

Looking At The ISSUES

June 23, 2006

Correction: Last Week we reported on the GEAR UP partners honored by the Canton City Schools Board of Education. Regretfully, we forgot Stark Community Foundation. They have put a lot of time, energy and charitable grants into both "Heartbeats to the City" and the administration of the Minnie Hopkins Scholarship Fund, which is a Component Fund of the Stark Community Foundation.

CARE Teams: A Programmatic Partnership that Supports Student Success in Stark County

Stark County CARE Teams Program — Despite ongoing achievement gains in all Stark County schools, many of our children live in difficult situations. In 2004:

- 640 youth were on probation
- 261 were in juvenile justice placement
- 977 were in foster care and child protective services custody
- 4,821 cases of child abuse representing 8,781 children were reported²

The CARE Team concept originated in the Fairless Local Schools in 1994. Teams are composed of teachers, administrators, and staff from multiple community agencies, including law enforcement, mental health, alcohol and drugs, and other social service agencies.

The goal is to provide, through community collaboration, on-site intervention and support for students and their families at the school to enable those students to be successful in their academic careers.

From Fairless, the CARE Team concept has expanded to Alliance, Massillon, Canton City, Canton Local and Osnauburg and is being considered by other districts. For many districts, funds limit the full implementation of the program. Many of the local foundations including the Stark Community Foundation, Sisters of Charity of Canton Foundation, and The Herbert W. Hoover Foundation have funded portions of the CARE Teams in several districts. The issue for Stark County has been how to "scale up" the intervention.

Summer Scholars Program Launch

On June 19th, 92 11th grade students from 14 Stark County school districts attended the first Stark State College of Technology classes. Using grant dollars provided by OCAN (Ohio College Access Network) and the Stark Education Partnership, these students will have the opportunity to complete six credit hours this summer and six credit hours next summer.

Federal Grant Filed

The Stark Education Partnership filed a federal Compassionate Capital Fund Capacity Building Grant entitled "*Decreasing Risk for Children by Raising SES through Parent/Guardian Education.*"

Questions or Comments?

Email aoneill@edpartner.org or call 330-452-0829.

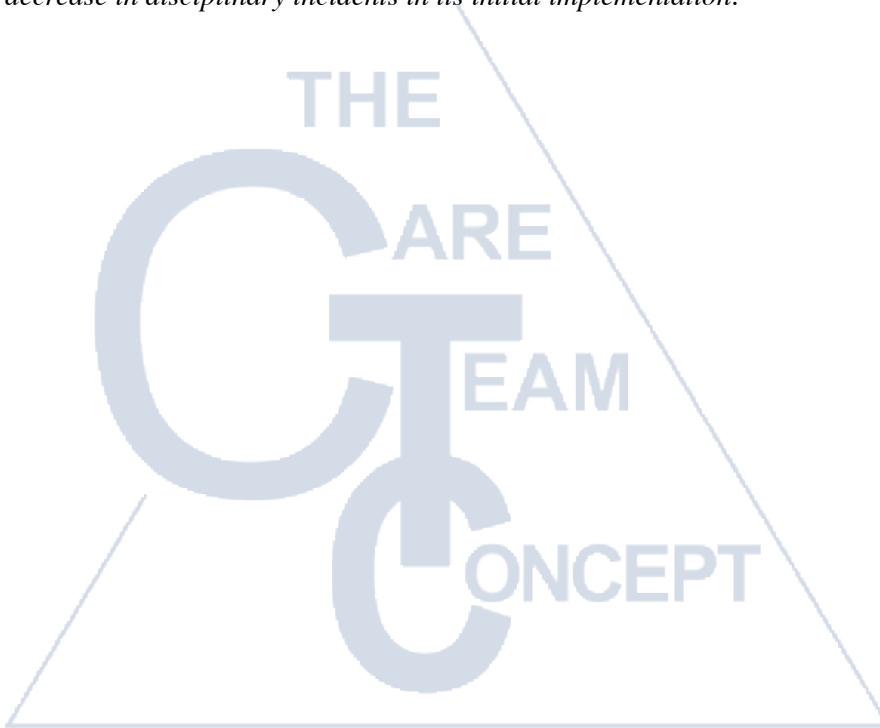
Our Website
www.edpartner.org

Our Address
220 Market Ave S - Suite 350
Canton, Ohio 44702-2181

In January of 2006 — funded by a grant from the Paul and Carol David Foundation through the Stark Education Partnership with support from the United Way and the Stark County Educational Service Center — a Community CARE Teams Committee formed a long-term business plan, projecting how this might proceed over the next five years. The Committee includes all Stark County districts and support groups, the United Way of Greater Stark County, Stark County service providers, local foundations, local government, business, community leaders and volunteers

The Stark Education Partnership is represented on the committee by Dr. Adrienne O’Neill. Dr. Joseph Rochford chairs an evaluation sub-committee whose goal is to design a cross-district, cross-county evaluation system for the program.

Results: *The Fairless Local Schools registered double digit increases in graduation and test scores in the ten year period following the creation of CARE teams. Alliance, with the CARE Team at the middle school, saw 76% of 6th grade, 58% of 7th grade, and 64% of 8th grade students show improvement in at least one academic area; 52% of all grades showing a decrease in disciplinary incidents in its initial implementation.*



³Source: (2006) Stark County CARE Teams Management Plan.

Looking At The Week

On June 21 and 22, 2006 Adrienne O’Neill and Joseph Rochford attended the *Early College High School Leadership Conference sponsored by KnowledgeWorks Foundation*. Dr. Rochford serves as the Early College High School internal coach in Canton.

Adrienne O’Neill spoke with the newly organized P-16 Council in Lake and Geauga Counties on June 22, 2006. They asked her to speak about “initial steps and what was learned in the formation of the Stark County P-16 Compact.”

Adrienne O’Neill served as the facilitator for a *retreat of the Board of Stark State College of Technology* on June 23, 2006.

Adele Gelb was named by the Stark Education Partnership as the OCAN Stark County representative to the Ohio ACT Council.