

**ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF  
THE CITY OF SPARTANBURG REDUCED CRIME  
FOR STATUS OFFENDERS PROJECT  
(GRANT NUMBERS 1J12005 and 1J13004)**

**OCTOBER 1, 2016 - SEPTEMBER 30, 2017**

**FINAL REPORT FOR GRANT YEAR 2016-2017  
PREPARED BY SYSTEM WIDE SOLUTIONS, INC.  
COLUMBIA, SC**

**October 15, 2017**

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report covers the third year of this project. The mission of the Spartanburg Reduced Crime for Status Offenders Project is to reduce the need for secure detention for status offenders by providing graduated sanctions. The program was designed to serve 25 youth through use of a DJJ behavioral contract, participation in a structured program and intervention services. The program is intended to serve 25 youth between the ages of 12 and 16.

Intervention programs include the following:

1. Wraparound Services for youth and parents.
2. Supervision by both the grant-funded officer and DJJ probation officer.
3. Referral and transportation to other services as needed: Spartanburg Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission and Mental Health.
4. Home and school visits, phone follow-up and face-to-face contacts.
5. Community Service opportunities as developed by Spartanburg Public Safety Department Officers.
6. Participation in the Department of Juvenile Justice Parenting Program.
7. Spartanburg Public Safety Department officers may provide additional programs to address the following:
  - Coping
  - Conflict Resolution
  - Consequences for actions
  - Leadership
  - Peer Pressure
  - Team Building
  - Problem Solving
  - Accomplishments Discussion

The Spartanburg Reduced Crime for Status Offenders Project met or exceeded all but one of the 16 project objectives. One objective could not be measured for success due to lack of data. The project continues to garner support from the community at large through contribution of volunteer services, in-kind match, contributions of goods and services and tapping other funding sources.

Overall, Spartanburg Reduced Crime for Status Offenders Project met or exceeded 15 of the 16 objectives, a strong improvement over the preceding year. The project fills an important niche in the community by providing services to low-level offenders and their families.

The project staff should continue to work toward maintaining the program in the future and supporting others in replicating the model.

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## **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

This report covers the second year of this project. The mission of the Spartanburg Reduced Crime for Status Offenders Project is to reduce the need for secure detention for status offenders by providing graduated sanctions. The program builds on prior youth intervention programs sponsored by the Spartanburg Department of Public Safety that were also designed to reduce secure detention. This program was designed to serve 25 youth through use of a DJJ behavioral contract, participation in and completion of a structured program and provision of intervention services. The program is intended to serve 25 youth between the ages of 12 and 16, as well as their parents.

The following broad goals have been established for the project:

1. Encourage a juvenile to participate in programs to avoid detention
2. To assist juveniles with learning skills to avoid further crimes
3. To provide intervention programs

Intervention services include the following:

1. Wraparound Services for youth and parents.
2. Supervision by both the grant-funded officer and DJJ probation officer.
3. Referral and transportation to other services as needed: Forrester Center and Mental Health.
4. Home and school visits, phone follow-up and face-to-face contacts.
5. Community Service opportunities as developed by Spartanburg Public Safety Department Officers.
6. Participation in the Department of Juvenile Justice Parenting Program.
7. Spartanburg Public Safety Department officers may provide additional programs to address the following:
  - Coping
  - Conflict Resolution
  - Consequences for actions
  - Leadership
  - Peer Pressure
  - Team Building
  - Problem Solving
  - Accomplishments
  - Discussion

Wraparound services are provided to participants through a contract with Carolina Youth Advocacy Program (YAP). Additional services are provided to youth at high risk for alcohol and drug problems by the Forrester Center, formerly named the Spartanburg Alcohol and Drug Commission. During the summer, the youth participate in the locally-funded Youth Empowerment Summer Program, staffed by Public Safety Officers and community subject-matter experts, which meets once per week for youth to learn coping skills and take part in field trips. (The summer meeting schedule for 2017 may be found in Appendix One)

This program operated throughout the 2016-2017 school year, with Project Coordinator MPO Reginald Spurgeon, assisted by DJJ staff, monitoring participants, tracking school and other required activities and providing wrap services to youth and families through YAP.

Because of a delay in getting started during the first year, no comparison could be done for the Year One report. The current Year Three report will use Year Two data as a baseline.

# **METHODOLOGY OF THE EVALUATION**

There will be seven parts to the methodology for the evaluation. The seven parts are:

- Part 1 - Conduct one or more on-site visits. The first visit will be to deliver and explain the database that will be used to track all of the quantitative requirements of the goals, objectives and performance indicators. Possible surveys for improvements in family relationships and antisocial relationships will also be provided at this time. The Youth and Family surveys will also be delivered and explained at this visit.
- Part 2 - Develop a database which can be used by the Case Manager and Project Director to capture and store the information required by the objectives and performance indicators. Help the Case Manager and Project Director identify exactly where to find the data that is required by the objectives and performance indicators for any new elements not now in the database so that it may be entered into the database. Provide training on how to use the database to complete reports and to monitor the youth and the project as a whole.
- Part 3 - Identify youth and family surveys to determine changes in family functioning and anti-social behavior. Train the Case Manager and others on how to administer the survey and how to enter the results into the database.
- Part 4 - Develop descriptive statistics for the program and the youth taking part
- Part 5 - Measure the progress made towards meeting the program objectives
- Part 6 - Prepare an interim report six months into the grant year and a final report at the end of the grant year. The final report will include the process and the outcome evaluation, conclusions and recommendations. .
- Part 7 - As part of the evaluation, report the data required by OJJDP.

## **Process Evaluation Findings**

A series of interviews with project personnel, reviews of documentation, and observations will be conducted during the year. The surveys for youth and families will also be developed. A method for documenting qualitative data will be developed for use by persons involved in the project.

## **Progress Towards Meeting the Objectives**

The database developed by the program and SWS will be used to store the data necessary for measuring the progress toward meeting the objectives and describing the program.

## **Develop Evaluation Reports**

There will be five parts to developing the evaluation reports. 1) A quantitative database and a qualitative database will be developed into which all of the data gathered can be placed. 2) Statistical and qualitative methods will be used to analyze the databases, creating a description of the project, its successes and its weaknesses. 3) The findings of the analysis will be put into

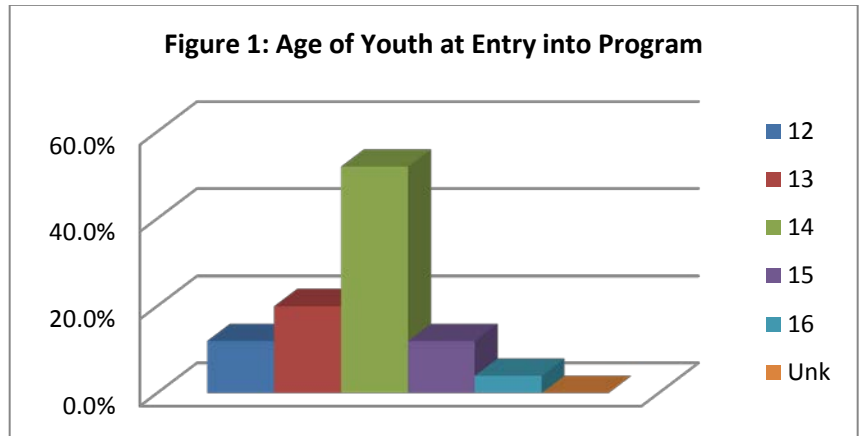
charts, tables, and a written form that is understandable and usable. 4) Written conclusions will be drawn from the findings and reported. 5) Written recommendations will be made.

The final report will include a description of the grant and its goals and objectives; a description of the youth taking part in the program; a section for the findings regarding objectives; the conclusions; and the recommendations. This will result in a detailed, written discussion of how well the grant proposal is being carried out.

## DESCRIPTION OF YOUTH SERVED

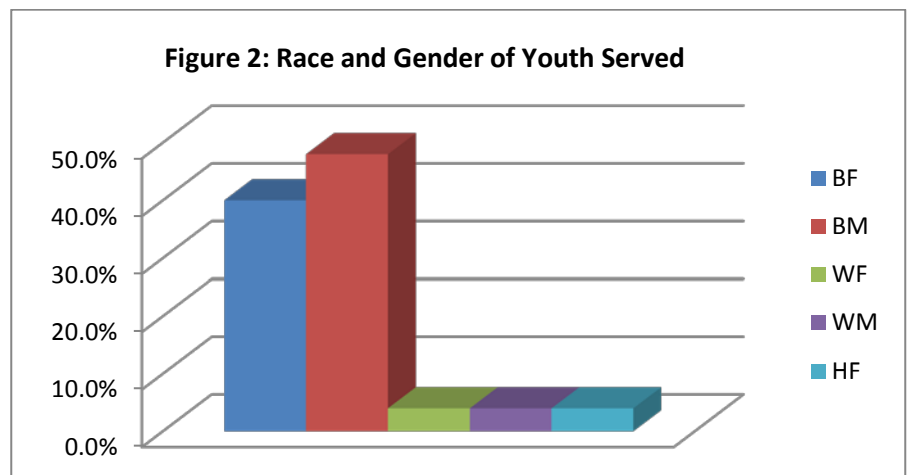
A total of 25 youth were served, 100% of the number planned. Ten youth were carried over from the 2015-2016 grant year and 15 youth were new in 2016-2017. The youth ranged in age from 12 through 16, with thirteen (52%) age 14, five (20%) age 13, and four (16%) age 15 and 16, and three (12%) age 12, (See Table 1 and Figure 1).

Table 1: Age of Youth at Entry into Program		
Age	#	%
12	3	12.0%
13	5	20.0%
14	13	52.0%
15	3	12.0%
16	1	4.0%
Unk	0	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>100.0%</b>



Of the 25 youth, 13 (52%) are male and 12 (48%) are female. Twenty two (88%) are African-American, two (8%) are white and one (4%) is Hispanic (See Table 2 and Figure 2).

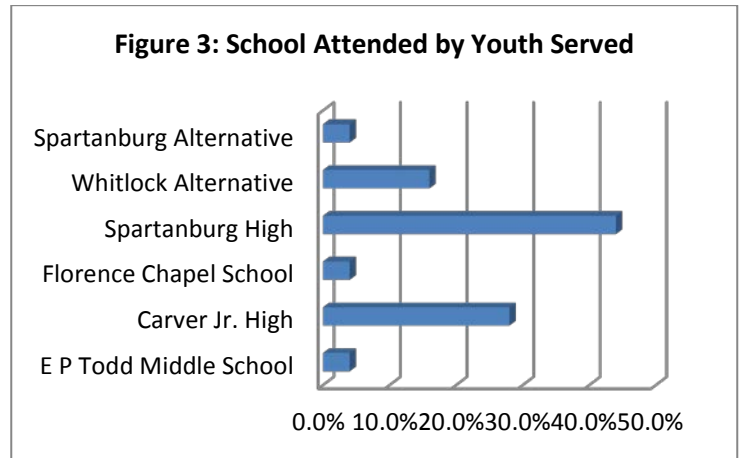
Table 2: Race and Gender of Youth Served		
	#	%
Black Female	10	40.0%
Black Male	12	48.0%
White Female	1	4.0%
White Male	1	4.0%
Hispanic Female	1	4.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>100.0%</b>





The 25 youth attend six different schools in the Spartanburg community. (See Table 3 and Figure 3).

<b>Table 3: School Attended by Youth</b>		
<b>School</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>%</b>
E P Todd Middle School	1	4.0%
Carver Jr. High	7	28.0%
Florence Chapel School	1	4.0%
Spartanburg High	11	44.0%
Whitlock Alternative	4	16.0%
Spartanburg Alternative	1	4.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>100%</b>



## PROGRESS TOWARD MEETING PROJECT OBJECTIVES

During the project period, October 1, 2016 to September 30, 2017, the Project Director, MPO Reginal Spurgeon, with help from personnel in the Spartanburg Department of Public Safety, continued to work to complete the following grant objectives:

1. *During the grant period, there will be an increased capacity to serve status offenders through the receipt of Grant funds to implement the graduated sanctions program, as well as in-kind and other funding.*

Findings: Local capacity has increased due, in part, by combining efforts with the Spartanburg Youth Violence Reduction Initiative and other sources. The community and local businesses contributed in-kind and direct funding: Several restaurants and local attractions provided deep discounts; the City of Spartanburg covered participant lunch and snack costs totaling more than \$700, plus purchasing notebooks and other supplies. DJJ contributes office space for MPO Surgeon, and his salary, phone and other related costs are covered by other funds. DJJ staff assist the Project Director in monitoring the youth and off-duty police officers assist with the summer program by providing transportation, youth mentoring and supervision. All speakers for the summer program were volunteers.

The degree of community and volunteer officers participation in the project was obvious during a summer site visit. During that visit, six officers took part as mentors and guides to the youth, as well as providing transportation. During the morning, youth visited a college and a technical education center, where volunteers from the organizations provided tours and information on the offerings of the institutions. A local restaurant provided lunch which was followed by an Imatters program. **The project met this objective.**

2. *During the grant period, the number of youth served in the program for status offenders will be at least 25 youth. This is an unduplicated count.*

Findings: Twenty-five youth were served during the 2016-2017 grant year, which is 100% of the numbers planned. Ten youth were carried over from the 2015-2016 grant year and 15 youth were new in 2016-2017. **Therefore, the program met this objective.**

3. *During the grant period, there will be an increased accountability in the program due to the number and percent of youth who complete the program requirements. It is projected that at least 18 of 25 youth, which is 70%, will complete the program requirements.*

Findings: The program will be continuing beyond the original three year grant period. Some youth successfully completed, but will continue to receive services through the program. Twenty-five youth were served during the 2016-2017 grant year, which is 100% of the numbers

planned. Ten youth were carried over from the 2015-2016 grant year and 15 youth were new in 2016-2017. One of the youth carried over completed the program successfully and left the program and one did not successfully complete the program. Eight carry over youth will continue to receive services. Out of the 15 youth who were newly enrolled during this grant year, three completed successfully and left the program and one did not successfully complete the program. Eleven will continue to receive services. There are therefore a total of 19 youth who will continue to receive services. Of the 25 youth who were active in the program during the grant year, two were unsuccessful completions. 23 youth successfully completed the program, which is a success rate of 92%. **Therefore, the program met this objective** (See Table 4).

Table 4: Youth Enrollment				
	#Youth	Completed Successfully and Left Program 16-17	Completed Unsuccessfully 16-17	Completed Successfully but still receive services
Carried Over From 2015-2016	10	1	1	8
Enrolled in 2016-2017	15	3	1	11
<b>Total</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>19</b>

4. *During the grant period, the delinquency rate of youth being served in the program will be 30% or less. (The number and percent of program youth who were rearrested or seen at juvenile court or have a new offense will be determined from police and juvenile court records.)*

Findings: The Project Director tracked and entered the re-offenses of all participating youth through the project database. During the grant year, two of the 25 youth served were re-arrested (8.0%), which is less than the target of 30%. **Therefore, the project met this objective.**

5. *During the grant period, 100% of juveniles served will have an increased number of supervision meetings in the form of face-to-face visits and phone contacts.*

Findings: During the grant period, there were a total of 776 face to face visits or phone contacts for the 25 youth enrolled. These included eight event sessions that were conducted by volunteers, off duty law enforcement officers, community resources and consultants who provided particular curricula. A more detailed copy of these events may be found in Appendix One. All 25 (100%) of the youth who were enrolled had face to face contacts and/or phone contacts with an average of 63.6 hours per youth. **Therefore, the project met this objective.**

6. *During the grant period, 100% of youth served will have a behavioral contract or a contract from the court.*

Findings: During the grant period, all 25 clients were on behavioral contracts. **Therefore, the project met this objective.**

7. *During the grant period, participating youth will be exposed to at least 4 different programs/initiatives*

Findings: A Wrap Services contract was signed on May 21, 2015 with the Youth Alternative Program (See Appendix Two for a copy of the contract.). Services for the grant year began on June 8, 2017 and include a range of behavioral and supportive interventions. No information was made available about the exact number or types of supportive wrap services provided to participants during Year Three. The following data is for group services. During the grant period there were eight face to face group sessions provided which covered a variety of topics.(See Appendix One for calendar.) Fourteen of the 25 youth (56%) attended one or more of these sessions for a total of 54.5 hours and an average of 10.75 youth at each session. In addition, the project provided individual monitoring. **Therefore, the project met this objective** (See Table 5).

<b>Table 5: Event Session Information</b>				
<b>EventID</b>	<b>Event Title</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Hours</b>	<b># Youth Attended</b>
16	Opening Session	6/8/2017	7	10
17	Tour Inland Port, Tour Draexlmaier	6/15/2017	7	12
18	Cowpens Battlefield, Fiber Optic Map	6/22/2017	6	11
19	Youth Challenge Team Building	6/29/2017	7	13
20	imatter Program	7/13/2017	7	10
21	Wofford/ Spartanburg College Tour	7/20/2017	7	10
22	Community Services/Airport Tour	7/27/2017	6.5	11
23	Optimist Acres	8/3/2017	7	9
<b>Total Hours</b>			<b>54.5</b>	
<b>Avg. # of Youth Per Session</b>				<b>10.75</b>

8. *During the grant period, 100% of youth served will be monitored according to the terms of their behavioral contract.*

Findings: During the grant period, 100% of the 25 youth who had a behavioral contract were monitored accordingly. The Project Manager and DJJ staff monitored the participating youth. All 25 of the youth who were enrolled had face to face contacts and/or phone contacts with an average of 63.6 hours per youth. **Therefore, the project met this objective**

9. *During the grant period, the percentage of non-complaint events as compared to total number youth are required to complete will be 25% or less.*

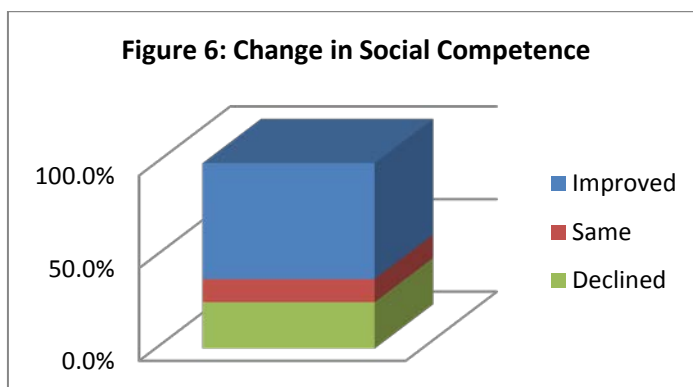
Findings: The number of reported noncompliant events was zero, which is less than the target stated in the objective. **Therefore, the project exceeded this objective.**

10. *During the grant period, youth will exhibit an improvement in social competence/or ability to achieve personal goals in social interaction while maintaining positive relationships with others over time and across situations.*

Findings: Evaluators developed a custom pre and post-test survey for the project (See Appendix Three for copy of survey.) The survey uses items from the SAMSHA question pool to assess risk factors such as social competence. The pre-test survey was administered at the beginning of services. The post test was administered to participants at the completion of the program or current grant cycle.

Twenty-five youth participated in the program this current grant year. Pre and Post-test survey data is available for 16 youth. Of the youth who took the pre and post-test, the scores of 10 (62.5%) improved, 2 (12.5%) stayed the same and 4 (25.0%) declined (See Table 6 and Figure 6). **Therefore, this objective was met.**

	#	%
Improved	10	62.5%
Same	2	12.5%
Declined	4	25.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>100%</b>



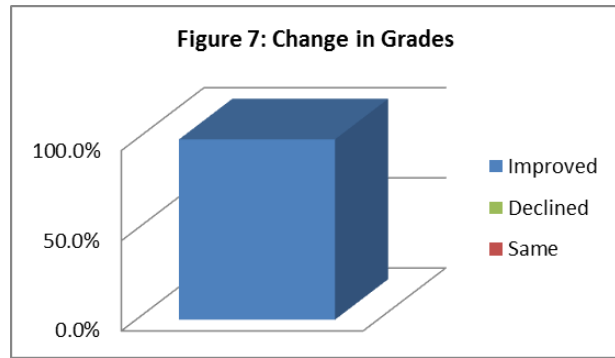
11. *During the grant period, there will be an increase in the number of youth who exhibit an improvement in school attendance.*

Findings: Though school attendance data was provided for some of the youth, the data provided was not reliable due to the fact that attendance data is not kept and recorded in a uniform way throughout the district. **Therefore, showing a change in attendance was not possible at this time. Conclusions regarding this objective cannot be made.**

12. *During the grant period, there will be an increase in the number of youth who exhibit an increase in GPA during the report period.*

Findings: Youth school grades were obtained at entry and exit of the program. Entry and exit data were available for the four who successfully completed and left the program this year. Exit data was not available for the two unsuccessful completions. Of those youth all four (100%) improved. (See Table 7 and Figure 7). **Therefore, this objective was met.**

Table 7: Change in Grades		
	#	%
Improved	4	100%
Same	0	0%
Declined	0	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>100%</b>

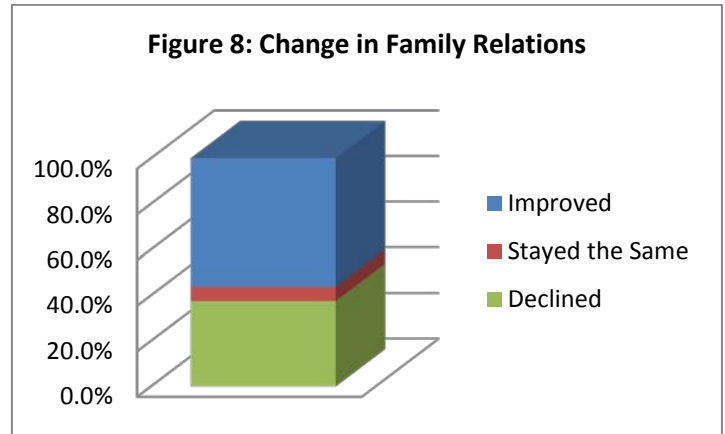


13. *During the grant period, there will be an increase in the number and percent of youth who exhibit an improvement in family relationships during the reporting period.*

Findings: Evaluators developed a custom pre and post-test survey for the project. (See Appendix Three for copy of survey.) The survey uses items from the SAMSHA question pool to assess risk factors such as family relationships. The pre-test survey was administered at the beginning of services. The post test was administered to participants at the completion of the program or end of current grant cycle.

Twenty-five total youth participated in the program this current grant year. Pre and Post-test survey data is available for 16 youth. Of the youth who took the pre and post-test the scores for nine (56.3%) improved, one (6.3%) stayed the same and six (37.5%) declined (See Table 8 and Figure 8). **Therefore, this objective was met.**

Table: 8 Pre- and Post-Test Scores in Family Relationships		
	#	%
Improved	9	56.3%
Stayed the Same	1	6.3%
Declined	6	37.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>100%</b>



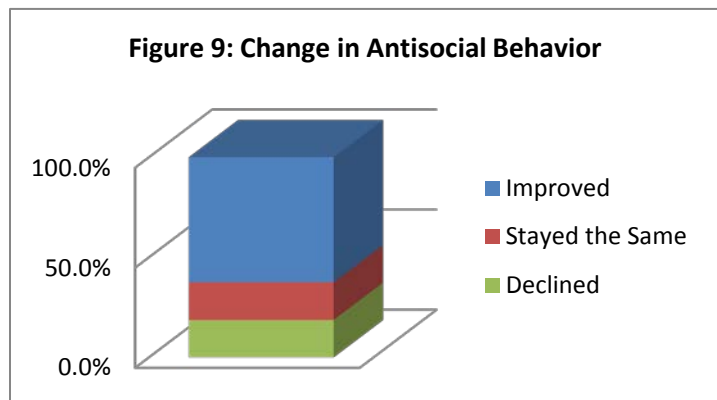
14. *During the grant period, there will be a decrease in the number and percent of youth who exhibit antisocial behavior.*

Findings: The Project Manager and DJJ staff closely monitored current enrollees during the grant year. All information regarding school disciplinary records and subsequent legal offenses was

entered into the project database. Although some disciplinary data was provided for the youth, the data provided was not reliable due to the fact that discipline data is not kept and recorded in a uniform way throughout the district. Therefore, showing a change in discipline through school records was not possible at this time. In addition to monitoring school discipline and law enforcement data, the custom youth pre-post survey includes questions about gang involvement as a surrogate for antisocial behavior. Additional items on the survey ask about school attendance and attitudes.

Twenty-five total youth participated in the program this current grant year. Pre and Post-test survey data is available for 16 youth. Of the youth who took the pre and post-test scores for ten (62.5%) improved, three (18.8%) stayed the same and three (18.8%) declined (See Table 9 and Figure 9). **Therefore, this objective was met.**

Table 9: Pre- and Post-Test Scores in Antisocial Behavior		
	GY 2016	
	#	%
Improved	10	62.5%
Stayed the Same	3	18.8%
Declined	3	18.8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>100%</b>



15. *During the grant, the number of youth who are sanctioned for not participating in activities will be less than 20%.*

Findings: The number of youth reported to be sanctioned for not participating in activities was one, which is 4.0%. This is less than the projected percentage. **Therefore, the project exceeded this objective.**

16. *During the grant period, the number of children who are victimized during the grant period will be less than 20%.*

Findings: Of the 25 youth who participated in this project, zero were reported to have been victimized during the grant period. **Therefore, the project exceeded this objective.**

## **CONCLUSIONS**

The Spartanburg Reduced Crime for Status Offenders Project met or exceeded all but one of the 16 project objectives. One objective could not be measured for success due to lack of data. The project continues to garner support from the community at large through contribution of volunteer services, in-kind match, contributions of goods and services and tapping other funding sources.

Overall, Spartanburg Reduced Crime for Status Offenders Project met or exceeded 15 of the 16 objectives, a strong improvement over the preceding year. The project fills an important niche in the community by providing services to low-level offenders and their families.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

The project staff should continue to work toward maintaining the program in the future and supporting others in replicating the model.



**APPENDIX ONE:  
CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES**

## **2017 Youth Empowerment Program Schedule**

This is an eight week program. At this time some activities are still tentative as we continue to contact people. Hours are 8:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Each day youth will be provided with a light snack of granola bar, crackers, or chips in the morning and will be provided with lunch. Most meetings will be at the Spartanburg Community College in Room 323.

**June 8, 2017** – This is the opening session. We will discuss expectations of the program.

8:00 a.m. until 8:30 a.m. Snacks and get t-shirts

8:30 a.m. until 9:15 a.m. Expectations, review schedule, rules, and discussion. (Expectations Video, Doris Boozer and Reginald Spurgeon.

9:15 a.m. until 10:00 a.m. Judge Erica McJimpsey (confirmed by Joyce Lipscomb).

10:00 a.m. -10:15 a.m. – Break

10:15 a.m. until 11:15 a.m. Valerie Sullivan, Shoplifting (Confirmed by Doris Boozer)

11:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. Lunch Subway (Confirmed – Contact person is Christian-phone number (864) 582-4443.

1:00 p.m. Delfrio (Confirmed by Chris Banks. Contact is David Piccuto Phone 583-4578)

2:00 p.m. View Island Port Video

**June 15, 2017**–

8:00 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. Arrive and snacks

8:50 a.m. (Leave for Inland Port)

9:30 a.m. Tour of Inland Port. Need a bus. Mike at 593-8969. Will utilize bus of Community Services. Confirmed through Kathy Hill.

10:30 a.m. Tour of Draexlmaier

12:00 noon until 1:00 p.m. Eat at Chick Fil A

1:30 p.m. until 3:00 p.m.. IMatter Program

**June 22, 2017**

8:00 a.m. –Morning Snack and Instructions for the Day.

8:45 a.m. – Leave for the Cowpens Battlefield (Confirmed by Joyce Lipscomb. Margo is the contact at 461-2828)

9:30 a.m. Cowpens Battlefield, Fiber Optic Map

10:00 a.m. Film

10:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. Walk the Trails

12:00 Noon Strawberry Hill Reservation to eat by calling 461-4000

1:00 p.m. Strawberry Hill Tour – Bethanie at 461-3000 (Confirmed by Joyce)

**June 29, 2017**

8:00 a.m. Snacks and Instructions for the Day

8:30 a.m. -12:00 p.m. Youth Challenge Team Building

Location: Spartanburg Police Club. Confirmed by Regina Nowak

12:30 p.m. to 1:15 lunch at Cici Pizza. Randy and Chris have confirmed. Contact at Cici is Clay Taylor

1:30 p.m. until 3:00 p.m. Imatter Program

**July 13, 2017**

8:00 a.m. Snacks and Instructions

8:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. Imatter Program

11:45 a.m. until 12:45 a.m. – Delaney’s (Confirmed – Contact person – Dana (864) 583-3100

1:00 p.m. until 3:00 p.m. Big Air

**July 20, 2016**

8:00 a.m. Snacks and Instructions

8:30 a.m. Leave for Wofford College

10:30 a.m. until 12:00 Spartanburg Community College

12:15 p.m. until 1:00 p.m. Lunch – Pizza – Training Room of City Hall (Confirmed with Kathy Hill)

12:30 p.m. until 3:00 p.m. Imatters Program Training Room of City Hall

**July 27, 2017**

8:00 a.m. until 8:30 a.m. Snacks and Instructions

8:45 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. Halter – Community Services and Education

11:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. Lunch Fuddruckers Randy and Chris confirmed. Lori Gregory at 576-8329

12:40 p.m. until 1:20 p.m. Hatcher Gardens

1:30 p.m. until 2:30 p.m. Downtown Airport Tour (Chris has confirmed with Anna Poole Kehidata at (864-426-3165)

**August 3, 2017**

Optimist Acres (I confirmed from Mike McNelis, 680-6567 or 582-2726. I will send a copy to Fire. Deputy Chief will help with food.)

**APPENDIX TWO:  
WRAP SERVICES CONTRACT**

**APPENDIX THREE:  
YOUTH SURVEY**