Chicago counseling site.

Use of Funds: Partial salary and benefit support for Bi-lingual Therapist/Parent Educator.

Clients to be Served: 39

Actual Clients Served: 9

Project Outcomes:

- Final outcomes have not been measured because all clients are still active.
- Because of the time constraints mentioned in #3 below, a parenting class was not held.
- 18 (72%) clients made contact with other resources, were served immediately, or agreed to be placed on a waiting list for counseling.

Notes from Agency: These numbers are for those clients who are being actively served with counseling services. An additional 18 persons were served by being referred to, and making contact with, community resources. No income or age data was collected for those persons.

The person hired to provide services in the project could not start employment until February 1, 2009. After going through initial orientation, little time remained to build a caseload. We had suspended the program during the last year due to lack of funding. Restarting the program with a modified focus also contributed to the low numbers.

One of our current priorities is to broaden the funding base to reduce our dependence on any single source, such as the HSGF. There is a waiting list of clients to serve, but the capability of the program is currently limited.

A Spanish-speaking intern will be joining the staff in August 2009. Her clients will be comprised of approximately 75% Latino and 25% other.

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Grantee:	EXODUS WORLD SERVICES 109 Fairfield Way, Suite 101, Bloomingdale, IL 60108
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Funded Project:	Community Welcome for Refugees
Award Amount:	\$8,170
Population Category:	Counseling
Organization Summary:	Exodus' programs are focused on building bridges between the community and refugees. This grant supports The Welcome to America! Pack Program which provides needed essentials to fill a bare apartment and welcome an arriving refugee family to their new life.
Use of Funds:	Partial salary and benefit support for New Neighbor and Welcome Pack program directors.
Clients to be Served:	840
Actual Clients Served:	101
Project Outcomes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 21 refugee families (83 individuals) received a minimum of \$500 of basic household supplies and food staples.• 46 refugees (12 families) received a minimum of 24 hours of individualized support services.• 100% of participating refugees increased their knowledge of available community services as a result of three months of weekly home visits by trained volunteers.• 19 training opportunities were presented to 359 community residents, resulting in 100% increase in understanding of and support for refugees.
Notes from Agency:	<p>Both the number of new families and the average size of those families were lower than our projection. In particular, the Bhutanese and Iraqi families that arrived during the grant period averaged only 3 people per family unit, compared to Sudanese and Somali families who arrived in prior years with as many as 6-8 people per family unit. (Only one African family arrived during this grant period.)</p> <p>In addition to the refugees receiving home visits from "New Neighbor" volunteers, another 74 refugees received informal home visits (averaging 20 or more hours) from the volunteers delivering "Welcome to America! Packs."</p> <p>31% of the families served were forced out of Bhutan as members of the Lhotsampa, a minority ethnic group. On average, these families spent 15+ years in remote refugee camps in Nepal before arriving in DuPage county.</p> <p>27% of the families served fled Burma. Most of these families are from the Karen or Chen minority ethnic groups and were persecuted by the military dictatorship in Myanmar/Burma. These families spent on average 15 or more years in remote refugee camps in Thailand before arriving in DuPage County.</p> <p>27% of the families served fled Iraq. Most experienced kidnappings and significant violence before fleeing Iraq and then spent their life savings trying to survive in Syria or Lebanon while awaiting U.S. refugee acceptance.</p>

2008 Human Services Grant Fund Final Report

Grantee: FAMILY SHELTER SERVICE
605 E. Roosevelt Rd, Wheaton, IL 60187

Funded Project: Advocacy Program for Victims of Domestic Violence

Award Amount: \$27,000

Population Category: Counseling

Organization Summary: Family Shelter Service provides services for victims of domestic violence, including: individual and group counseling, emergency shelter, court advocacy, 24-hour hotline, teen services, children's services, and Latina services. Funding is being used in the Advocacy Program which provides follow up on every police-reported incident of domestic abuse in DuPage County to check on victim safety and to provide referral information.

Use of Funds: Partial salary support for Court Advocate.

Clients to be Served: 150

Actual Clients Served: 623

Project Outcomes:

- 2,444 domestic violence victims referred to the agency as a result of a police-reported incident were contacted by advocates, who provided information, support and referral services.
- 623 victims of domestic violence were supported throughout the court process as they sought an Order of Protection (OOP).
- 57 victims of domestic violence participating in education groups received advocacy support and information.
- 88% of clients surveyed reported being satisfied or very satisfied with the emotional support they received from advocates.
- 99% of victims surveyed reported knowledge of accessing court services, safety planning, and FSS services.
- 39 service providers were trained to assist victims in completing the online petition for an Order of Protection.
- 39 (100%) people who received training on the Circuit Court's online OOP petition system reported they had gained new knowledge.

Notes from Agency: We provided several police department trainings in December 2008 and January 2009 and continue to contact other departments by mail to offer refresher trainings and to remind departments of the procedure for making reports to FSS victim advocates.

While the FSS Advocacy Program is seeing an increase in petitioners completing portions of the OOP petition by themselves online, these petitioners often need additional support from advocates once they arrive at court. Additionally, we continue to serve large numbers of clients accessing our court services directly. Offering emotional support and community resources is as vital a service as assisting with Orders of Protection, and we are committed to providing this level of advocacy regardless of staffing levels. HSGF funding is critically important to our agency's ability to continue to provide high-quality advocacy services to victims of domestic violence pursuing legal remedies.

2008 Human Services Grant Fund Final Report

Grantee: HAMDARD CENTER FOR HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
228 East Lake St, Addison, IL 60101

Funded Project: Case Management - Addison Office

Award Amount: \$7,000

Population Category: Families

Organization Summary: The Hamdard Center is a multilingual, multi-cultural, social & health service agency dedicated to serving the South Asian, Middle Eastern, and Bosnian Communities. The Employability / Community Survival Skills Program seeks to provide employability/survival skills training, job training, job placement, and job development activities for South Asian/Middle Eastern and immigrant victims of domestic violence. The program goal is to promote self-sufficiency among minority, culturally diverse, underserved, non-English/limited English speaking immigrant victims of domestic violence, culturally and linguistically tailored through life skills and employability skills training and locating, linking them to jobs.

Use of Funds: Partial salary and benefit support for Case Management staff.

Clients to be Served: 1657

Actual Clients Served: 1523

Project Outcomes:

- An 80% increase in knowledge about community resources was reported by clients with limited English-speaking capabilities who received advocacy services.
- 100% of clients with limited English-speaking capabilities have received translation assistance for a minimum of one public assistance program.
- 90% of attendees at 2 community education sessions showed an increase in knowledge of community resources.
- 100% of clients served received at least one referral for supportive services.

Notes from Agency: Many of our immigrant clients are not eligible for benefits due to their immigration status. For instance, immigrants who have been in the United States for under 5 years, even though they may be a legal resident, are still not eligible for assistance such as food stamps and TANF.

The target numbers provided in the original application were based off of the agency's case management services for a full year, FY07. The agency has increased the number of case management clients served by approximately 20% last year. However, the numbers for this report fall slightly under the target because this grant covered only a six-month period, but due to the addition of the new case management office at Hamdard's Addison location, we were able to greatly surpass the number of clients we would normally serve in a six-month period.

2008 Human Services Grant Fund Final Report

Grantee: HINSDALE COMMUNITY SERVICE
19 E. Chicago Ave, Hinsdale, IL 60521

Funded Project: Family, Singles and Seniors Moving Towards Self Sufficiency

Award Amount: \$15,120

Population Category: Self-sufficiency

Organization Summary: Hinsdale Community Service provides focused interim services, counseling, and education to help vulnerable families/individuals. Services include: Healthy Options Food Pantry and workshops that address, maintain or improve medical conditions requiring special dietary need; Financial Literacy improve basic money-management skills; ESL classes; Homelessness Prevention counseling; Case-management services; Advocacy; Job Connections; and Financial Safety Net support.

Use of Funds: Partial support for assorted program expenses including salaries, mileage, and supplies.

Clients to be Served: 215

Actual Clients Served: 215

Project Outcomes:

- 29 families (76%) remained in their homes after receiving rental assistance.
- 219 families (90%) provided case management, maintained a prepared and attainable household budget.
- 34 participants (91%) in ESL classes demonstrated an improved ability to request services and assistance in English.
- 203 (84%) families used the food pantry twice per month and have allocated that savings to pay other monthly expenses.

Notes from Agency: We experienced some challenges to get to our targeted number of families served with rental assistance due to a decrease in overall funding. By year's end (June 30), however, we may be able to reach more than our targeted number of 55 client families served, as we approach a variety of other funding resources.

Many of our ESL clients were challenged to attend English classes due to barriers in lack of childcare, transportation, and/or domestic issues. We therefore referred 35% of our ESL clients to a partnering agency that provides one-to-one, home-based tutoring for those clients.

2008 Human Services Grant Fund Final Report

Grantee: KIDS IN NEED
20W389 Army Trail Rd, Addison, IL 60101

Funded Project: Clothes for Kids

Award Amount: \$7,500

Population Category: Children

Organization Summary: Kids In Need addresses the immediate needs of children who have lost one or both of their parents under extreme or sudden circumstances. Services include providing for immediate housing needs including a temporary care facility, social workers to guide children through the transition to a social service agency such as DCFS or until arrangements can be made with the next of kin, education assistance, emergency medical care, and legal representation.

Use of Funds: Partial support for clothing purchases.

Clients to be Served: 300

Actual Clients Served: 252

Project Outcomes:

- 252 children received clothing.

Notes from Agency: Decreasing grant sources and funding levels are making it increasingly more difficult to provide for children in need. During tough economic times there have been more children in need of services with fewer resources available.

2008 Human Services Grant Fund Final Report

Grantee: LITERACY VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA-DUPAGE
24W500 Maple Ave., #217, Naperville, IL 60540

Funded Project: Adult Literacy Program

Award Amount: \$10,000

Population Category: Self-sufficiency

Organization Summary: Literacy Volunteers of America-DuPage provides accessible and customized one-to-one tutoring for adults with low-level literacy skills who have difficulty accessing classroom instruction to help them achieve independence in their roles as worker, community resident, and family member. Trained volunteers help adults read, write, speak and understand English for everyday use (i.e. speak to doctors, teachers, gain employment, read to children, understand finances). Weekly tutoring for two hours occurs in a one-on-one setting at a time and place convenient for the learner. Learner-driven customized lesson plans are based on each student's own goals and level of proficiency.

Use of Funds: Partial salary support for program staff.

Clients to be Served: 450

Actual Clients Served: 470

Project Outcomes:

- 142 new volunteer tutors were trained in one of 10 training workshops provided throughout the county.
- 83% of ESL students improved their pre-test level.
- 83% of ABE students improved their pre-test level.
- 100% of all learners who received 30+ hours of tutoring instruction documented life skill gains and application.

Notes from Agency: Retention of both learners and tutors has been challenging during the downturn in the economy. The learner population is very vulnerable to job loss that impacts their ability to access basic needs. Keeping track of learners who are moving because of budget issues or who are sharing or switching phones has been more challenging than in the past. Some of the learners have had to take on additional jobs and their new schedule may not allow them time for tutoring sessions. For tutors, many have some similar issues as the students – taking on a part-time job or moving to find another job. Because of the economic challenges, both tutors and learners seem to have less time to meet for instruction even though the need for help with English skills is far greater than ever before. Thus, less meeting time equates to slower improvement.

Our consistent program challenge is to continue to provide the resources (staff and volunteer) to maintain effectiveness for our growing program. Currently, our waiting list has climbed to over 150 qualified adults so the wait can be up to one year for a tutor. We believe that our waiting list has grown due to changes at College of DuPage resulting in more demand for our services.

2008 Human Services Grant Fund Final Report

Grantee: LOAVES AND FISHES COMMUNITY PANTRY
556 W. Fifth Ave, Naperville, IL 60563

Funded Project: Home Delivery to Homebound Senior Citizens and Disabled Residents

Award Amount: \$11,250

Population Category: Seniors

Organization Summary: Loaves & Fishes Community Pantry provides food and personal care essentials to Naperville area residents in need.

Use of Funds: Partial support for food and personal care purchases at food bank prices.

Clients to be Served: 198

Actual Clients Served: 221

Project Outcomes:

- 169 senior and disabled households received an average of 10.9 food and essentials product distributions.

Notes from Agency: We had no difficulty in reaching our target outcomes for number of households and individuals served. Demand for this assistance from seniors and the disabled continues to grow. We also expanded our Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter holiday home delivery services somewhat.

However, the average number of distributions per household was slightly below projection – 10.9 vs. 12.0. In retrospect, these results should have been anticipated since the maximum number of distributions that a household can receive is two per month, or 12 during the six month grant period.

There are two primary factors accounting for why a family might receive less than 12 distributions. One is that households may have started or discontinued participation during the grant period. Thus, they could only receive distributions during the months that they were enrolled in the program.

The other factor is that some households wanted to take advantage of Client Choice on-site. So they sent friends or family members to Loaves & Fishes to select the food that they wanted, rather than receive pre-bagged food via Home Delivery. Those distributions counted as on-site rather than Home Delivery distributions.

Thank you very much for this generous grant, which helped us not only to provide food via Home Delivery to clients needing assistance but also to improve the program. Improvements were made by delivering special holiday meals to more families and since we saw that clients made special efforts to make use of Client Choice, we initiated a pilot program to make Client Choice possible for Home Delivery.

As we perfect Client Choice procedures for Home Delivery and as the demographics change, having more low income seniors and disabled individuals, we expect that there will be an increase in the number of distributions made by Home Delivery in 2009.

2008 Human Services Grant Fund Final Report

Grantee: LOVE CHRISTIAN CLEARINGHOUSE
98 E. Chicago Ave, Suite 205, Westmont, IL 60559

Funded Project: Program Coordinator - Love Help Fund

Award Amount: \$7,500

Population Category: Housing / Homelessness

Organization Summary: LOVE serves people in need with programs including a Call-In Center, The Brighter Tomorrows Program (stabilizing and strengthening working force low-income families), emergency funding, furniture ministry and the Gift of Time and Talent Program (connecting those in need with those who can directly help).

Use of Funds: Partial salary and benefit support for Program Coordinator/Executive Director.

Clients to be Served: 3687

Actual Clients Served: 530

Project Outcomes:

- 134 families were provided with rental assistance allowing 75.3% to remain in their current home for at least 90 days.
- 46 families received utility assistance.
- 14 families received car repair assistance allowing 43% to remain employed and driving a running car after 90 days.
- 1,120 households received referrals to social service agencies and local churches.

Notes from Agency: Our main obstacle was our inability to meet the needs of all of our callers. Oftentimes, the caller's need was just too great and our financial resources were limited as to how much we could provide. Another challenge is that there are just so many other agencies out there to refer people for help. On the surface, it appears that there are hundreds of social service agencies in DuPage County, but most do not provide car repair assistance or utility assistance. The need will always outweigh the resources.

2008 Human Services Grant Fund Final Report

Grantee: LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICES OF ILLINOIS
544 S. Cornell, Villa Park, IL 60181

Funded Project: West Suburban Counseling Center

Award Amount: \$6,600

Population Category: Counseling

Organization Summary: LSSI seeks to promote self-sufficiency through a combination of counseling, education and case management to help clients and their families achieve independence. The program serves people who have mental health issues such as anxiety and depression, people who are coping with divorce and people who are recovering from domestic abuse. The program also serves children who have been diagnosed with Attention Deficit Disorder and children with behavioral problems in school.

Use of Funds: Partial salary and benefit support for direct service staff.

Clients to be Served: 167

Actual Clients Served: 169

Project Outcomes:

- 75% of the individuals who received 10 individual sessions demonstrated improvement in mood, anxiety level, and increased ability to cope with stressors.
- 50% of the couples who completed 6 couples counseling sessions reported improvement in positive interactions and reduction of conflict.
- 38% of the parents receiving 10 sessions reported a greater knowledge of effective parenting, a greater level of co-parenting, expression of affection, knowledge of child development, need for flexibility, increased family management skills, and improved
- 45% of the aging clients served reported improvement of moods and use of coping skills and had an increased knowledge of community resources.
- Due to a very small number of interested participants the group was cancelled. In its place, we served 26 Hispanic/Latino clients that exceeded our goal of 12%.

Notes from Agency: In addition to increasing the number of Hispanic/Latino clients (both Spanish speaking and bilingual), we offered a training to professionals titled "Culturally Sensitive Couples Therapy Training" which had an emphasis on family systems theory as it applied to the Hispanic/Latino culture. We had 18 participants. 95% of the attendees reported having gained knowledge that would be helpful when treating all couples and especially Hispanic/Latino couples.

Thank you for supporting our West Suburban Counseling program. It enabled us to meet our goals for the 6 month grant period. In addition, we were able to offer 4 presentations to the communities we serve in DuPage on requested topics including 2 parenting presentations, a grief and loss presentation and a presentation on handling stress in hard economic times.

2008 Human Services Grant Fund Final Report

Grantee: MARKLUND
1S450 Wyatt Dr, Geneva, IL 60134

Funded Project: Community Respite Program

Award Amount: \$5,940

Population Category: People with Disabilities

Organization Summary: Marklund exists to help infants, children, and adults who have severe and profound developmental disabilities reach their highest potential and live a full and happy life. The network includes pediatric-skilled nursing, residential, educational and day training programs for all ages.

Use of Funds: Partial salary and benefit support for respite workers.

Clients to be Served: 50

Actual Clients Served: 15

Project Outcomes:

- 9 (100%) families receiving 15-20 hours of community respite service indicated increased life satisfaction due to the respite services.
- 9 (100%) families reported that scheduled respite service allowed them to plan everyday events more easily, including running errands or spending time with other family members.
- 9 (100%) families utilizing respite services report feeling less stressed.
- 9 (100%) families reported the Respite Worker helped their child achieve the goals developed during the initial planning meeting.

Notes from Agency: We realize that we were aggressive in considering that we would provide services to 50 families in DuPage County. Currently, our respite client database consists of 65 families throughout Chicagoland. Thirty of those families do not currently receive respite services. (They either prefer to use services at peak times, i.e. during the summer or are waiting for complimentary service.) The remaining 35 families are located throughout Cook, DuPage, Kane and Will Counties. Nearly half of those served are in DuPage.

Marklund's Respite Program receives state funding to provide free service to families. This funding allowed us to offer 60-80 complimentary hours per quarter to each family. By February, we had run out of this funding and were unable to provide additional free hours.

We quickly learned that the demand for service decreases when the funding ran out. Due to today's economic climate, all families have been cutting back on any expenses, including paying sliding scale prices for respite services.

Our goal for the next fiscal year is to seek underwriting funding to provide additional free hours of service and a more discounted sliding scale to more families in the Chicagoland area.

2008 Human Services Grant Fund Final Report

Grantee: METROPOLITAN FAMILY SERVICES
222 E. Willow Ave, Wheaton, IL 60187

Funded Project: Psychiatric Services

Award Amount: \$37,500

Population Category: Counseling

Organization Summary: MFS offers a comprehensive range of programs to help Chicago-area families become strong, stable and self-sufficient. The Psychiatric Project provides screening, psychosocial assessment, individualized service plans, individual, family and group counseling, psychiatric evaluation, medication management and case management services to children, adolescents, and adults, including older adults. The goals of the program are to ensure protection of vulnerable residents with mental health difficulties, and to help them become or remain self-sufficient by providing treatment and early intervention that prevents functional decline or that supports functional improvement.

Use of Funds: Partial salary and benefit support for assorted program staff.

Clients to be Served: 35

Actual Clients Served: 35

Project Outcomes:

- 30 adults received an average of 7.5 counseling sessions.
- 5 children received psychiatric assessments, medication management and an average of 8 counseling sessions.
- 79.3% of clients for whom we were able to measure this outcome improved/stabilized their level of functioning.
- 78% of clients for whom we were able to measure this outcome exhibited increased knowledge and skills.
- 94.3% of clients for whom we were able to measure this outcome achieved at least one therapy goal.

Notes from Agency: None

2008 Human Services Grant Fund Final Report

Grantee: METROPOLITAN FAMILY SERVICES
222 E. Willow Ave, Wheaton, IL 60187

Funded Project: SHIFT

Award Amount: \$10,560

Population Category: Housing / Homelessness

Organization Summary: MFS offers a comprehensive range of programs to help Chicago-area families become strong, stable and self-sufficient. The SHIFT Transitional Housing Program (a collaboration of 4 social service agencies: Catholic Charities, Metropolitan Family Services, The YWCA DuPage, DuPage County Community Services) provides transitional housing, intensive case management, mental health services, employment counseling, and other support services to high-risk homeless families with multiple/complex needs. The objective is to provide a safe environment for participants to develop life skills and job related skills so that they can maintain a stable residence after completing the program.

Use of Funds: Partial support for assorted program expenses including salaries, benefits, equipment rental, health assistance, utilities, travel and supplies.

Clients to be Served: 16

Actual Clients Served: 90

Project Outcomes:

- 29 parents and 61 children were provided an apartment.
- 80% of the families/individuals served improved or stabilized their functioning.
- 44 individuals received counseling services and 35 of them stabilized or improved their functioning level.
- 12 adults were provided with employment and job skills assessments and became employed.
- 11 adults developed a plan to improve their employment skills and increased their income.

Notes from Agency: The weak job market kept client incomes low. Most newly found jobs were part-time and/or seasonal.

Clients struggling with depression and other mental health problems had difficulty maintaining motivation and initiative in finding a job. However, those that found employment were able to increase their household income. Some clients have maintained long-term employment and others have returned to school.

2008 Human Services Grant Fund Final Report

Grantee: NAMI OF DUPAGE
2100 Manchester Rd, Bldg B, Suite 925, Wheaton, IL 60187

Funded Project: Consumer Services

Award Amount: \$2,500

Population Category: Counseling

Organization Summary: NAMI's mission is to provide support, advocacy, and education in order to improve the quality of life for individuals with mental illness and their families. The Consumer Services Program provides people with mental illness with supportive programs and services that enable them to take steps towards overcoming some of the debilitating effects of their illness and move towards recovery.

Use of Funds: Partial salary and benefit support for staff .

Clients to be Served: 130

Actual Clients Served: 152

Project Outcomes:

- 21 (84%) consumers completed the Peer to Peer classes.
- 89 (70%) of consumers in support groups completed first 4 weeks; 64 (50%) participated for 3 months or more.
- 152 (100%) of all clients reported improved independence and self confidence to varying degrees.

Notes from Agency:

- We did not have a challenge reaching the projected numbers of participants; the challenge was to accommodate the larger numbers with an additional support group.
- We did not reach the projected numbers for the Peer to Peer program; this is a very challenging program for the participants, all of who live with mental illness.
- We would like to reach more ethnic groups; we are pleased with those we have reached but need to find ways to reach more.
- We discovered that if a consumer stays in a support group for 4 weeks, then he/she is likely to continue in the group for a long period. Drop-outs were higher in frequency during the first 4 weeks, but drop-out frequency declined after 4 weeks.
- The support groups grew faster than we expected, which seems to indicate a great need for this on-going support for people with mental illness.
- These programs are closely related to our Recovery Connections project being implemented in local hospitals. Part of the success of the Peer to Peer and support groups is due to the increased recognition of NAMI programs by hospitals.

2008 Human Services Grant Fund Final Report

Grantee: NAPERVILLE HUMANE SOCIETY
1620 W. Diehl Road, Naperville, IL 60563

Funded Project: NHS/NCO Collaborative Canine Coaches Program

Award Amount: \$2,750

Population Category: Children

Organization Summary: This project is a partnership with NCO Youth and Family Services. This project offers boys residing in NCO's Cornerstone Shelter For Boys group home environment the opportunity to visit the shelter and interact with shelter dogs. The boys visit twice per week and assist in the training and care of the dogs, teaching the boys patience, flexibility, compassion and empathy through a variety of humane education techniques. This program is used by NCO Staff as incentive for group home residents to make positive choices and prevent negative violent behaviors.

Use of Funds: Partial support for assorted program expenses including salaries, material, teaching materials and assorted office costs.

Clients to be Served: 45

Actual Clients Served: 47

Project Outcomes:

- 47 (100%) of the boys living in the NCO shelter gained self esteem as a result of participation in the Canine Coaches program twice a week.
- 47 (100%) of the Canine Coaches developed the skills necessary to teach our shelter dogs basic commands and learned and accomplished life skills such as laundry, dishes and general housekeeping.
- 47 (100%) of these boys exhibited more positive behaviors while at the shelter, excel and advance through the program. Staff reported that the boys asked more questions as their time in the shelter increased and developed a more respectful attitude toward
- 47 (100%) of the boys made positive behavior choices and exhibited an increase in their ability to control their anger and violent outbursts during the week.

Notes from Agency: Conversations with NCO staff have shown that Canine Coaches is an important part of the boys therapy. We are asked by other animal welfare organizations throughout the country to provide them with the boiler plate for how this program is done. We are very proud of this partnership and we are truly grateful for the DuPage County Health and Human Services Grant Fund to help us provide this. We are currently looking for other organizations like NCO to offer this program to.

2008 Human Services Grant Fund Final Report

Grantee: NCO YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES
1305 W. Oswego Rd, Naperville, IL 60540

Funded Project: Youth in Transition

Award Amount: \$11,250

Population Category: Children

Organization Summary: NCO Youth In Transition ensure that homeless young men and women ages 18-21 obtain the skills and income necessary to make a permanent transition to stable housing within a 6 - 24 month time period. An individualized program contract is used with each participant to gain employment/improved job skills, complete GED or secondary education, learn money management and budgeting skills, initiate savings plans, utilize community resources, obtain medical and dental coverage, repair credit, increase their income and obtain legal help as needed.

Use of Funds: Partial salary and benefit support for staff.

Clients to be Served: 8

Actual Clients Served: 20

Project Outcomes:

- 79% occupancy-1437 nights of shelter.
- 19 (95%) of 18-21 year old Transitional Housing Program (THP) participants have obtained health coverage.
- 16 (80%) of 18-21 year old THP participants were employed.
- 9 (100%) of 18-21 year old THP participants who exited have increased their level of income.
- 16 (80%) of 18-21 year old THP participants have demonstrated successful money management and budgeting skills.
- 6 (67%) of 18-21 year old THP participants were discharged to appropriate and stable housing in the community.

Notes from Agency: Severaly program paticipants fell victim to recruiters for a check cashing fraud ring and as a result, they are now part of the legal system.

We have also seen an increase in the number of participants struggling with substance abuse / mental health issues. To better serve these clients, we are implementing a new co-occurring disorder curriculum called SEVEN CHALLENGES. We believe it will help participants struggling with both substance abuse and mental health issues to succeed in the program in regard to preparing and maintaining for independence. This curriculum is youth oriented and follows the positive youth development approach used in our program. Training for all staff was completed in January 2009.

2008 Human Services Grant Fund Final Report

Grantee: NORTHEAST DUPAGE SPECIAL RECREATION ASSOCIATION
1770 W. Centennial Pl, Addison, IL 60101

Funded Project: Special Olympics Sports Training and Competition Program

Award Amount: \$5,940

Population Category: People with Disabilities

Organization Summary: Northeast DuPage Special Recreation Association (NEDSRA) is a community-based recreation agency providing high quality recreation programs and services for individuals of all ages, with disabilities ranging from mental disabilities and physical disabilities to behavior disorders and learning disabilities.

Use of Funds: Partial salary support for Special Olympics Coordinator, supplies and participant program admission fees.

Clients to be Served: 157

Actual Clients Served: 165

Project Outcomes:

- 165 (100%) individuals with disabilities participated in 16 different sports.
- 132 (80%) participants improved their physical skills and strength in one or more recreational activities.
- 165 (100%) participants improved in at least one of the following: self-confidence, self-esteem, and their capacity to grow.

Notes from Agency: NEDSRA's Special Olympics Training and Competition program had a very successful year. More than the anticipated 160 adults and children participated in 16 different sports (3 more than anticipated) from November through April. The sports included: Basketball, Jr. Basketball, Bocce, Bowling, Unified Bowling, Golf, Figure Skating, Snow Shoeing, Softball, Volleyball, Power Lifting, Track, Swim Team, Floor Hockey, Soccer, and Tennis. NEDSRA Special Olympics' participants competed in 19 tournaments and state competitions during this time period.

2008 Human Services Grant Fund Final Report

Grantee: NORTHERN ILLINOIS FOOD BANK
600 Industrial Drive, St. Charles, IL 60174

Funded Project: Senior Food Box Project

Award Amount: \$6,105

Population Category: Seniors

Organization Summary: NIFB provides fresh and packaged food to more than 520 food assistance sites, including soup kitchens, pantries, childcare agencies, shelters, and after-school snack programs. Collectively, they are the food safety net for hundreds of thousands of low-income people in the 13 counties in northern Illinois served by NIFB – from urban and suburban areas to very rural areas. The Summer Lunch Program provides nutritious lunches to low-income children during the summer when these children lose access to subsidized meals at school. This program is a critical resource of nutritious foods for children whose families depend on meals from school to have enough to eat.

Use of Funds: Partial salary support, delivery costs and food purchase.

Clients to be Served: 36

Actual Clients Served: 123

Project Outcomes:

- An average of 108 low-income seniors have received between 80-100 nutritious food servings each month
- 45 (50%) seniors who participated in the focus groups reported that the program allows them to eat more regular meals.
- 45 (50%) seniors who participated in the focus groups reported that this service was particularly valuable in the winter months when it is especially hard for seniors to get to the grocery store.
- 90 (100%) seniors who participated in the focus groups reported that they welcomed the food boxes being delivered directly to their residence.
- 90 (100%) seniors who participated in the focus groups reported that they welcomed the frozen meat and fruits and vegetables included in the box and that they were able to divert some of their limited income for medications and personal items.
- 45 (50%) seniors who participated in the focus groups reported that they welcomed the “special” items such as Jello and popcorn that they would not usually buy and these boosted their morale.

Notes from Agency: None

2008 Human Services Grant Fund Final Report

Grantee: OUTREACH COMMUNITY MINISTRIES
122 W. Liberty Drive, Wheaton, IL 60187

Funded Project: Hispanic Outreach

Award Amount: \$11,250

Population Category: Families

Organization Summary: Outreach Community Ministries provides wrap-around resources that support families and individuals, from early childhood to older adulthood. The Hispanic Outreach Program seeks to support the incorporation of Hispanic families into the community of Warrenville while recognizing, respecting and supporting the ethnic and cultural uniqueness of the Hispanic community.

Use of Funds: Partial salary and benefit support for assorted staff.

Clients to be Served: 1,349

Actual Clients Served: 575

Project Outcomes:

- Five meetings took place: October, November, January, February and March.
- 23 individuals participated in leadership training.
- Community volunteers increased in leadership roles by 31% (from 9 to 13).
- Strategic planning meeting was held March 7th with 15 participants, 7 unduplicated from community training below.
- Strategic planning occurred in two groups, one in December, one in February. A total of 16 individuals were trained.
- 111 requests were addressed by staff.

Notes from Agency: 575 (43%) of Hispanic residents received direct services from staff. An additional 750-1,000 individuals were expected to be served through our participation as a drop-in site for the Mexican Consulate. This year, the Consulate changed from a "drop in" format to set appointments. Due to limited notice of this change, we were unable to accommodate the need for 2 volunteers each day to schedule appointments the week before the event. We do intend to work with them again next year and have already begun planning and recruiting volunteers. This summer, we plan to provide a drop in site in order to meet our objectives of gathering community together, providing time to interact, provide information about community services and events.

Our Hispanic Outreach Worker had many involved case management clients this year (included in the I&R numbers), which took more time than expected.

Hispanic Council: responsibility was transferred from staff to residents taking on all committee leadership roles. Through strategic planning and leadership training, we have moved to a quarterly strategic planning group meetings and monthly community group meetings. At quarterly meeting, community groups will join strategic planning members to plan direction for community events.

78 residents (37% increase) were involved with the Hispanic council, either in leadership roles or committee and event membership.

2008 Human Services Grant Fund Final Report

Grantee: PARENTS ALLIANCE EMPLOYMENT PROJECT
2525 Cabot Drive, Suite 302, Lisle, IL 60532

Funded Project: WorkNet DuPage Career Liaison for People with Disabilities

Award Amount: \$15,180

Population Category: Self-sufficiency

Organization Summary: Parents Alliance Employment Project is an organization devoted to improving the lives of people with disabilities through individualized employment services. Services include free workshops for individuals with disabilities and matching qualified persons with disabilities to employment opportunities in a wide variety of businesses.

Use of Funds: Partial support for assorted program expenses including salaries, benefits, rent, equipment, travel and supplies.

Clients to be Served: 123

Actual Clients Served: 133

Project Outcomes:

- 100% of the 133 people with disabilities seeking employment who received guidance and referrals to the workNet Career Center gained information to better their situations.
- 75 people received assistance in their career search that helped them gain information to further their job search. This included information on job readiness workshops, resume development, interviewing practice, and monthly job fairs.
- 6 people with disabilities that received job search assistance secured employment.
- 52 people with disabilities attended job readiness workshop and have gained information they used to conduct a job search.

Notes from Agency: PAEP encountered challenges in tracking individuals that actually secured employment. Once the individuals were introduced to the employment resources available to them at the workNet DuPage Career Center including the job readiness workshops, and received 1:1 assistance, many of them conducted their job search independently and lost contact with PAEP. We were able to track 6 individuals that gained employment, and we're assuming more than that secured employment, we cannot accurately track those individuals. PAEP served more than the anticipated amount of persons in the other categories, due to the state of the economy and the number of individuals out of a job, currently looking for employment.

Individuals served through the grant were given a post-assistance survey to rate the satisfaction and influence of the services provided through the workNet DuPage Career Center Liaison position. 99% of the surveys that were returned indicated an excellent rating response to the questions asked and agreed that they now have resources that they did not have to help them better their situations related to employment.

2008 Human Services Grant Fund Final Report

Grantee: PEOPLE'S RESOURCE CENTER
201 S. Naperville Rd, Wheaton, IL 60187

Funded Project: Computer Literacy, Training and Access Program

Award Amount: \$23,997

Population Category: Self-sufficiency

Organization Summary: PRC is a one-stop shop for basic needs and economic access where people see and use multiple services, gain guidance to resources, and take another step to achieve financial independence. The Computer Literacy Training & Access Program (CLTA) focuses on providing families with marketable computer skills and basic knowledge about the technology as well as providing refurbished computers for their home.

Use of Funds: Partial salary and benefit support for Director of Computer training and Director of Computer Access and IT.

Clients to be Served: 3444

Actual Clients Served: 3908

Project Outcomes:

- 1,014 individuals registered during the grant period for 7-week computer classes. Due to technical difficulties with our survey host, only limited CLTA client survey data is available for this timeframe. The available data, along with anecdotal evidence,
- 687 unique households received free computer equipment and/or computer repairs/upgrades. 410 donated computers were refurbished and provided to low-income households. 100% of clients surveyed reported usage at least once/week and 78% indicated daily usage
- 1,168 unique individuals utilized PRC's two CTCs for free computer/internet access, computer classes, a free refurbished home computer, and/or computer repairs.
- 92 CLTA clients received one-on-one job mentoring during the grant period and 17 obtained employment, reflecting the current difficult job market for lower-skilled workers.

Notes from Agency: The current economic recession created several challenges with respect to CLTA service delivery. First, local businesses delayed computer system upgrades, so PRC experienced a reduction in volume of donated computer equipment. This was the primary limitation on the number of computers we could refurbish and distribute to low-income households. In addition, PRC experienced increased demand for both CLTA and Job Assistance services as clients sought to improve their job prospects in a worsening market. The DuPage unemployment rate climbed 1% per month to nearly 8% during the grant period. The burden fell most heavily on lower skilled workers, so our client employment outcomes fell short of expectations on a percentage basis.

The web server hosting our CLTA Survey database during the grant period proved to be unreliable, resulting in incomplete data collection. We have addressed this problem by moving to a different server and anticipate that complete survey datasets will be available for future periods.

2008 Human Services Grant Fund Final Report

Grantee: PRAIRIE STATE LEGAL SERVICES
350 S. Schmale Rd, Ste 150, Carol Stream, IL 60188

Funded Project: Advocacy Project for Persons with Disabilities

Award Amount: \$17,250

Population Category: People with Disabilities

Organization Summary: Prairie State attorneys provide a broad range of direct legal services for DuPage residents facing crises that may be resolved with legal help. These services include fact-finding, legal research, legal analysis, individualized legal advice, preparation of witnesses, preparation of memoranda of law, representation of clients before administrative agency hearings and tribunals, as well as in courts of law.

Use of Funds: Partial salary and benefit support for staff Attorney.

Clients to be Served: 85

Actual Clients Served: 91

Project Outcomes:

- 14 clients with disabilities obtained, preserved, or increased income maintenance or medical benefits.
- We were able to avoid an expulsion from school of a disabled student. We also prepared advanced directives for 11 clients.
- 88% of sampled clients who sought legal advice reported the advice as helpful.

Notes from Agency: None

2008 Human Services Grant Fund Final Report

Grantee: SENIOR HOME SHARING
711 E. Roosevelt Rd, Wheaton, IL 60187

Funded Project: Director of Resident Services

Award Amount: \$15,000

Population Category: Seniors

Organization Summary: Senior Home Sharing's mission is to provide an opportunity for seniors age 62 and older to live independently in an affordable, shared group home. This shared senior lifestyle allows residents to balance their need for privacy while staying involved and connected with other residents, the house manager, volunteers and the community. Each home provides a warm, comfortable residence including private bedrooms for six to seven seniors, the services of a live-in manager, and three home-prepared meals a day.

Use of Funds: Partial salary support for PT Director of Residential Services.

Clients to be Served: 38

Actual Clients Served: 33

Project Outcomes:

- 18 of our 33 resident did qualify for and receive the Housing Choice Voucher from the Dupage Housing Authority.
- All 33 residents received an initial assessment and care plan. All 33 residents meet individually with the Director or Resident Services on a monthly basis to make sure their physical and emotional needs are being meet. The Director of Resident Service
- 25 of our 33 residents (75%) receive support services either from the Community Care Program or Metropolitan Family Services. These two programs allow our residents to continue to live as independently as possible in our homes.

Notes from Agency: We didn't serve quite as many seniors during the grant period as we originally thought. The number of referrals or inquiries we receive monthly are still high. But, it seems that seniors are taking longer to make the decision to move in with us. We have also notice that some of our inquiries are choosing to move in with adult children who are struggling financially do to job lose.

2008 Human Services Grant Fund Final Report

Grantee: SERENITY HOUSE COUNSELING SERVICES
891 S. Rte 53, Addison, IL 60101

Funded Project: Extended Residential Care Program

Award Amount: \$9,750

Population Category: Counseling

Organization Summary: Serenity House is a nonprofit, community-based, comprehensive treatment facility offering services to adult men and women suffering from the disease of chemical dependence and substance abuse.

Use of Funds: Partial salary and benefit support for Extended Residential Care Counselor.

Clients to be Served: 99

Actual Clients Served: 90

Project Outcomes:

- 90 clients (91%) were provided with substance abuse treatment services in the form of twice-weekly group sessions, weekly individual sessions, once weekly educational groups and four 12-step support groups each week.
- 81 clients (82%) of clients entering the extended residential program completed this comprehensive program with the goal of self-sufficiency and independence.
- 90 clients (91%) were provided with supportive transitional housing.
- 75 clients (76%) presented discharge plans that included long-term housing options (15% reported being unsure of next level of care).

Notes from Agency: According to follow up studies, clients who made the decision to transfer to the recovery home level of care as one of their long-term housing goals reported increased length of sobriety, reduction in relapse, and a reduction in the recurrence of illegal activities.

2008 Human Services Grant Fund Final Report

Grantee:	SHARING CONNECTIONS FURNITURE BANK 5111 Chase Avenue, Downers Grove, IL 60515
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Funded Project:	Helping Our Neighbors in Need Help Themselves
Award Amount:	\$10,000
Population Category:	Families
Organization Summary:	Sharing Connections Furniture Bank provides donated furniture, clothing and household goods to extremely low income children, individuals and families in crisis.
Use of Funds:	Partial staff salary and benefit support, purchase of mattresses and materials for dressers.
Clients to be Served:	750
Actual Clients Served:	716
Project Outcomes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 142 beds and cribs were distributed to DuPage clients in crisis for a total value of \$63,978.• 95% of clients receiving furniture received information and referral resources.• 100% of the DuPage County agencies receiving donations reported the donations provided a financial benefit.
Notes from Agency:	<p>The economic downturn has had an impact on our services as discussed below.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fewer beds, cribs and mattresses have been donated in the last 6 months. While we purchased 27 new queen mattresses and box springs and 41 new twin sets, we had less donated inventory come in the back door and on our truck pick up stops. The total additional donated items given to families include 30 cribs, 9 full mattresses and box springs, 13 Queen sets and 22 Twin sets. We have also guaranteed beds for all children 18 and under, to ensure every child sleeps on a mattress, not on the floor.• The economic crisis, while creating more need, also has impacted our client's ability to pay a small access fee and rent a vehicle to pick up their furniture. We have begun a delivery program one day a week, which will serve a maximum of four clients each week.• We have experienced a decline in bulk donations of office supplies. <p>Bulk donations of office furniture and children's items have been successfully passed on to other agencies serving DuPage clients. A summer college intern will be working on community outreach in order to recruit individual furniture donations for our clients and bulk donations for not for profit agencies.</p> <p>For financial reasons, one of our 5 full time staff positions was not replaced when a staff member relocated. We are relying on trained volunteers to work as client aides and client assistants. While this is working well now, it has taken the last 6 months to recruit and train these volunteers. This summer, two college interns will join us and one will be working exclusively in client services. We anticipate doing a client evaluation survey this summer.</p>

2008 Human Services Grant Fund Final Report

Grantee: SPECRIOS INSTITUTE FOR LOW VISION (*formerly Deicke Center for Rehabilitation*)
219 E. Cole Ave, Wheaton, IL 60187

Funded Project: Professional Visual Rehabilitation Services

Award Amount: \$5,940

Population Category: People with Disabilities

Organization Summary: This project serves adults 45+ years of age or older diagnosed with a severe vision loss and provides comprehensive visual rehabilitation program that includes: rehabilitation counseling to help the patient set visual goals for the program and learn how to cope with their vision loss; an evaluation with a specially trained low vision optometrist to determine the amount of useable sight and appropriate prescriptive optical devices; working with a vision therapist on the proper and efficient use of devices and instruction in daily living skills; evaluation of technology needs and training; and a monthly support group facilitated by a clinical professional counselor.

Use of Funds: Partial salary support for Clinical Team and subsidized devices.

Clients to be Served: 5

Actual Clients Served: 10

Project Outcomes:

- 10 (100%) of clients established visual goals to be accomplished during the program which will increase their independence.
- 10 (100%) received optical devices and aids needed to maximize their vision and increase their independence.
- 9 (90%) acquired skills and resources to cope with their vision loss.
- 10 (100%) achieved at least one visual goal in their IRP that will increase their independence.
- 8 (80%) demonstrated the proper use of their optical devices.
- 6 (60%) learned how a CCTV can help them remain independent and which CCTV is best suited for their vision and lifestyle.

Notes from Agency: We were pleased to serve 10 people, 2 more than our target goal of 7.

The outcome for learning about CCTV's was lower than anticipated. While a visit to our technology center is part of every patient's comprehensive visual rehabilitation program, one client was not ready to learn about technology, 2 did not return for their CCTV follow-up visit and one had a medical problem with his vision that required stabilization before returning to view CCTV's.

Of those who received HSGF funds: 9 improved their reading, 3 enhanced their distance vision, 4 improved their ability to write, one could drive and 4 could control glare. (NOTE: Patients may have multiple goals).

Without this grant we would not have had enough funds to assist all of these clients in achieving their goal(s) to maintain independence.

2008 Human Services Grant Fund Final Report

Grantee: TEEN PARENT CONNECTION
739 Roosevelt Rd, Bldg 8, Ste 100, Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

Funded Project: Family Strengthening Program for Teen Parents

Award Amount: \$30,000

Population Category: Self-sufficiency

Organization Summary: Teen Parent Connection serves the community through education on the realities and responsibilities of teenage pregnancy and through long-term assistance to adolescent parents for their development of self-esteem, parenting skills, and empowerment towards self-sufficiency.

Use of Funds: Partial salary and benefit support for staff.

Clients to be Served: 390

Actual Clients Served: 315

Project Outcomes:

- Less than 1% (1) program participant was identified as the perpetrator of an act of child abuse and/ or neglect.
- 100% (315) program participants reported an increased knowledge of alternatives to corporal punishment and increased knowledge of healthy parenting and child rearing practices.
- 85% (268) participants 18 years or younger are currently enrolled in High School, taking GED classes, or have received their H.S. diploma/ GED.
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- 100% (315) young parents reported an increase in knowledge of healthy nutrition and benefits of physical fitness for adolescents, children, and the family.
- 96% (112) of Group Services parents who attended depression education reported an increase in knowledge of the symptoms of depression and were able to identify community resources for depression treatment.
- 95% (299) participant families reported having the necessary resources to meet their basic needs (adequate food (2 meals a day), housing and clothing)

Notes from Agency: Overall our programs have been very successful and met most of our projected outcomes. However, the projected target number was based on projected number of families served annually. As the grant period only reflects a period slightly over six months, the number served does not meet the application target number.

Our Family Strengthening programs served 315 families with the following services during the grant period of 10/16/08 through 4/30/09:

- Doula Services: 36 families
- Childbirth Education Classes: 66 families
- Healthy Families: 96 families
- Parent Groups: 117 families

2008 Human Services Grant Fund Final Report

Grantee: WESTERN DUPAGE SPECIAL RECREATION ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION
116 N. Schmale Rd., Carol Stream, IL 60188

Funded Project: Inclusion Services

Award Amount: \$6,600

Population Category: People with Disabilities

Organization Summary: WDSRA provides recreation services for people of all ages with disabilities. Recreational programs are offered year-round and include special events, sports, arts & craft, nature, dance, pre-school, camping trips, cultural activities and music.

Use of Funds: Partial salary and benefit support for staff.

Clients to be Served: 214

Actual Clients Served: 302

Project Outcomes:

- 302 (100%) people with disabilities participated in park district programs will receive inclusion support, which may include a one-to-one assistant, specially trained staff, program or behavior modifications or adapted physical equipment.
- 302 (100%) participants receiving inclusion support demonstrated an improvement in social skills (listening, following directions, ignoring distractions).
- 302 (100%) participants receiving inclusion support demonstrated an improvement in interpersonal skills (sharing, eye contact, waiting your turn, joining an activity).
- 302 (100%) participants receiving inclusion support demonstrated an improvement in problem-solving skills (transitioning, accepting consequences, asking for help).
- 302 (100%) participants receiving inclusion support demonstrated an improvement in conflict resolution skills (dealing with teasing, losing, peer pressure).
- 18 trainings specific to inclusion were presented to 453 park district staff and 100% of the participants reported increased confidence and skills in working with participants with disabilities.

Notes from Agency: The feedback on actual participants was based on Inclusion team feedback. The participant evaluation used was slightly different than the above noted observations. The same program evaluation was used for all park district programs which had inclusion participants supported by WDSRA inclusion services. The specific feedback areas were 1) Overall program rating 2) Program Content 3) Leadership. Based on rating choices of Excellent, Good, Satisfactory, and Needs Improvement; all three areas received a total rating of "Excellent".

Also, we were very excited to be invited to provide inclusion training for a number of soccer coaches in Naperville and Wheaton.

2008 Human Services Grant Fund Final Report

Grantee: WORLD RELIEF - COUNSELING CENTER
1825 College Ave, #230, Wheaton, IL 60187

Funded Project: Refugee Families

Award Amount: \$10,810.80

Population Category: Counseling

Organization Summary: World Relief works with refugees and immigrants in the western suburbs. Typically, refugees arrive in the U.S after undergoing extremely dangerous and highly traumatic experiences. Besides being victims or eyewitnesses of torture, ethnic cleansing and inhumane incarcerations, they have to adjust to significant changes in their lifestyle, and deal with major losses of leaving family members and their home behind. Services include broad based resettlement assistance, English as a second language classes, employment services, and immigration services.

Use of Funds: Partial salary and benefit support for Family Counselor and indirect costs.

Clients to be Served: 140

Actual Clients Served: 143

Project Outcomes:

- 87% of Iraqi families reported significant decrease in anxiety symptoms as indicated by General Efficacy Scale and Quality of Life Survey.
- 94% of Iraqi parents reported an increase awareness and frequency of using proper parenting practices with their children as indicated by pre/post parenting questionnaire.
- 86% of refugee families (5 Burmese and 3 Meskhetian Turks) reported a decrease in depression and anxiety and PTSD symptoms as indicated by the use of PTSD Symptom Scale and Hamilton Rating Scale for Depression.

Notes from Agency:

- Punctuality/work schedules: Since many refugees do not have a fixed job schedule, we struggle to get group members or family members to meet at a specific time and place.
- Interpretation: the need for interpreters limits the ability to serve underserved populations and reach out to new ethnic groups in the area.
- In many cases clients' little formal education, low level of English and literacy and different cultural experiences make it difficult in obtaining critical thinking, problem solving skills and self sufficiency.
- Insufficient cooperation with other community resources and local service providers available in the area lower the possibility of successful adjustment.
- Staff meet with client groups in their homes. The lack of childcare limits the capacity for parents to focus on the conversation.
- Iraqi population: The recent political and religious tension among the Shiite and Sunni communities hinder our ability to meet as one group. This has necessitated running three groups, each consisting of two to three families.
- Burmese population: The Chin and Karene speak different dialects causing a divide in the groups and wasted time with interpretation needs. We have also experienced the refugees from Burma as very quiet, calm, and not easily discussing their needs. This requires new communication strategies, one of which being utilizing our interpreter to establish rapport and gain trust by serving as a cultural broker between the counselor and the group.

2008 Human Services Grant Fund Final Report

Grantee: XILIN ASSOCIATION
1163 E. Ogden Ave, Suite 301, Naperville, IL 60653

Funded Project: Xilin Senior & Health Programs

Award Amount: \$9,490.80

Population Category: Seniors

Organization Summary: Xilin Asian Community Center serves the Asian population's needs by addressing the educational, cultural, and social needs of families, children and the elderly. The Senior Program includes helping clients to create self-sufficient lifestyles, enrich their social lives, connect them to the public social services, network with local business and organizations, and provide advocates for senior's issues and benefits.

Use of Funds: Partial salary support for staff, payroll tax, transportation, rent, utilities, materials and supplies.

Clients to be Served: 630

Actual Clients Served: 360

Project Outcomes:

- 300 clients received benefits or application pending through Xilin caseworker's assistance
- 250 clients attended health education workshop, screening and health fairs. The result of the screenings are send to clients and proper action are taken by clients to improve their health condition.
- A survey is done at the end of 2008, 65 clients participated, 85% of satisfaction are expressed.

Notes from Agency: The biggest challenge we are facing is still the transportation for Asian seniors. Escorting clients to the public aid office takes all our time, and requests to escort clients to clinics often can't be accommodated.

The second challenge is the availability of translators at hospital or medical facilities. Since most of our clients do not speak English, there is a great need for this service but we do not have the availability to address this need.

2008 Human Services Grant Fund Final Report

Grantee: YWCA OF METROPOLITAN CHICAGO - WEST SUBURBAN CENTER
739 West Roosevelt Rd, Bldg 8, Suite 210, Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

Funded Project: Acquaintance Rape Prevention

Award Amount: \$5,000

Population Category: Counseling

Organization Summary: The YWCA strives to create opportunities for women's growth, leadership, and power in order to attain a common vision: peace, justice, freedom, and dignity for all people. The Sexual Abuse Prevention Programs are facilitated by trained educators, who offer children information regarding appropriate and inappropriate touches. For older children, topics like rape myths, sexual assault, dating violence, acquaintance rape, date-rape drugs, sexual harassment and the role of the media in violence are explored.

Use of Funds: Partial salary and benefit support for Prevention Educator and Community Prevention Facilitator, mileage and program brochures.

Clients to be Served: 300

Actual Clients Served: 360

Project Outcomes:

- 91% of youth reporting learning new information and resources on sexual violence.
- 93% of youth reported knowing how to help his or herself or a friend in a potentially dangerous situation or an assault.
- Students increased their knowledge of sexual violence prevention by 18%.

Notes from Agency: Students are demonstrating an increase in knowledge but most importantly, the ability to help each other. Thank you so much for supporting this program!