

What were the main activities throughout the length of the program?
(What did the teens do?)

The main activities involved a community mapping/surveying project that culminated in a community forum.

The teens:

- created a survey to administer to adults and teens in the community
- drew a map of the community
- walked around the community identifying business/organizations/assets/needs
- interviewed key individuals in the community (Senator Raoul, Dr. Karanja-the executive director of Centers for New Horizons, Andrea Lee-educational organizer, John Owens-community organizer, Bernard Clark-Community organizer, as well as other school and social service organization representatives.
- Plan the community forum event
- Research five primary problems in their community: poverty, substance abuse, gangs, teen pregnancy, and education
- Write up a comprehensive report on the survey findings, research on the above topics, and their recommendations.

Describe in detail the final project or final product of the program:

We held a community forum with over 60 participants, including Alderman Dowell and Senator Mattie Hunter. The teens presented the results of their surveys and research. They also debuted a public service announcement that they scripted and videotaped.

The teens also put together a 50-page report of their findings.

What was the program's visibility in the community, if any?

Yes, we actively invited community members to the forum and interviewed over 150 residents as part of our survey. We will continue to build partnerships beyond the summer program.

Please describe a notable program highlight: (Field trips, master classes, competitions, closing celebrations, community service, teens receiving internship offers or college scholarships etc)

King Sami, who has been in every Stand Up! Help Out! program since Spring 2009, will be attending Monmouth College. At the community forum, Senator Mattie Hunter met with him to talk to him about a scholarship opportunity.

The teens' community mapping project will be featured at the Bronzeville Visitor Information Center.

What content-specific skills did the teens learn?

Surveying skills, data collection, data analysis, report-writing, public speaking, philosophies of community organization, policy development

What critical workplace skills (applicable to any job) did the teens learn, and what activities did you use to achieve these skills?

Teamwork, communication, problem-solving, assertiveness, writing skills, critical thinking skills.

How did teens help plan your program activities? Describe a specific activity that teens planned.

The teens chose the community problems they would identify; they chose the boundaries of the community mapping project; they led the community forum; they participated in a program evaluation to give feedback about the program.

What challenges have you encountered?

There was some difficulty finding key community members to interview for the project. We did not have access to the internet or computers at our site.

What support or resources did you find / need to address these challenges?

We found a number of community members willing to assist with the project and be interviewed by the teens. The instructors used their personal computers many days of the program and used the field trip to Loyola to use the computer lab there.

Tell us about a teen's success story.

Bernard Robinson and Tyree Reed have agreed to work beyond the summer program in putting together the Stand Up! Help Out! exhibit at the Bronzeville Visitors' Information Center. Chelbi Hayes will continue to work with Dr. Bulanda to write an academic article about using teens in organizing communities.