

*St. Joseph Youth Alliance*  
2011 ANNUAL REPORT

*20 years...*

MAKING A  
'DIFFERENCE





## Mission:

Engaging community partners to improve the lives of children and families.

## Our Values:

Advocacy  
Collaboration  
Commitment to Making a Difference  
Fiscal Responsibility  
Identifying Community Needs  
Quality Outcomes  
Resource Identification and Development

## St. Joseph Youth Alliance

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### Overall Kite- Sergeant Larry Stobbs, Jr.

Sergeant Stobbs is more than just one of St. Joseph's finest police officers; he is an individual that truly cares about young people and the safety of the community. Over the past ten years, Larry has worked tirelessly to reduce underage drinking among our youth. He has partnered with the Alliance over the past four years and is a member of the Drug Free Community Coalition. Due to his prevention efforts: the Midland Empire Alcohol Taskforce has been created that serves ten counties in Northwest Missouri, all individuals who serve or sell alcohol in St. Joseph must now have a server license, over 2,000 individuals have received Responsible Beverage Server Training, and excess prescription drugs that are no longer needed are collected semi-annually through Prescription Drug Take-Back Days. Larry also gives of his time and talents to support the overall efforts of the Youth Alliance. Since February alone, he has given countless hours painting and providing building maintenance to the Alliance's new facility. It doesn't matter what the task is at hand, he is just a phone call away and willing to help in whatever way he can. His entire family has helped to transform our new facility into not just a building, but our new home. As we stop and reflect on our 20th year and how 20 Makes a Difference, Sergeant Stobbs has given us 20 plus reasons to stop and say "thank you" for all that you do for the Alliance and the community. Thank you, Larry, for who you are, for how much you care, and for all the help and support you routinely give to the Youth Alliance!



Find us on Facebook and Linked in.



Linked in.

### 1992

SJYA's first Youth Service Day to honor young people for the many hours spent performing selfless acts of service.

### 1991

**April** - 18 agencies formed a single group to benefit St. Joseph's young people.

### 1992

**September** - Positive Youth Development launched (about 80 youth and adults met to identify positive and negative issues facing St. Joseph youth).

# St. Joseph Youth Alliance Board

**Sharon Ritchey, President**

City of St. Joseph Parks, Recreation & Civic facilities

**Sandy Hamlin, Vice President**

Retired School Teacher

**Jack Teegarden, Treasurer**

Retired-State of Kansas Adjutant General's Office

**Gary Miller, Secretary**

MO-Kan Regional Council

**Chris Connally**

Chief of Police

**Matthew Gregg**

Missouri Western State University

**Peter Gregory**

Missouri Western State University Student

**Steve Holdenried**

Retired-United Parcel Service

**Jeff Langdon**

WalMart Pharmacy

**Rev. Roger Lenander**

First Lutheran Church

**Dave Richmond**

Hinde & Company

**Amy Ryan**

Commerce Bank

**Brian Shindorf**

St. Joseph School District

**Joey Thompson**

Department of Social Services, Children's Division

**Lynette Wheeler**

Heartland Hospital

## 1993

**October-** Children and Adolescent  
Service Program (CAASP) launched.

## From the Executive Director

### ROBIN HAMMOND

*20 years...* reason enough  
for a celebration, but 20 years of *Making a  
Difference*, is even more reason to celebrate!



May 2011 marked the 20th anniversary of the St. Joseph Youth Alliance. We are marking this impressive 20 year milestone with a day of celebration and an Annual Report that reflects the many, many accomplishments the St. Joseph Youth Alliance has achieved in our 20-year history with community support.

In 1995, when the Youth Alliance first received Caring Communities funding to support 6 core results, we had no idea of the growth we would experience or the positive influence our services would have on this community. Over the years we have been supported with funding from many local, state and national sources to positively impact issues facing children and youth in our community. We have made a difference in access to and availability of services for children and families through our many programs: Educare, Family Connections, Drug Free Communities, Journey to Unite Mentors and Parents, Northwest Missouri Mentoring Partnership, and so many more.

Because of this community's commitment to our young people, St. Joseph was selected as one of the Top 100 Communities for Young People in 2005 by America's Promise. This designation did not come easily. Although we have made a difference over the past 20 years, the future requires our due diligence to assure that we *continue* making a difference for the long haul.

We look forward to celebrating our 20 years of growth with a community that has made it possible. We also wish to express our admiration and gratitude to the visionary leaders who had the foresight and commitment to initiate the model that has led the St. Joseph Youth Alliance to be what it is today. We also wish to recognize and thank our local leaders who laid the foundation for our program 20 years ago and the current staff who are instrumental to the success of our programs.

At the same time we celebrate our 20 year history, we continue to plan for the next 20 years. Please join us as we celebrate making a difference both in the past and the future!

*Robin Hammond*



# Introduction

Anyone who has resided in the community for any length of time may have heard of the St. Joseph Youth Alliance, or may have even been a beneficiary of our services or participated in our programs. The St. Joseph Youth Alliance exists to impact issues that relate to children and youth. Our Five Keys for Kids (key drivers for our organization) include crisis prevention, early childhood education, substance abuse prevention, youth asset development and youth mentoring.

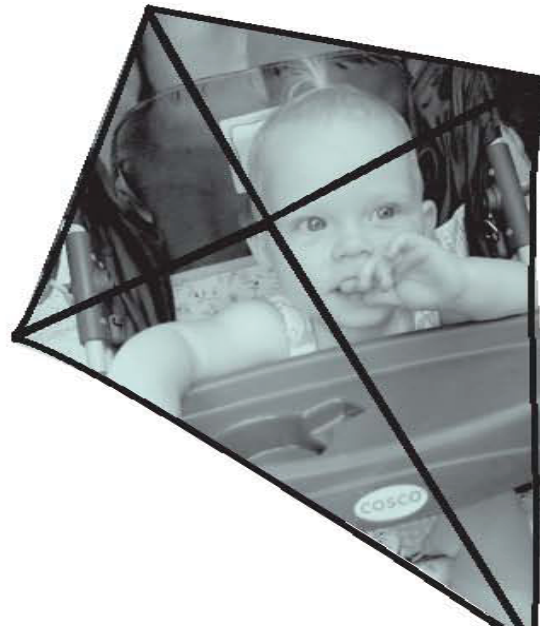
Family Connections is the Youth Alliance's **CRISIS PREVENTION** program. This program is an integrated system for delivering health, family support and social services to children and families to improve outcomes and reduce costs and risks of child abuse and neglect. Family Connections offers education, social activities for parents, and opportunities for families to connect with other families.

**EARLY CHILDHOOD** education is attained by working with child care providers to promote growth and quality of early childhood care and school readiness for children. We provide child care provider training, technical assistance, scholarships and equipment in 11 counties and offer grants for people opening or expanding a child care business.

The Youth Alliance is vested in changing community attitudes about **SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION** and encouraging youth to choose substance free lives. We provide community education, create awareness on the dangers of substance abuse, and teach adults how to model prevention. **YOUTH ASSET DEVELOPMENT** goes hand in hand with substance abuse prevention by instilling positive values and a commitment to learning through carefully planned and integrated service opportunities. Asset development is built upon a solid foundation of substance abuse prevention education, leadership, team work and opportunities to serve.

**YOUTH MENTORING** provides young people with positive adult role models in both the community and the work place. Our programming provides young people with a sense of belonging and helps them build a strong foundation for future social success. Academic success and positive experiences, both in employment and their personal lives are focal points of programming.

## Unlocking Potential Five Keys for Kids



1994

May 20 - SJYA officially  
formed as a not-for-profit  
501 (c)(3) corporation.

# Thank you

## 20 years... Does Make a Difference!

Twenty years ago, nearly 20 organizations came together to form what is now known as the St. Joseph Youth Alliance. Those organizations and the nearly 20 volunteers put the Youth Alliance on a path that influenced policy change, reduced substance abuse in our community, had positive impacts on childhood education, workforce development, child abuse and neglect, youth asset development and so much more. Little did they know, but these individuals set the standard which our community abides by – and twenty certainly does make a difference. Not only were the nearly 20 people responsible for creating a tide of change, they can now be recognized as the 20-somethings that make a difference!

Twenty volunteers can lead to successful community events – the Children's Fair is a prime example. Twenty employers can mean the difference between youth entering the work force and sustaining employment or being another statistic. The 20 developmental assets make a difference in youth becoming successful, contributing adults. Twenty prevention messages make a difference in educating our youth and community about the dangers of substance use. Twenty mentored pregnant or parenting teens translate into responsible, educated young adults with good parenting skills. Twenty parents receiving home visits have the opportunity to change their behaviors so that fewer children are in out-of-home placement. Twenty new child care providers translate into the availability of significantly more child care slots to meet the high demand for quality child care in our community. Twenty compliance checks keep underage youth from accessing substances harmful to their development and well-being.

So, if you didn't think that 20 makes a difference, this report is designed to change your mind and encourage you to be a 20-something in the future!



# MMD Business Partners 2010-2011

Barbosa's Castillo  
City of St. Joseph  
Country Squire  
Evans Construction  
Fredrick Inn  
Godfather's Pizza  
Hardee's Restaurant  
Hasting's Books and Videos

Heartland Business Machines  
Journey's  
JSoft International  
K-Mart  
Kohl's Department Store  
Kovac's Grocery Store  
Lane Bryant  
La Petite Academy

Lids  
Lino's Original Pizza  
Little Caesar's Pizza  
Lowe's Home Improvement  
Luna's Fine Dining  
McDonald's  
Moila Food Service  
Mr. Goodcents (South )

Rue 21  
Sack-N-Save Grocery Store  
Saxton Wood's Care Center  
Specialty Industries  
St. Joseph Harley-Davidson  
St. Paul Lutheran Church, School and Child Care  
Taco Bell



1994

**September-** Don L. Miller  
became the new Project  
Coordinator.

1994

\$132,875 received from  
USDA Youth-At-Risk grant  
with matching funds from  
W.K. Kellogg Foundation.

## CITY OF ST. JOSEPH PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, St. Joseph Youth Alliance is an important institution in our community, and will be celebrating 20 years of history on Tuesday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2011; and

WHEREAS, St. Joseph Youth Alliance has experience, wisdom and knowledge to share, having worked with community partners during periods of great collaboration and periods of conflict to remind our community that youth are one of our most valuable assets; and

WHEREAS, St. Joseph Youth Alliance has dedicated time, talents and financial resources, improving outcomes for children, youth and families, and setting the tone for our community by their example of volunteerism and steadfastness; and

WHEREAS, St. Joseph Youth Alliance has helped educate others in our community to understand youth asset development, to promote community engagement and responsibility, and to value the importance of early childhood education; and

WHEREAS, St. Joseph Youth Alliance will be honored with a celebration during its Annual Meeting on Tuesday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2011, at the Frederick Boulevard Baptist Church.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of St. Joseph does hereby proclaim October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2011, as a date for

### St. Joseph Youth Alliance's 20-Year History Celebration

in the City of St. Joseph, Missouri and I urge all citizens to join me in this special observance.

ISSUED: This 17<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2011

Bill Falkner  
Mayor



# Crisis Prevention

## FAMILY CONNECTIONS

Family Connections is a home visitation program funded by the Stay at Home Parent Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention grant. Families from Andrew, Buchanan and DeKalb counties who meet income guidelines and have at least one child under age 3 in the home are eligible to enroll. To participate, families must have a household income below 185% of the federal poverty guidelines. Home visits are conducted to monitor physical and social-emotional progress and to complete assessments with parents for purposes of early intervention. Family Connections works with St. Joseph School District Parents as Teachers and Early Head Start to avoid duplication of services. In 2011, 41 children received developmental assessments.

Family Connections uses Parents As Teachers' *Born to Learn-Prenatal to Three* curriculum. Parents learn about milestones in their children's development and age-appropriate behavior through home visits and other activities. Early interventions and realistic expectations are key strategies in reducing risk of abuse and neglect.



## Family Connections Service Volumes - 2011

Total number of families served	28*
Total number of children under age three served	41
Other children in enrolled families	30
Number of home visits	267
Number of families participating in Parents as Teachers activities	28
Number of families participating in literacy activities	28
Number of individuals impacted by Family Connections	124

\* 28 families includes 53 adults (participating parents, grandparents & other caregivers)

## CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MAKES A DIFFERENCE

St. Joseph Youth Alliance programs and services geared toward reducing child abuse and neglect are making a difference. The rates for children in the custody of the Children's Division as a result of substantiated evidence of child abuse/neglect has continued on a downward trend from 10.70 in 2004 to 4.01 in 2010, based on (Ref. pg.17- Buchanan County Child Abuse & Neglect Rates) data from the Missouri Children's Division Annual Report. This is a 62.5% decrease in seven years!



# 2001

Faith-Based Mentoring Program launched to assist families as they transitioned off welfare

## A CIRCLE OF PARENTS SUPPORT GROUP MAKES A DIFFERENCE!

The Children's Trust Fund spotlighted the St. Joseph Youth Alliance's Circle of Parents program this year. Circle of Parents provides a friendly, supportive environment for caregivers to meet and talk about the challenges they face and offer support and resources. That could mean conversations about how to deal with separation anxiety, to where to find assistance with child care. The St. Joseph Youth Alliance offers Circle of Parents groups for low-income families, families that have used the local crisis care center, grandparents raising grandchildren, and minority communities, including a Hispanic group. Anyone in a parenting role is welcome to join for free.

General meetings with Circle of Parents are held the last Thursday of every month and is one of Family Connections greatest achievements. Group meetings have grown from about 2 parents in 2010 to more than 60 parents, caregivers and children in 2011. These parents and caregivers attend a two-hour program that is peer led, with new leaders emerging.

## Power Kite- Jenna Thiemann

came to Circle of Parents to learn more about parenting, and to meet and socialize with other parents of young children. When she joined the circle, her children were 5, 2 ½, 1 ½, and newborn, with three of them being boys!

Jenna's family has grown up since August of 2009, and Jenna, who is in her early 20's yet has a natural ability when it comes to parenting and has emerged as a leader. She helps anywhere she is needed. For one circle meeting, she researched parenting styles and her presentation received overwhelming praise and thanks from other parents. Jenna arrives early on meeting days and sets up the dining room, then takes over the kitchen, directing other parents on what needs to be done to prepare for the dinner. She has organized the distribution of the incentives, creating order out of chaos. Jenna also volunteers in the Family Connections office, creating meeting flyers and assembling the





## CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

Several agencies teamed up to plan awareness activities for the annual observance of Child Abuse Prevention Month (April). The Mayor proclaimed April as Child Abuse Prevention Month in St. Joseph.

## RELATIONSHIP COUNSELING SEMINARS

Family Connections was awarded funding of \$3,800 from Show Me Women Who Care, a local group of women from Andrew and Buchanan counties who contribute to a specific charity annually. Some of the funds were used to bring relationship counseling seminars to St. Joseph, working with Impacting Lives International. Eight couples attended the five-week Within Our Reach seminar that was held for couples. In addition, a five-week program for singles was held twice involving eight individuals over the course of the two program cycles.



## HIGHLIGHTS

- Annual home safety risk and parental stress index assessments were conducted as needed, with referrals made when appropriate.
- Two Circle of Parents groups, the general circle and the grandparents circle, joined together for the December holiday celebration. Sixty grandparents, parents, and other caregivers and all their children jammed into the Youth Alliance meeting room for dinner and a surprise visit from someone special: Ken Hamlin had arranged for Santa Claus to hear children's wishlists and distribute candy and small toys. Plenty of photos were taken, capturing the joy and happiness in the room



Anita Jolly, Bianca Turbak, Fran Brothers and Rev. Roger Lenander (from left to right) at the Pinwheels for Prevention event held on Good Friday at East Hills Mall.



## FAMILY SUPPORT PARTNER

Through Circle of H.O.P.E., the St. Joseph Youth Alliance began offering Family Support Partner services in late 2010. Family Support Partner provides direct support from people who have first-hand experience with the challenges and care of a child with emotional and behavioral health needs. With approximately 20% of the children in our community having emotional and/or mental health challenges, Family Support Partners are essential for offering support to families with children who have emotional and behavioral health needs. They can also help families navigate what are often complex and frustrating systems while listening and responding without judgment. Family Support Partners provide positive role models, encourage problem solving, and help families prepare for meetings so they can maximize meeting outcomes.



Mayor Bill Faulkner presents a proclamation for Child Abuse Prevention to the St. Joseph Coalition for Child Abuse Prevention (April 2011)

SJYA, in partnership with UCP, Community Action Partnership, Progressive Community Services, Heartland Foundation and Missouri Department of Social Services, created "Under the Sea", a Community Sensory Room for special needs children in the community.

2003

2007

2003

SJYA was awarded Stay at Home Parent Child Abuse Prevention funding to support the Family Connections Program.

2010

**October-** Circle of H.O.P.E. provided St. Joseph Youth Alliance with funding to provide Family Support Partner Services.

Children's Trust Fund awarded SJYA a 5-year Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) grant to develop a comprehensive system of care for children and families at risk of child abuse and neglect.



# Early Childhood

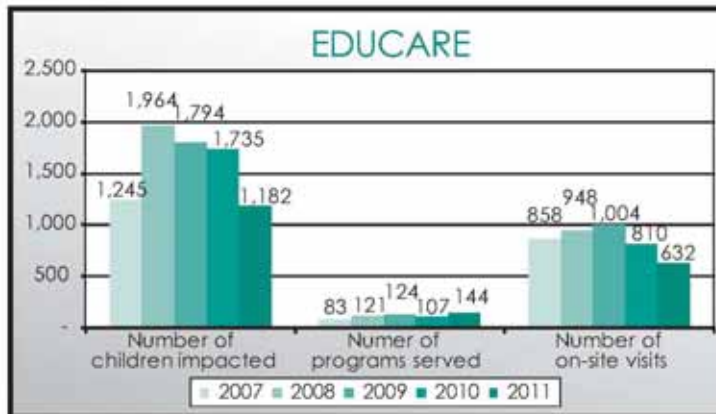
## EDUCARE

Educare's primary purpose is to increase the quality of child care and improve school readiness of children. Educare impacted 1,182 children in fiscal year 2011. Of these children, 25% received subsidized assistance through Department of Social Services. Educare served 144 programs and 94 teachers through 624 on-site visits.

## CHILDREN'S FAIR

Our annual Community Children's Fair was held on Tuesday, April 12, at the Civic Arena. The fair is a collaborative effort of several organizations in our community. The planning committee included Buchanan County Health Department, Community Action Partnership/Head Start, St. Joseph Public Library, United Cerebral Palsy, United Way/Success By 60, Squaw Creek, Missouri Extension, and Junior League.

Children's Fair is free, open to the public, and targets children age birth to 5 years. We advertise to parents, preschools and child care providers to bring their children to participate in more than 30 activities. They can hear books read in the reading tent, play in the obstacle course, experience a variety of learning activities at agency booths, as well as see a fire truck, police car, highway patrolman, meet McGruff, and much more. The Lion's Club provided free hearing screenings and this year we had live owls from the Lakeside Nature Center. This year we had 1,112 children and 778 adults attend with approximately 200 volunteers who made this event a success.



**Note:** Numbers have decreased due to state changes in the Educare contract with our focus being on facilities serving 10 or fewer children.



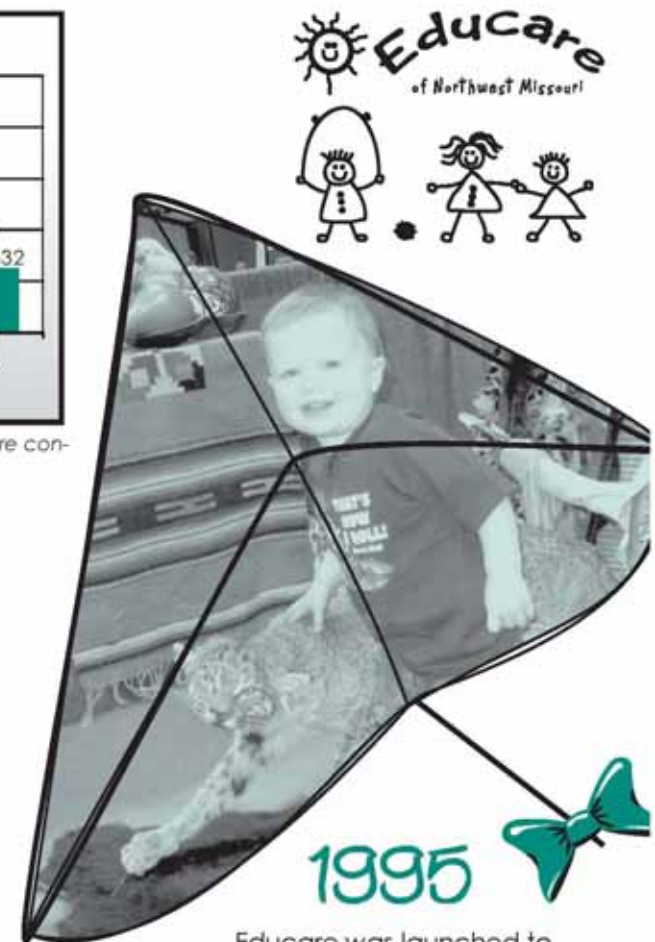
## Power Kite-Terry Shimer

Best job ever! That is the sentiment of Terry Shimer since opening her in-home child day care in 2008. This is also the feeling of her granddaughter, who wants to receive a degree in Early Childhood Education and partner with her grandmother to expand.

With her other grandchildren in her care and the original four who started with her the focus this past year has been on school readiness.

This dream is forever evolving and expanding and with the guidance and assistance of Educare and Ms. Irene, our next goal is to go from a state registered to a state licensed day care to allow for more children.

This has been a journey, but it has led to the best job ever!



Educare was launched to improve and strengthen early childhood education.



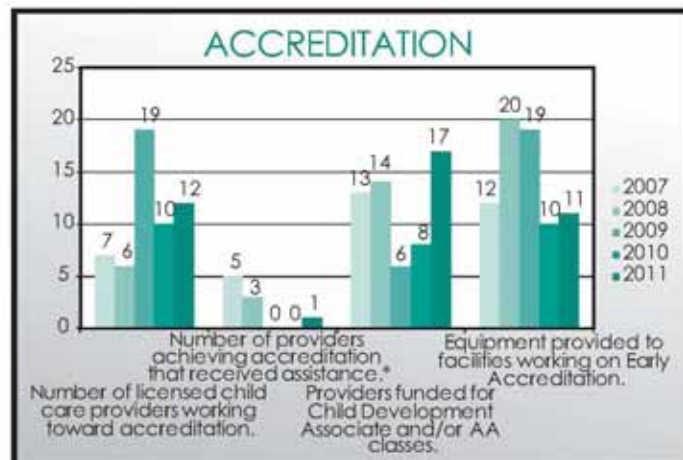


## CHILD CARE ACCREDITATION

Child Care Accreditation provides funding through HB 1519 to child care programs that are committed to reaching beyond the minimum requirements defined by licensing and achieving recognized standards of excellence. The goal is for child care homes and centers to work to achieve and maintain the high quality standards that are so important to the early education of our children.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- For FY 2011, five students enrolled in AA classes, six students enrolled in CDA classes and one individual received an Associate degree in Early Childhood Education.
- In addition to scholarships, we supported 12 sites working to achieve accreditation with technical assistance, incentives and equipment.
- Throughout the year, 800 teachers attended educational training based on the Core Competencies for Early Care and Education Professionals.
- We provided Conscious Discipline® training to 117 early childhood teachers. This one-day training focused on comprehensive classroom management and a social-emotional curriculum.



**Note:** If numbers are lower, facilities are pursuing other community resources to meet their financial needs.

## CHILD CARE START-UP AND EXPANSION

The goal of Child Care Start-Up and Expansion is to increase capacity of quality child care programs that offer care for infants and toddlers of low-income working families.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- This was the second year that a three-year funding plan was used.
- Four programs received second-year funding and five programs were funded for their first year.
- Programs were funded in Andrew, Atchison, Buchanan, Clinton, Daviess and DeKalb counties.
- The licensed capacity of the facilities funded this year was one hundred and twenty-eight.
- Monthly support group meetings were held in conjunction with business webinars provided by Tom Copeland and the National Association for Family Child Care. Mr. Copeland, a licensed attorney, authored two proposals adopted by the IRS that significantly reduced record keeping requirements for family child care providers.

**2002**

SJYA was the recipient of \$226,085 to support the accreditation process of 20 childcare providers.

**2001**

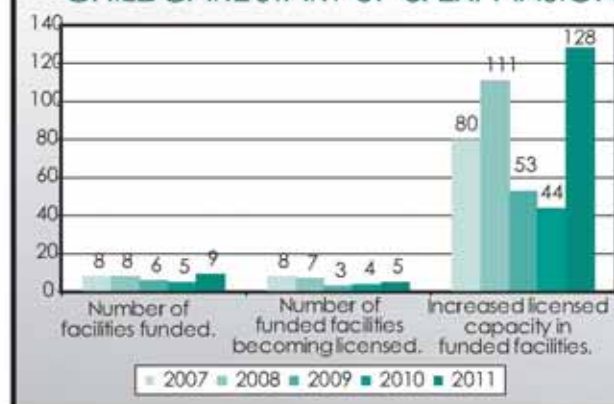
Educare expanded to provide on-site technical assistance visits to 11 counties in Northwest Missouri.

**1999**

HB 1519 Early Childhood Education and Care funds launched through SJYA, offering scholarships for early childhood professionals and funds to help childcare businesses become licensed.



## CHILDCARE START-UP & EXPANSION



**Note:** Licensed capacity may vary significantly from year to year due to the type of facility funded (e.g., home (up to 10 slots) group home (up to 20 slots) or center (depends on size of facility)).

**2004**

Children's Fair expanded to the Civic Arena.

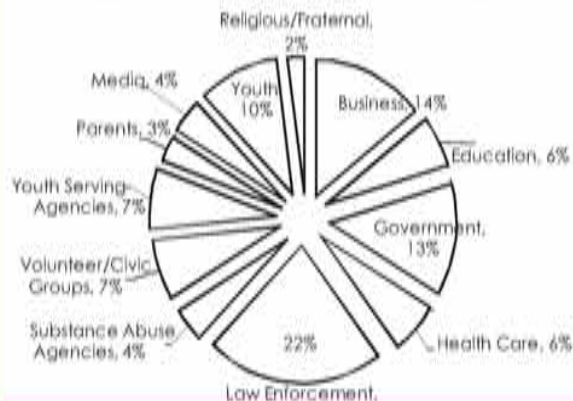




# Substance Abuse Prevention

Twenty community changes make a difference! The St. Joseph Drug Free Community Coalition has had a major impact on our community. Although 20 changes are a great benchmark—we are proud to have 69 documented community changes since December 2007. The pie chart shows the percentage of changes by community sector. The Coalition is successful because it involves all 12 sectors in community change efforts.

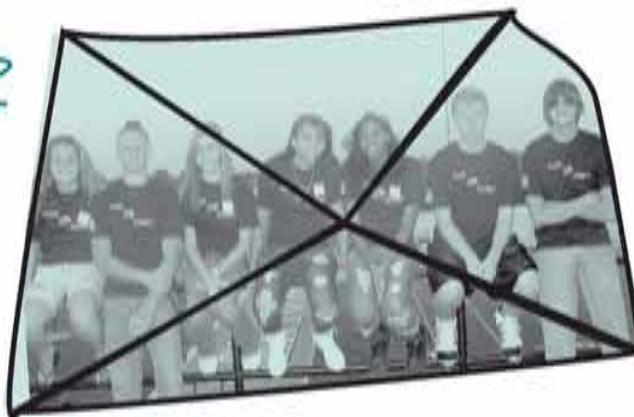
## COMMUNITY CHANGES BY SECTOR (AS OF DECEMBER 2010)



Several changes were related to changing alcohol ordinances in Buchanan County and improving compliance checks, including an anonymous on-line reporting tool and a "300 foot" rule. This rule requires notification of alcohol sales at catering events to all residences and churches within 300 feet, as well as an alcohol fence and security. A fine structure was also implemented for businesses failing compliance checks. Over the course of the entire year, St. Joseph Youth Alliance made more than 5,400 contacts through events, training, and meetings.

## RESPONSIBLE BEVERAGE SERVER (RBS) TRAINING

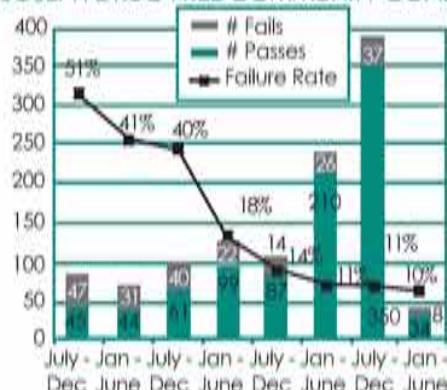
The St. Joseph Police Department, in partnership with the coalition, provided 43 RBS training courses in 2010, with more than 1,500 individuals completing the training in the community. License fees for those trained and



## COMPLIANCE CHECKS

A total of 1,125 compliance checks have occurred since 2007. A total of 384 inspections occurred from July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011. The graph illustrates the total number of passed and failed compliance checks, as well as the failure rate over time. Failure rates trended down every six months. The first 6-month period shows a total of 92 compliance checks with a failure rate of 51%. For the most recent 12-month period, the failure rate was only 10% (80.4% decrease since the program was put into place). Due to the success of this initiative, compliance checks have now been expanded to ten counties: Andrew, Atchison, Buchanan, Clinton, Daviess, DeKalb, Harrison, Holt, Nodaway and Worth. Future steps include partnering with the Northwest Missouri Tobacco Coalition to replicate this model to reduce tobacco sales to minors.

## COMPLIANCE CHECKS, BUCHANAN COUNTY ST. JOSEPH DRUG FREE COMMUNITY COALITION



2002

St. Joseph Youth Alliance receives C-2000 - Prevention Assistance grant for \$10,000 to address under age substance use.

2004

Initial funding from Drug Free Communities Awarded (one-year funding).

## AVERAGE AGE OF FIRST USE

Buchanan County	2006	2008	2010	% Change
Alcohol	11.8	11.9	12.3	3.4%
Tobacco	11.2	11.3	11.8	4.4%
Marijuana	12.6	12.6	13.2	4.8%

Note: Age of first use increased significantly in all three substances, demonstrating that community efforts to reduce underage drinking are having an impact. The percent change was calculated from 2008 to 2010.

## Power Kite-Jennifer Protzman

Sergeant Jennifer Protzman was a communication dispatcher with the St. Joseph Police Department from 1990 to 1996. In 1996, she was commissioned as a Police Officer and served in both the Patrol and Detective Divisions. She was promoted to Sergeant in 2008 and currently supervises the Detective Divisions Family Crimes Unit. Jennifer is a very active member of the Midland Empire Alcohol Task Force. She routinely works the various enforcement programs including compliance inspections and party patrols. Jennifer also teaches the Responsible Beverage Server Training classes on a regular basis and is one of the reasons this program is such a success. Jennifer is married to Eric





## RED RIBBON WEEK

- Red Ribbon Week took place October 23-31. Banners promoting Red Ribbon Week were placed over I-29 and Highway 169. In addition, banners were placed in six other prominent locations in St. Joseph.
- Banners featured Xtreme Youth Coalition members.
- Nearly 500 large red bows were put up in numerous locations throughout St. Joseph.
- Approximately 10,000 stickers promoting Red Ribbon Week were distributed at the Sonic locations to be placed on all bagged orders.
- Supplies were given to the St. Joseph School District schools and St. Joseph Christian School to promote Red Ribbon Week.
- The Coalition ran radio ads on all major radio stations to promote Red Ribbon Week.

## HIGHLIGHTS

**Fields of Faith/Town Hall Tailgate.** The St Joseph Youth Alliance hosted the Fields of Faith/Town Hall Tailgate, in partnership with the Northwest Missouri Fellowship of Christian Athletes on October 6, 2010. Over 700 people attended. The event was held at Missouri Western State University and featured former LA Laker and ESPN Analyst Adrian Branch.

**3-D Month.** The Bauman car, donated by the family after their daughter, Jodi, was involved in a drunk driving fatality, was displayed inside East Hills Mall with an information table during the Christmas holidays. For New Year's, the car was moved to Hollywood Theatres.

**Prescription Take Back Program.** The St. Joseph Youth Alliance held two "take backs" in 2010, accepting unused prescriptions from community members and disposing of them through the St. Joseph Police Department as part of the National Prescription Take Back Day organized through the Drug Enforcement Agency. The events were held at East Hills Mall parking lot. Other partners involved in the project included the Drug Strike Force and Juvenile Probation. A total of 198 pounds of unused prescriptions were collected during the first event, with an additional 238 pounds collected during the 2<sup>nd</sup> event.



EVERY 15 MINUTES  
SOMEONE TAKES  
THEIR OWN LIFE.

WE DIDN'T THINK  
IT WOULD  
HAPPEN TO US.

FOCUS

1.800.273.TALK

CONTACT ST. JOE YOUTH ALLIANCE FOR MORE INFO 816.232.0050.

1.800.273.TALK | BREAK THE SILENCE. TALK ABOUT IT. SAVE A LIFE.

CONTACT ST. JOE YOUTH ALLIANCE FOR MORE INFO 816.232.0050.

## BREAKING THE SILENCE SUICIDE PREVENTION PROJECT

Breaking the Silence began as a committee from the Drug Free Community Coalition and soon became its own coalition because of community need. A billboard was displayed during Suicide Prevention Week and pictures local survivors of suicidal attempts and families with photos of their lost loved ones. The coalition is busy working to provide awareness and education around suicide. Question, Persuade, Refer training has been provided at various community agencies, clubs, and committees. Signs of Suicide training materials have been provided to middle and high school students. The ultimate goal of the coalition is to reduce stigma, raise awareness, and ultimately save lives.

2006

SJYA was awarded 4-year SPF-SIG funding for planning using the Strategic Prevention Framework to address underage and binge drinking.

2007

SJYA was awarded 4 additional years of Drug Free Communities funding.

2009

**November-** St. Joseph's City Council approved the ordinance to require people who serve alcohol in the City of St. Joseph to obtain a "server identification" badge upon completion of Responsible Beverage Server training.



2010

Department of Mental Health provided \$1900 in funding for suicide prevention.

## FREQUENCY OF USE IN PAST 30 DAYS

	% Reporting Use Ever				% Reporting 30 Day Use			
	2006	2008	2010	% Change	2006	2008	2010	% Change
<b>Buchanan County</b>								
Alcohol	54.1%	52.2%	34.2%	34.5% ▼	21.3%	22.7%	15.3%	32.6% ▼
Tobacco	31.7%	29.5%	24.6%	16.6% ▼	15.2%	14.8%	13.2%	10.8% ▼
Marijuana	15.4%	15.6%	11.1%	28.8% ▼	8.0%	7.9%	5.6%	29.1% ▼

Note: What is important to note is that while there is a significant drop in the percentage of youth reporting ever using alcohol, tobacco or marijuana, those that are reporting use are drinking more heavily. Those reporting use in the last 30 days is also decreasing. The percent change was calculated from 2008 to 2010.

2011

**April-** Breaking the Silence Suicide Prevention Project, a Missouri Suicide Prevention Project, was launched with \$11,900 in funding from Circle of H.O.P.E. and Department of Mental Health.

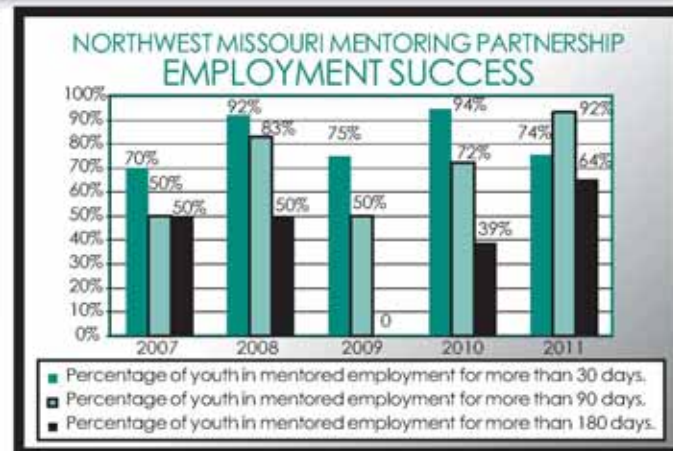


# Youth Mentoring

The Northwest Missouri Mentoring Partnership (MMP) promotes youth employment services and activities that are results-based and generate outcomes beyond simple "job placement".

Our current and future efforts target individuals age 14 through 21 who face life challenges or hardships, youth who are in danger of dropping out of school, are in foster care or are youth offenders.

Through our Worksite Mentoring program, we collaborate with business partners in the community to provide worthwhile work experiences for youth.



## Power Kite-Kendal Harris:

Symbolic meanings and names have been attached to kites since their origins. For instance, POWER KITES are known to be multi-line, steerable kites designed to generate large forces that can be used to power activities. MMP's Power Kite is Kendal Harris, an eighteen year old young man whose multi-lined goals of employment and education have been steering him through 2010-11. Kendal embraces the resources available to accomplish his goals. Kendal has been employed with Little Caesar's Pizza since November of 2010 and is excited about reaching his next milestone—one year of employment. "A force of commitment and enthusiasm" is how his manager, Jennifer Martin, describes him. Kendal appreciates hard work and is willing to step outside of his comfort zone. Jennifer explains that employees rotate waving their logo sign outside of the store to solicit business. She reports that most employees do not enjoy this task; however, Kendal performs with an eagerness that invites a steady customer flow. Our Power Kite, Kendal, is confident with his talents and skills to generate a force of his own that powers energy to reach his goals. Kendal is also steering towards his graduation this spring. His desire to do well and his ambition to succeed are admirable and encouraging. Keep soaring as a Power Kite, Kendal—we are proud of you!



## ACHIEVEMENTS:

- The summer youth program employed five youth.
- The My Success Event generated 50 sophomore referrals and nine new business partners.
- Forty-nine youth successfully completed the 6-8 week job readiness classes.
- Two job fair events were held at the East Hills Mall.
- The year included a mentor recognition dinner.
- Two interns assisted with classes, case management and other MMP program functions.







## Power Kite - Kori Denland

Nothing has been more rewarding to me than being a Jump mentor, and being that constant source of support to someone else who needs it. I went into this wanting to help by sharing my experiences and what I know with these young mothers but in turn have learned so much from them and will forever be grateful.

Being a jump mentor to me means not only setting a good example, but being that constant source of support who's non-judgmental and always willing and ready to drop what you're doing to lend an open ear.



Heartland Health



1999

Northwest Missouri Mentoring Partnership launched the Worksite Mentoring program.

1998

JUMP was launched with Welfare Reform.

2001

Infant Massage funded through Stay at Home Parent Program.

## JOURNEY TO UNITE MENTORS & PARENTS (JUMP)

JUMP was formed in 1998 to provide education, support, home visits and mentoring to teens facing parenthood. JUMP places a strong emphasis on persistence to graduation, decreasing repeat pregnancies, and increasing self sufficiency. The program strives to improve school readiness for their children. Adult role models in the community serve as mentors in partnership with St. Joseph Youth Alliance, Heartland Health and the YWCA. There were 65 participants enrolled in JUMP in 2011 and 24 mothers were matched with a mentor.



eliminating racism  
empowering women **ywca**

2002

JUMP Program expanded through Stay at Home Parent Program to provide mentoring services to teen mothers in Andrew, Buchanan and DeKalb Counties.

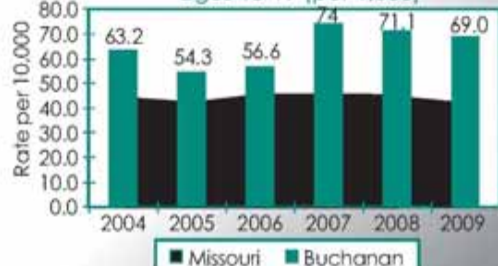
## ACHIEVEMENTS:

- 97% of children were current with required immunizations all 12 months.
- 100% of parents participated in parenting classes.
- 30 fathers participated in the program.
- 52% of the participants were continuing their education.
- 37% of the participants had completed their education.
- 11% of participants were not in school.
- Certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians provided car seat safety inspections and demonstrated proper installation to parents.
- Play groups were held with mothers and their toddlers.
- Infant massage instruction was provided to new mothers.

2011

On May 3, SJYA was awarded a Workforce Investment Act Employment and Training Youth Services grant.

## BIRTHS TO TEENS RATE, ages 15-19 (per 1,000)





# Youth Asset Development

## 20 AmeriCorps Members make a difference!

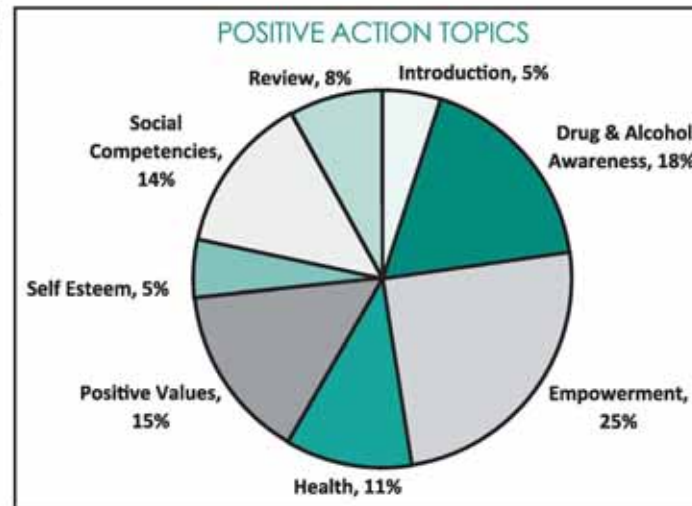
### AmeriCorps

Youth Alliance just completed its fourth year of the STAND (Students Taking Action Not Drugs) AmeriCorps grant, providing 20 full-time AmeriCorps Member positions over the past four years.

Members were recruited for the purpose of facilitating a variety of activities with the ultimate goal of reducing underage drinking. Youth Alliance partnered with Heartland Foundation, St. Joseph School District, and Circle of H.O.P.E. to focus services on youth in one of three overarching areas: asset development, drug and alcohol prevention education, and youth volunteerism.

### Positive Action

Positive Action is a nationally recognized, evidence-based program that AmeriCorps Members implemented to build developmental assets in youth. Positive Action is recognized for improving academics, behavior, and character, but also as a drug and alcohol prevention education component. The curriculum is grade specific to ensure the highest level of success. AmeriCorps Members implemented the Positive Action curriculum in five elementary schools during this past year, serving 168 students in grades K-6. Three successful family-night events were also held to allow parents an opportunity to meet the AmeriCorps Members and staff responsible for working with their children each week. Parents were surveyed to determine the effectiveness of the program and to identify additional needs.



### Youth Volunteerism

One key way to increase the number of developmental assets in our young people is through service. Youth Alliance strives to develop service projects for youth of all ages to instill an ethic of service in generations to come. This year, Youth Alliance recruited 112 youth volunteers who provided 3,136 hours of service to our community. Highlighted below are some of the projects that youth have enjoyed this past year.

**Operation Outflow:** Youth Alliance has the responsibility for making and distributing Sunday sack lunches for patrons of the Open Door Food Kitchen on the first Sunday of every month. Youth and adults alike work together to make 75-100 lunches each month.

**6th Grade Service Day:** Youth Alliance works with Skait Elementary to place approximately 60 sixth graders in volunteer service on 6th grade service day each year. This has been a partnership enjoyed by both Skait and the Youth Alliance for the past four years.

**XYC (Extreme Youth Coalition):** XYC is a group of young people ranging in age from 11-18, who are interested in serving in a leadership capacity. This group meets once monthly to plan projects for youth interested in reducing underage drinking and identifying service projects. XYC members participated in "One Homeless Night", a project designed to educate young people about the issue of homelessness, and encourage them to find ways to serve those in need. They are also planning some training and implementation of strategies around environmental scans designed to improve the placement of signage for alcohol and tobacco.





**National Days of Service:** AmeriCorps Members and youth volunteers are recruited to perform service on nationally recognized days of service including: Make a Difference Day, National Family Volunteer Day, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, and Global Youth Service Day.

**YAC Attack! Summer Program:** Youth Alliance just completed the seventh and most successful year of their summer program. YAC Attack! is a structured, supervised program that provides youth the opportunity to participate in meaningful activities that are free from drugs and alcohol, while assisting them to make a difference in their own life and the lives of others. This year, five AmeriCorps Members planned and implemented the program that served 37 youth volunteers ages 11-17 over eight weeks. These dedicated youth volunteers gave an amazing 2,601 hours of service to the community during that time.



**2004**

Stand Up For Me Campaign launched, focusing on developmental assets of youth.

**2005**

St. Joseph received the 100 Best Cities for Young People award.

### Presidential Volunteer Service Awards:

The President's Volunteer Service Award recognizes individuals, families, and groups that have achieved a certain standard—measured by the number of hours of service over a 12-month period or cumulative hours earned over the course of a lifetime. Youth Alliance tracks participation of youth involved in events coordinated through the Youth Action Coalition (YAC) and YAC Attack! Summer Program. This year, 17 young people have earned the Presidential Volunteer Service Award.

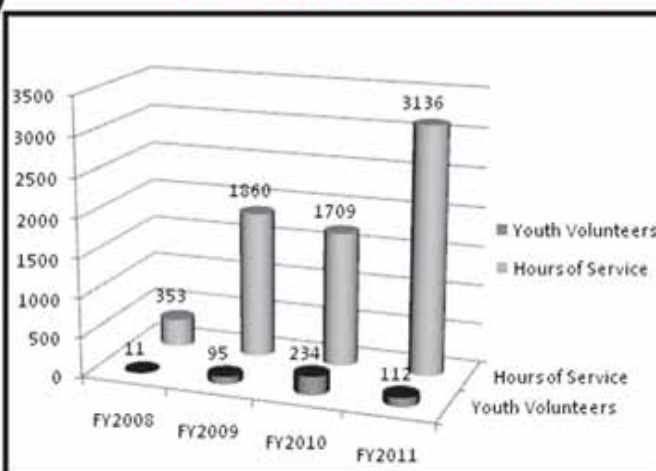
**2007**

AmeriCorps funding was awarded to SJYA to support youth substance abuse prevention and youth service opportunities.

**2009**

Awarded Circle of Hope Positive Action funding to assist with implementation of the Positive Action curriculum in five St. Joseph School District elementary schools.

### YOUTH VOLUNTEER SERVICE



### POWER KITE

During the YAC Attack Summer Program 2011, there were two individuals who stood out and went above and beyond what was expected of them. These two girls came into the program eager to serve their community and volunteer anywhere they were needed. They worked well with other kids in the program and could always put a smile on someone's face.

Neelia and Malacchia Grob deserve the Power Kite Award because they were excellent helpers for their community. Both girls were always the first to volunteer for projects, no matter how challenging the task, and had a positive attitude while doing so. The girls both possess great skills that will lead them to become strong leaders in the future.

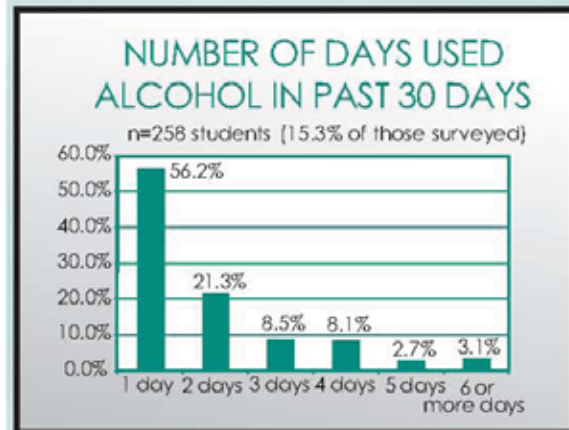




# Other Benchmarks & INDICATORS

## SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION

The following data for Buchanan County is from the Missouri Student Survey, which is conducted every other year in the schools. The most recent study was conducted in 2010. Participating school districts were required to survey 9<sup>th</sup> graders and were additionally requested to survey two more grades, of which one was an even number grade. The percent change was calculated from 2008 to 2010.



## 30-DAY ALCOHOL USE

Nearly 25% of the students responding they drank alcohol in the last 30 days said they drank three or more days; 5.8% drank six or more days.



## BINGE DRINKING - PAST 30 DAYS

Of the 8.8% of students responding they drank five or more alcoholic drinks per day in the last 30 days (binge drinking), 24.1% reported drinking five or more drinks per day for three or more days. Six percent reported drinking five or more drinks per day for five or more days in the past 30 days. While efforts to delay age of first use of alcohol are increasingly successful, it is clear from the data that youth choosing to drink are drinking more often and more heavily.

## AGE OF FIRST USE OF ALCOHOL

	2004	2006	2008	2010	% Change
Never	37.9%	54.4%	54.2%	65.8%	21.4%
8 or younger	7.3%	7.2%	7.6%	4.1%	46.1% ▼
9	2.5%	2.7%	2.4%	2.0%	16.7% ▼
10	4.2%	3.5%	3.5%	3.3%	5.7% ▼
11	3.8%	3.7%	3.5%	5.6%	60.0%
12	8.2%	5.5%	6.0%	6.9%	15.0%
13	11.0%	11.0%	10.2%	6.7%	34.3% ▼
14	6.9%	8.1%	8.6%	3.4%	60.5% ▼
15	3.4%	2.8%	3.4%	0.6%	82.4% ▼
16	0.5%	0.2%	0.6%	0.1%	83.3% ▼
17	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	0.1%	95.0% ▼
18 or older	0.1%	0.1%	0.0	0.2%	na

In comparing results from 2008 to 2010, the percentage of students reporting never having taken a sip of alcohol increased significantly – more than 20%. Overall, the average age of first use of alcohol in Buchanan County, Missouri is increasing, at 12.3 years of age in 2010, up from 11.9 in 2008.

1995

Caring Communities expanded to include 6 schools (Humboldt Elementary, Lafayette High, Lindbergh Elementary, Pershing Elementary, Robidoux Middle and Webster Elementary) as a result of the Family Investment Trust.

1996

October- Ed Mason employed as Executive Director.

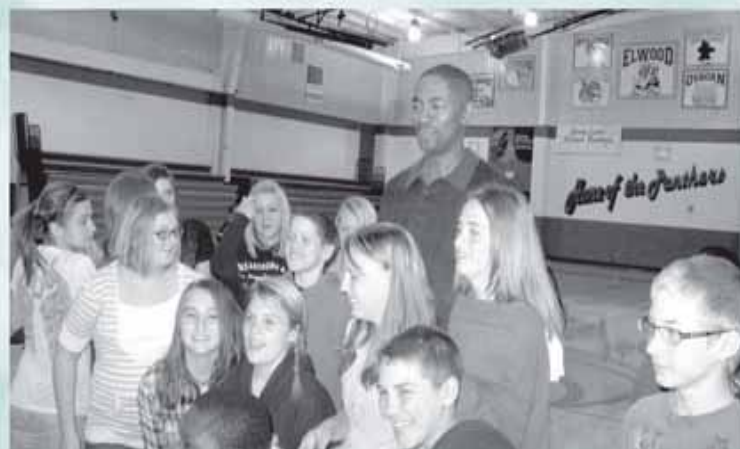
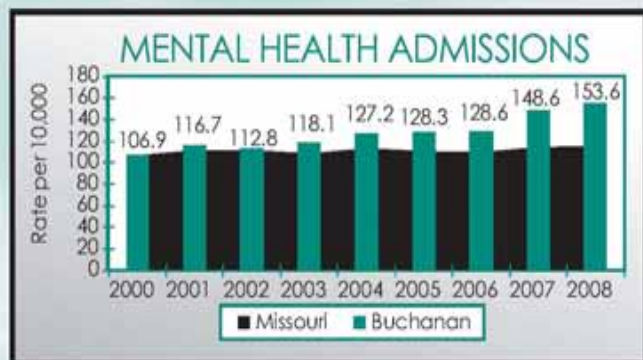
1997

September- SJYA expanded its role to include welfare reform.



## MENTAL HEALTH ADMISSIONS

Mental health inpatient hospitalizations in Buchanan County have been steadily on the rise since 2000, with a 3% increase from 2007 to 2008. The Missouri rate also increased by 0.9% for this same time period.



1998

**February-** SJYA approved to participate in the Missouri Express/MOREnet program to lay the foundation for a Community Information Network.

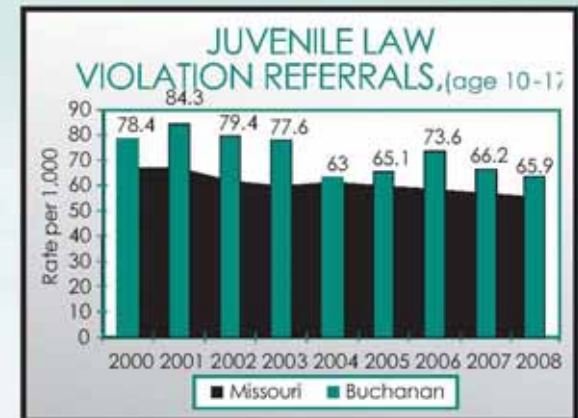
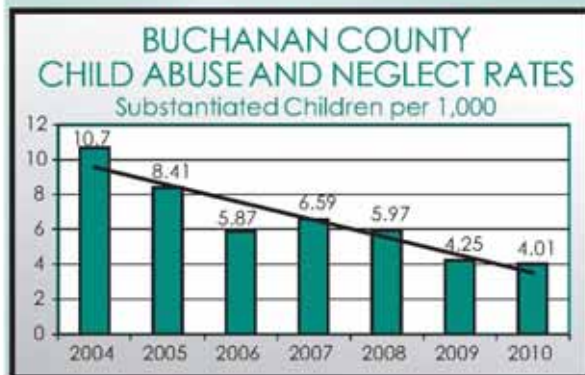


## LOW BIRTH WEIGHT BABIES

The percentage of low birth weight babies remained consistent from 2008 to 2009. The Buchanan County rate is significantly lower than the Missouri rate of 8.1.

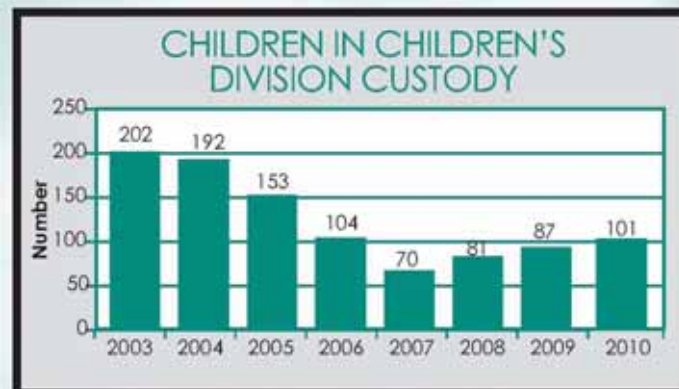


# Other Benchmarks & INDICATORS



## JUVENILE LAW VIOLATION REFERRALS

Juvenile law violations for 2008 have continued to decline since 2006, yet are still higher than the Missouri rate which declined to 55.2. Buchanan County experienced a 10.5% decrease in juvenile law violation referrals from 2007 to 2008.



**2001**

Explorer Kids Summer Program first launched, providing a safe, supervised, stimulating environment for children during the summer months.

**2007**

**June-** SJYA moved from 625 Francis to 3308 South Leonard.

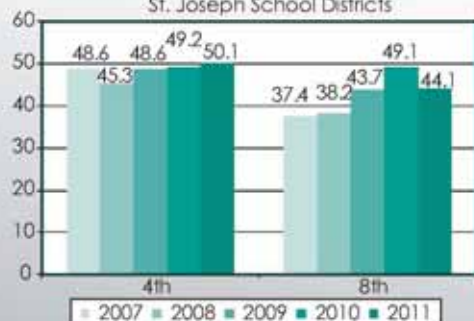
**2002**

**July-** Robin Hammond employed as Executive Director.



## STUDENTS TESTING PROFICIENT OR ADVANCED - MATHEMATICS

St. Joseph School Districts

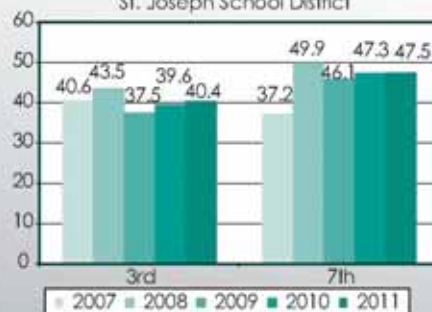


## MATHEMATICS MAP SCORES

The graph above reflects the percentage of students testing "proficient or advanced" using the standard MAP test (conducted in 4th and 8th grades). As depicted in the graph, scores increased in the fourth grade by 1.8% and declined by 10.2% in the eighth grade. Of greater significance is that scores significantly declined from 4th to 8th grade in 2011.

## STUDENTS TESTING PROFICIENT OR ADVANCED - COMMUNICATION ARTS

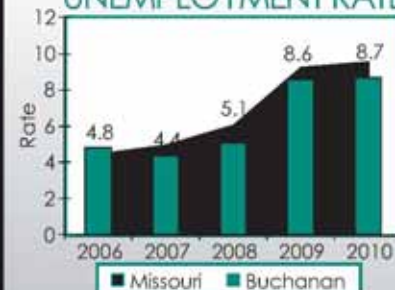
St. Joseph School District



## COMMUNICATION ARTS MAP SCORES

The graph above reflects the percentage of students testing "proficient or advanced" using the standard MAP test (conducted in 3rd and 7th grades). The percentage of students testing proficient or advanced in Communication Arts increased by 2.0% for 3rd graders and by 0.4% for 7th graders.

## UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



## UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

The annual average unemployment rate for Buchanan County was 8.7% for 2010, a 1.1% increase over the 2009 rate.



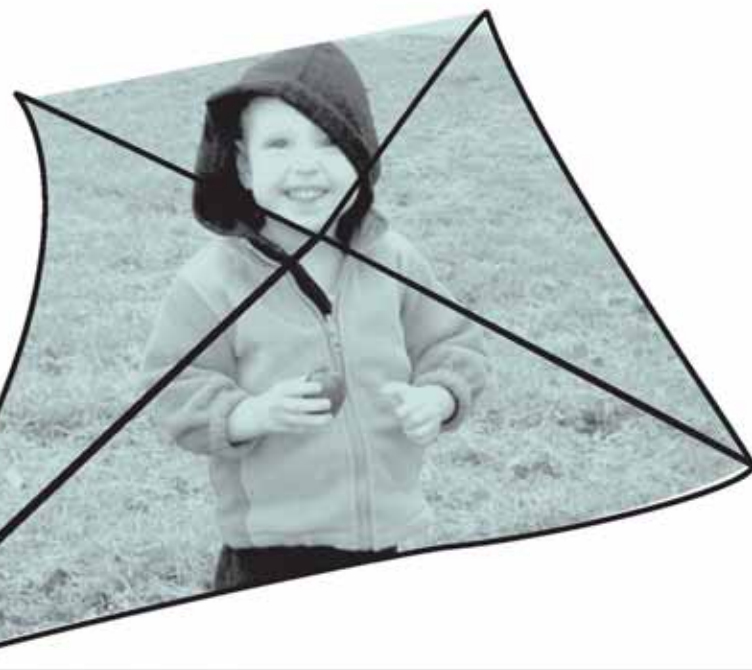


# Donors

## TWENTY MAKES A DIFFERENCE!

The following TWENTY plus donors are recognized as Power Kite donors for their generous contributions to the operations, programs and services of the St. Joseph Youth Alliance. Twenty does make a difference, whether it is \$20, 20 people or 20 organizations making donations. Every \$20 makes a difference!

Altec	Heartland Foundation	Lynn Turner
American Water	Herzog	Marty Wright
Amy Ryan	Hofheimer Trust	Robin Hammond
Anita Jolly	I & M Machine	Rosemary Ingram
Barbara LaBass	Irene Walker	Sandy Hamlin
Creal-Clark Architect	Joe Turner	Sharon Ritchey
Dan Brachman	Junior League	Show Me Women Who Care
East Hills Mall	RT and Karen Turner	St. Joseph Air Show
Fran Brothers	Kenney Trust	Susie Cook
Heartland Business Machines	Kohl's	Jeff Langdon



2011

**February-** Moved to current location at 5223 Mitchell Avenue.

## Freedom Award

St. Joseph Youth Alliance received a certificate and acknowledgement as a nominee for the 2011 Secretary of Defense Support Freedom Award. The Freedom Award is the highest recognition given by the U.S. Government to employers for their support of their employees who serve in the Guard and Reserve. Stephanie Linville, Administrative Assistant, was deployed to Afghanistan for nearly four months this past year. Nominations must come from a Guard or Reserve member who is employed by the organization they are nominating, or from a family member.





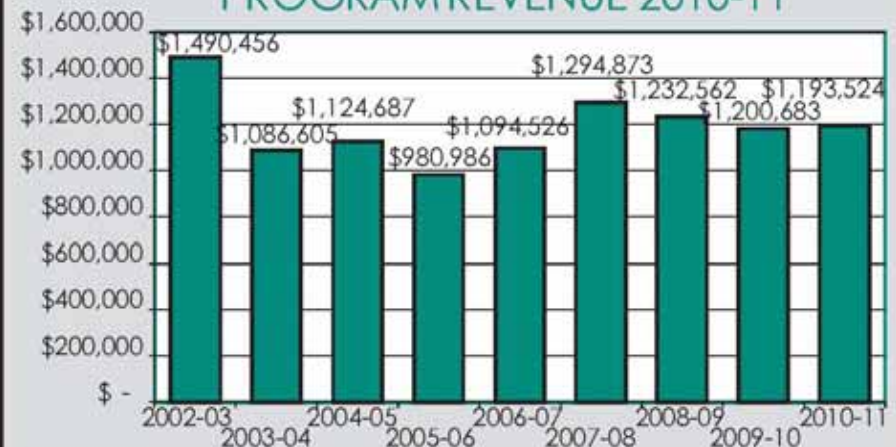


# Resources

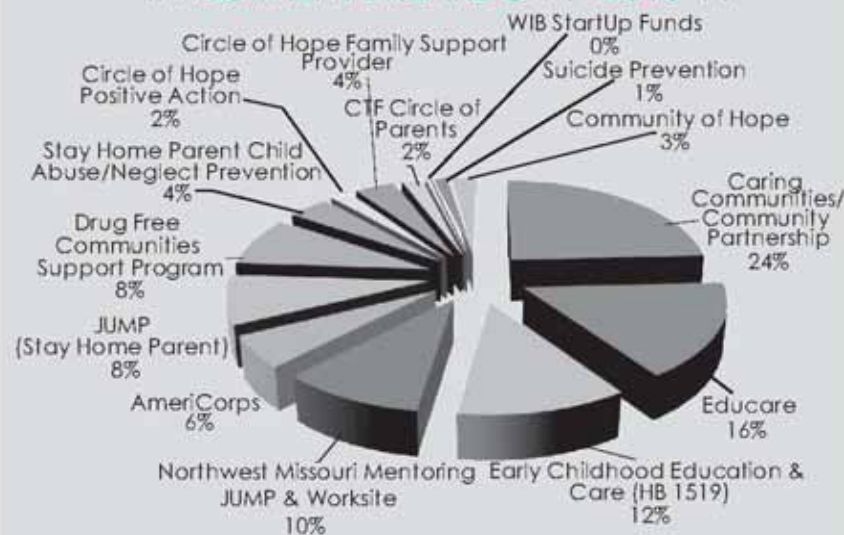
The St. Joseph Youth Alliance has supported youth and their families by bringing in over \$20 million in resources over the past 20 years to address crisis prevention, substance abuse prevention, early childhood development, youth mentoring, and asset development. From fiscal year 2010 to 2011, our operating budget decreased by 1%, but quality programming and services continue through local investment. In fiscal year 2011, community contributions totaled 4,080 in volunteer hours valued at \$82,448.01, with cash donations of \$44,325.87, and merchandise sales of \$1,680.66. In-kind donations grew by 17.5% over last fiscal year and totaled \$155,179.64. Overall the Youth Alliance's total contributed resources are valued at \$283,634.18, very close to the 2010 figure of \$291,857.



## ST. JOSEPH YOUTH ALLIANCE PROGRAM REVENUE 2010-11



## ST. JOSEPH YOUTH ALLIANCE INVESTMENT BREAKDOWN 2010-11





# St. Joseph Alliance Membership

## ST. JOSEPH YOUTH ALLIANCE LEADERSHIP TEAM



Left to right: Robin Hammond, Anita Jolly, Susie Cook, Linda Midyett



## ST. JOSEPH YOUTH ALLIANCE STAFF



Front row: Left to right – Fran Brothers, Robin Hammond, Christy Miller.  
Back row: Left to right – Mayme Abbott, Julie Wiedmer, Gayle Babcock, Anita Jolly, Neva Carrel, Irene Walker, Linda Midyett, David Rich, Michelle Moore, Rhonda Ewing, Kelly Tudor  
Not pictured: Susie Cook & Janice Trapani

## Individual Membership

Dan Brachman  
Mari Ann Brachman  
Liz Butler  
Jeff Langdon  
Lynette Wheeler

Peter Gregory  
Ken Hamlin  
Sandy Hamlin  
Stephen T. Holdenried, Sr.  
Gary Miller

Jack Teegarden  
Rachel Turner  
Louise Untiedt  
Cindy Merritt  
Ann Waggoner

## Agency Membership

American Red Cross  
America's Second Harvest Food Bank  
Buchanan County Academy  
Buchanan County Commissioner-Ron Hook  
Buchanan County Juvenile Office  
Buchanan County Prosecuting Attorney  
Buchanan County Sheriff's Dept.  
Catholic Charities  
Circle of Hope  
Consumer Credit Counseling  
Department of Social Services, Children's Division  
Faith in Action  
Family Guidance Center  
First Lutheran Church  
First Trust of Mid America  
Girl Scouts of NE Kansas & NW Missouri  
Heartland Foundation

Heartland Health System  
Inter/Serv  
Missouri Career Center  
Missouri Dept. of Health & Senior Services  
Mo-Kan Regional Council  
MWSU - Public Safety  
Northwest Health Services  
Northwest Missouri Children's Advocacy Center  
Noyes Home for Children  
Parents as Teachers  
Pony Express Boy Scout Council  
Preferred Family Healthcare  
Pregnancy Resource Center  
Remax  
Salvation Army  
Savannah High School Cheerleaders

St. Joseph Area Chamber of Commerce  
St. Joseph City Council  
St. Joseph Habitat for Humanity  
St. Joseph Public Library  
St. Joseph Safety Council  
St. Joseph School District  
St. Joseph Parks, Rec & Civic Facilities  
St. Joseph Police Department  
Social Welfare Board  
The Center  
United Cerebral Palsy  
United Way of Greater St. Joseph  
University of Missouri Extension  
Workforce Investment Board  
YMCA  
YWCA





## Day of Giving

St. Joseph Youth Alliance was the recipient of a \$250 donation in connection with the East Hills Mall's Day of Giving on December 17, 2010. The Alliance was one of several local charitable groups to receive donations collected through their 2010 Coin Drop proceeds.



## Data Sources

### PAGE 5

Family Connections primary data.

### PAGE 7

Educare graph generated from primary data.

### PAGE 8

Accreditation and Child Care Start-Up and Expansion graphs generated from primary data.

### PAGE 9

Average Age of First Use; Department of Mental Health, 2010 Missouri Combined Youth Survey.

### PAGE 10

Frequency of Use in Past 30 Days; Department of Mental Health, 2010 Missouri Combined Youth Survey.  
Compliance Checks in Buchanan County; St. Joseph Police Department.

### PAGE 11

Northwest Missouri Mentoring Partnership Employment Success and Measures; Missouri Mentoring Program primary data.

### PAGE 12

Births to Teens; Missouri Kids Count 2010.

### PAGE 15

30 Day Alcohol Use; Age of First Use of Alcohol; Binge Drinking-Past 30 Days; Missouri Department of Mental Health, 2010 Missouri Combined Youth Survey.

### PAGE 16

Low Birth Weight Babies; Missouri Kids Count, 2009.  
Mental Health Admissions; Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services.

### PAGE 17

Child Abuse and Neglect Substantiated Rate; Department of Social Services, Missouri Children's Division FY 2010 Report.  
Children in Children's Division Custody; Department of Social Services, Children's Division - Buchanan County.  
Juvenile Law Violation Referrals; Missouri Kids Count 2010.

### PAGE 18

MAP scores; Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education; Unemployment Rate; Missouri Department of Labor.

### PAGE 20

St. Joseph Youth Alliance Investment Breakdown; and St. Joseph Youth Alliance Program Revenue; St. Joseph Youth Alliance Revenue Matrix.



# MAKING A DIFFERENCE

*... the next 20 years*



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