

## Appendix B : 21 ST CENTURY COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTERS: OBJECTIVES, INDICATORS, AND MEASURES

Measuring outcomes and evaluating program effectiveness is essential to designing programs that work. The outcome measures from the 21st Century Community Learning Centers and the Illinois Department of Human Services' TeenREACH program can guide programs in their efforts to measure effectiveness.

**Objective 1: Participants will demonstrate an increased involvement in school activities and in participating in other subject areas such as technology, arts, music, theater, and sports and other recreation activities.**

### Performance Indicator 1a

Students participating in the program will have a higher attendance rate and a change in their attitudes toward school.

### Source for Measurement 1a

Attendance rates.

### Performance Indicator 1b

Students participating in the program will graduate from school.

### Sources for Measurement 1b

Dropout rates/graduation rate, parent survey, and student survey.

**Objective 2: Participants in the programs will demonstrate increased academic achievement.**

### Performance Indicator 2a

The state assessment test scores of the participants will show an increase in performance. Participants will show progress in reading and mathematics scores on the state assessment.

### Source for Measurement 2a

The individual student's scores on state assessment and other tests.

### Performance Indicator 2b

Participants will show improvement in academic achievement.

### Source for Measurement 2b

The retention rate and/or the promotion of the participants.

**Objective 3: Participants in the program will demonstrate social benefits and exhibit positive behavioral changes.**

### Performance Indicator 3

Students participating in the program will show improvements in measures such as increase in attendance, decrease in disciplinary actions, less violence, and a decrease in other adverse behaviors.

### Sources for Measurement 3

The number of instances of student violence and suspensions; the number of students using drugs and alcohol; and teacher/parent and student surveys.

**Objective 4: The 21 st Century Community Learning Centers will work toward services that benefit the entire community by including families of participants and collaborating with other agencies and non-profit organizations.**

### Performance Indicator 4a

The centers (grantees) will offer enrichment and other support services for families of participants.

### Source for Measurement 4a

The activities offered.

### Performance Indicator 4b

The families will get more involved in their children's education and become more responsible citizens benefiting the whole community.

### Sources for Measurement 4b

The type and extent of collaborations and parent/adult satisfaction survey.

**Objective 5: These programs will serve children and community members with the greatest needs for expanded learning opportunities.**

### Performance Indicator 5

Majority of grants will be awarded in high-poverty communities.

### Sources for Measurement 5

Free and reduced-price lunch eligibility of participants and participants' test scores, grades, and promotion rates.

**Objective 6: 21 st Century Community Learning Center Program personnel will participate in professional development and training that will enable them to implement an effective program. Professional development activities must be aligned with the NoChild Left Behind Act definitions and National Staff Development Council's professional development standards.**

### Performance Indicator 6

All centers' staff will participate in a variety of training/workshops provided to improve and maintain the quality of the program(s).

### Sources for Measurement 6

The number of workshops and topics addressed by each, attendance at workshops, and evaluation of workshops' effectiveness.

**Objective 7: 21 st Century Community Learning Center Program projects will use the funding most efficiently by coordinating and collaborating with other Federal and state funding sources, agencies and other community projects to supplement the program and not supplant the funds, and to eventually become self-sustaining.**

### Performance Indicator 7

All grantees will provide the detailed plan of coordination and collaboration efforts.

### Source for Measurement 7

List of coordinating/collaborating agencies and the type of services, with letters of agreement from collaborating agencies

## TEENREACH OUTCOME MEASURES

*Measuring outcomes and evaluating program effectiveness is essential to designing programs that work. The outcome measures from the 21st Century Community Learning Centers and the Illinois Department of Human Services' TeenREACH program can guide programs in their efforts to measure effectiveness.*

### GOAL: Improve academic performance.

#### Intermediate Outcomes

Participant will maintain or improve school attendance.

Participant will maintain or improve grades or progress rating in school.  
Participant will achieve academic promotions.

Participants will decrease premature or unscheduled exit from high school or continuing education programs prior to graduation.

Improve participants' career aspirations and choices

### GOAL: Adopt positive decision-making skills that discourage harmful risk-taking behavior.

#### Intermediate Outcomes

Participants will increase knowledge on harmful effects of substance use and abuse.

Participants will increase knowledge of physical growth and development.  
Participants will increase knowledge of harmful effects of early sexual activity and pregnancy.

Participants will increase anger management and conflict resolution skills.  
Participants will increase decision making and problem solving skills.

Provide formal, structured opportunities for older teens to develop peer leadership skills

### GOAL: Provide opportunities for parents and guardians to strengthen communication and community involvement.

#### Intermediate Outcomes

Increase positive monitoring of academic performance

Increase understanding of child and adolescent developmental stages and appropriate expectations

Increase positive and effective communication with children and teens regarding ATOD, sexual activity, abstinence, life skills

Increase positive opportunities for parent to: a) meet other parents; b) identify common interests and concerns

Increase positive opportunities for families as a unit to participate in program and community activities and celebrations

### GOAL: Provide opportunities for improving social interaction and building skills through mentoring relationships and peer influence.

#### Intermediate Outcomes

Develop and sustain a sufficient pool of adult mentors

Provide opportunities for mentoring relationships to develop  
Maintain a high quality of adult mentoring skills

### GOAL: Provide opportunities for learning, building, and demonstrating positive social skills through sports and recreation.

#### Intermediate Outcomes

Provide opportunities for participants to engage in cultural enrichment/diversity activities

Provide opportunities to develop leisure time hobbies and interests

Provide opportunities for participants to demonstrate sportsmanship and athletic skills  
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