



GUAM PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

Curriculum and Instruction Division

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PROGRESS REPORT

Grant Title: 21st Century Community Learning Center (GDOE LAGU Program)

CFDA#: 84.287B

Grant Award No: S287B012253-01

Grant Award Period: 1/01/2005 – 3/31/05

Administering Division: GDOE Division
of Curriculum and Instruction

Grant Award Amount: \$583,038.00

Program Number: 21.01.20.XX.XX.XXXX.1001

Date of Report: September 30, 2005

Description of Program:

The Guam LAGU 21st Century Community Learning Center goal is to establish an extended day program to provide additional educational, social, recreational, and health learning opportunities to address the high levels of teenage pregnancy, teen dropouts, students who are at risk of educational failure, and the high proportion of English as a Second Language (ESL) Students. It's intent is to build positive self esteem among the children and offer viable strategies to dealing with day to day challenges so that students can become more responsible for their lives and care about themselves and the environment in which they live.

Summary/Background:

Through the collaborative efforts of three public schools, local agencies, businesses, and community groups, this program aims to meet its goal by offering a series of activities and services that is structured to develop good study habits in students, promote a healthy lifestyle and attitude, and give experiences that foster strong cultural values for students to become contributing citizens at school and in their community. The success of the program is measured through increases in attendance rates, positive behavior changes, and stronger academic achievement for participating students.

FOURTH QUARTER PROGRESS

- Various vendors were contracted for the provision of needed equipment, supplies and materials to all three centers.
- Activities offered daily are homework assistance, health, recreational, computer technology, cultural, artistic/craft works, science, math and reading at three program sites K-12 offering occasional family activities and events after day school hours.
- In place at the middle and high school site is a one-hour daily teacher supervised class project/homework/study morning session with a daily attendance of 109 students.
- Academically, all students are assisted with homework daily for approximately one hour at all three sites. Also, students are tutored in math, reading and computer technology.
- Computer technology activities are taught daily with various software programs provided to further student knowledge in technology, math, reading and digital photography.
- At the middle and high school level, computers are being used as a research tool for school projects and homework. Also, Microsoft PowerPoint and Internet Access is taught to students and used for project presentations. Thus, students are acquiring the necessary skills and knowledge that will prepare them for the business world.

- Recreationally, students at all sites are given instructions with assorted sport activities. This provides for the learning and understanding of rules and regulations of different sports activities and the development of lifelong hobbies and good health and fitness habits in a safe environment under caring adult supervision.
- In LAGU, teaching and training students to choose a healthy lifestyle with respect to behavior and nutrition address health needs.
- Culturally and socially, activities provide an environment of acceptance and appreciation for individual expression through the arts, dance, cooking, and social activities. Character development is incorporated in teaching staff various student activities.
- Students were provided a snack daily and a well maintained facility at all three sites.
- Prepared Financial Statement Report (FSR) as of May 31, 2005 for Summer Program Planning.
- Prepared Three to Six Week LAGU Summer Program Planning Projection Budget.
- Prepared Program Closure Activities Requirements Request from USDOE for Grant Closure.
- LAGU Performance Evaluation MOA Contract Preparation.
- Year End LAGU Fixed Assets Inventory.
- LAGU Program Grant Close-Out Activities – Extended and to begin after August 15, 2005.
- Prepared LAGU Summer Program Budget Projection and Modifications.
- Prepared LAGU Summer Program Correspondence to Superintendent and Machananao Principal.
- LAGU Summer Program Activity Schedule and Procurement Requisitions Preparation.
- LAGU Summer Program Teacher Recruitment.
- LAGU Summer Program Implementation.
- LAGU Summative Evaluation Report Contract Preparation.
- Report – Payment Processing Documentation to U.O.G. Professional Development and Life-Long Learning Center.
- LAGU Program Grant Close-Out Process Activities & Final Report.
- LAGU Summer Program Invoice Procurement Payment Processing and Reconciliation.

FOURTH QUARTER PROGRAM ENDING NARRATIVE

Youth who stay in school have opportunities to grow, learn and prepare for their future. This is why helping kids stay in school was a key area of focus for the GPSS LAGU After-School Program. After-School programs are just one of the ways we hope to help encourage kids to stay in school. It has brought enriched learning opportunities to children and families in our northern district community.

Addressing the Needs of Children and Families

In the GPSS LAGU after-school programs, children had a positive alternative to unsupervised, unstructured and uninspiring afternoons. The GPSS LAGU Program had a very successful year. Over 400 students regularly engaged in the wide variety of programs and services offered.

Serving Those Most in Need

The GPSS LAGU Program also served more minority students and is far more likely to serve high-poverty students than the average school.

Extending Time to Be Safe and Smart

The GPSS LAGU Program provided a safe place for students to go after regular school hours end. After-school programming gives students more time to learn, improve their academics, and engage in other educational activities outside of the structured school day. The majority of the LAGU Program centers provided activities focused on boosting achievement in core subject areas, as well as offering enrichment activities.

Keeping Learning Alive in the Summer

The GPSS LAGU Summer Program served a variety of purposes for students, teachers, families, and communities. It provided chances for remediation for students with learning deficits, repetition of failed courses for secondary school students, services for students with disabilities, supplemental help for disadvantaged students, enrichment opportunities for students with special talents, and a way for teachers to further their career development and increase their income.

Not only did summer school help prevent loss of academic ground over vacation months, but it also helped close the achievement gap between disadvantaged students and those with more privileged educational opportunities at home.

Communicating with Teachers and Principals

Our records and research indicate that quality after-school programs coordinate their activities with those offered during the regular school day. Communicating with the principal and the teachers in the regular school program regarding subjects like recruitment strategies, program goals and student progress was essential to establishing a successful after-school program. This program understands the importance of these day-to-day linkages with the regular school day program, as shown in the collaborative activities they were undertaking.

Creating Collaborating Communities

Collaboration was the cornerstone of the GPSS LAGU after-school program. Collaboration helped build a common sense of community with mutual goals and vision. Rural and inner-village public schools - in collaboration with other public and non-profit agencies, faith-based organizations, local businesses, postsecondary institutions, scientific and cultural organizations, and other community entities - benefit from the U.S. Department of Education funding for after-school programs. All program centers must work with community partners and faculty of the regular school program to achieve a variety of goals.

Creating a Unique Partnership to Support After-School Programs

The collaboration concept is mirrored at the local level. Every After-school LAGU site was required to work with community organizations like law enforcement agencies, local businesses, post-secondary institutions, and scientific, cultural or youth-serving groups. This collaboration encouraged the community to unite in helping children develop into healthy, successful adults. It also allows communities the freedom to design school-based programs around their needs and interests as long as they contain a strong learning component.

Conclusion

The LAGU After-school Program was popular, effective in keeping kids safe and providing children with constructive opportunities to learn and grow, and are in great demand across the GPSS District. The GPSS LAGU After-school program also has become a powerful model that demonstrates how schools can provide expanded support for children and their families. Nevertheless, the current supply of after-school programs is not able to serve all of the children who want or need a safe and smart place to be after their schools have closed for the day. Partnering with local organizations and businesses, after-school programs would be able to serve up to 5000 children, or up to one-quarter of all the islands latchkey children. No single program can meet the needs of our children — attaining that goal will take the combined efforts of families, schools, youth-development organizations, faith-based groups, foundations, businesses, and federal, state, and local agencies. Increasing our investment in After-School Programs would be a step in the right direction.