



CoHO Academy Quarterly Report

January-March 2023

This report is to show the public and our partners what The City of Hope Outreach CoHO Academy actively provides through daily curriculum and activities set forth as the goals and measures of success we intend to achieve with the help of the AOSN grant. CoHO Academy focuses its curriculum on several different categories including filling gaps in Literacy, introduction to various arts, and teaching S.T.E.M (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics). CoHO Academy also focuses on self-improvement and personal behavior goals for the students. Academy aims to create a safe and affirming environment for the students to thrive through active mentorship and personal development; to feel confident and comfortable to communicate their feelings to their peers and adults around them.

In addition, we are designing an incentivization program to maximize attendance both at CoHO Academy and in their daily school attendance. Ultimately, the goal is to lower the number of absences monthly across all elements of their education, including CoHO Academy. This report will detail the activities and outcomes intended through the CoHO Academy after-school and summer programs.

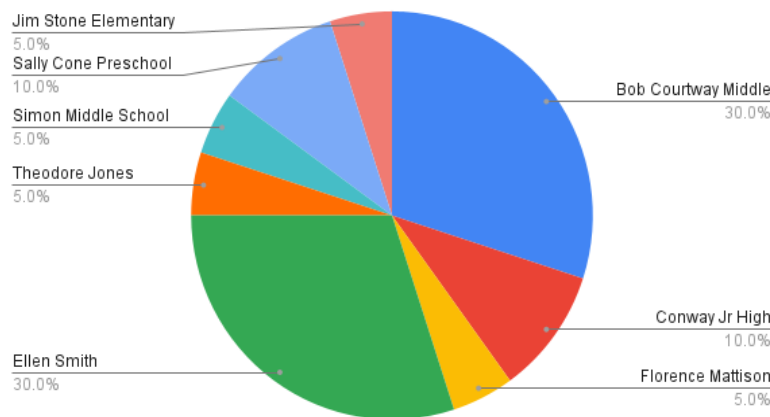
Attendance and Student Demographics

The CoHO Academy is an after-school program designed to encourage a love of learning among students. The program commenced on January 17, 2023 and follows the Conway Public School academic schedule, running every weekday from 3 pm to 6 pm. In January, 27 students were enrolled with a daily average of 10 kids in attendance. In both February and March, the average attendance was 9 students daily. Four new students enrolled in February, bringing the sum of 2023 enrollments to 31. Open enrollment for The CoHO Academy will begin in June 2023 with a goal to have 35 students enrolled by August of 2023.

While data for the 2023 academic year is minimal, preliminary data suggests that attendance and enrollment will continue to increase throughout the year. At the end of March, two new students enrolled and will attend the summer program. With a continued emphasis on regular attendance and parent engagement, the goal of consistent daily attendance of 15 or more students is likely to be accomplished before the start of the summer programs in June 2023.

A majority of participating students in The CoHO Academy reside in low-income housing in the Oakwood trailer park community on East Robins Street of Conway, Arkansas. Despite living in the same community, the schools that they attend vary greatly due to custody accommodations, grade levels, and school zoning difficulties. Of

Current School of Academy Attendees

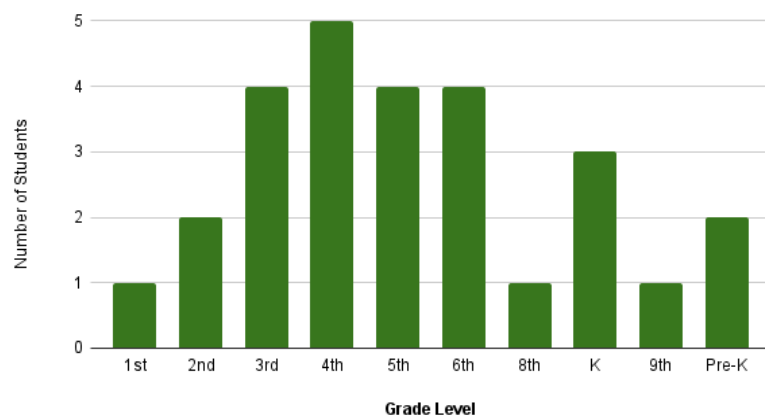


the students currently enrolled, eight different schools are represented; Conway Jr. High School, Raymond and Phyllis Simon Middle School, Ellen Smith Elementary School, Ida Burns Elementary School, Bob Courtway Middle School, and Florence Madison Elementary School. The majority of students attend Bob Courtway Middle School and Ellen Smith Elementary, accounting

for 60% of our enrollment. The remaining 40% of our students attend the four schools mentioned above with 10% of our total enrollment attending Conway Jr High School. A majority of students attending

CoHO Academy are in grade levels 3-6 with 17 of the enrolled students accounting for in that range. Additionally, there is a moderate concentration of students that are aged 4-6 years old with six students accounted for in that age group. This is specifically interesting to take note of due to the large range of ages and skill levels our instructors have to take into account when

Grade Level of Attending Academy Students



developing lesson plans. We are currently working on implementing a way to split the

students into two separate classes that operate simultaneously but with different curricula; each curriculum tailored to fit the needs of both younger and more advanced students.

Funding

CoHO Academy is supported by private and public dollars. A significant funding source for the CoHO Academy is a grant from the Arkansas Out of School Network and Arkansas State University. Funding from the AOSN grant is allocated to administrative and program expenses. CoHO submits an invoice along with receipts for reimbursement of salaries, supplies, and operational expenses.

Reimbursement of expenses began in October of 2022 and will continue through August 2023. The following expenses were reimbursed for the Second quarter.

- January 1-31, 2023: \$9,385.99
 - Salaries: \$6,123.66
 - Fringe Benefits: \$1,338.04
 - Supplies: \$1,754.77

- February 1-28, 2023: \$9,651.82
 - Salaries: \$6,063.66
 - Fringe Benefits: \$655.90
 - Supplies: \$932.26

- March 1-31, 2023: \$13,280.01
 - Salaries: \$10,363.00
 - Fringe Benefits: \$1,933.00
 - Supplies: \$948.01

Personal and Social Development

Outcomes:

1. 50% of Students attending are learning to use their words to effectively communicate their emotions.
2. 80% of Students attending are showing improved behavior through increased participation in assignments, lectures, and writing prompts. Social-emotional surveys have been administered and show improvement since the commencement of the 2022-2023 program year.
3. 60% of Students attending are participating in dance class and other physical fitness activities a minimum of once a week.
4. 50% of Students attending are decorating the walls with their artwork and accomplishments to boost confidence.

5. Parent engagement has increased from 6%-10% in the last quarter. Parents are showing increased engagement with the program since the implementation of weekly newsletters that outline student accomplishments and curriculum.
6. 100% of the students attending are completing their weekly homework by having one-on-one assistance with a tutor. There is a 1:4 daily student-to-tutor ratio at CoHO Academy.
7. Each evening, as CoHO Academy is released for the day, students are encouraged to write words of affirmation on the whiteboard. We do this for the students to encourage positive thinking towards themselves and allow the day to end on an inspirational note. Affirmations include sentiments that they are all worthy, unique, and special. 100% of the students participate in this daily, teaching each student motivational language skills.

Art

Outcomes:

1. 80% of students participating are learning how to express themselves through various weekly art projects.
2. 100% of art activities, such as drawing self-portraits and filling in blanks about themselves, are geared to encourage positive self-image development for the students.
3. Students are learning origami, which improves dexterity and teaches them to follow detailed visual instructions.
4. 50% of students attending are showing an increased interest in the subject of art.
5. Kids enrolled are gaining exposure to local art at Conway Art Walk through field trips.

Literacy

Outcomes:

1. 45% of Students attending are showing an improvement in their reading comprehension, and have increased the amount of time spent reading each week.
2. 30% of students attending have shown an increase in willingness to read; a 5% increase from the beginning of the 2022-2023 program year.
3. 30% of students enrolled choose to read in their free time when other options include outdoor playtime, indoor game time, drawing, and sometimes movies.
4. Students participate in weekly writing prompts and are taught by tutors and instructors how to construct grammatically correct sentences. Each student is asked to share their writing response if they feel comfortable, encouraging confidence in both themselves and their academic work. 60% of students enjoy sharing their writing; a 40% increase from the beginning of the 2022-2023 program year.

STEM

Outcomes:

1. 80% of kids attending are attending STEM class weekly on Thursdays
2. 80% of kids attending are participating in weekly STEM activities
3. Kids enrolled are gaining exposure to Sciences at the UCA planetarium through field trips.
4. 80% of kids attending participated in Weekly Science activities on Mondays

A Success Story

One of our most transformative field trips was the UCA Planetarium. In February, we took our students to see “The Phantom of the Universe: The Hunt for Dark Matter.” The exposure to the UCA Planetarium taught them about different planets and galaxies. One student was exceptionally drawn to the teachings of dark matter. Each day after the premiere he would tell his friends and family about the essence of dark matter. He would raise his hand to show him touching it and state that dark matter passes through us every day. After the film, he set his goal to become a scientist. During STEM activities he would state facts on each subject to the classroom. In school, his academics have improved tremendously with more completed assignments and an increased grade point average to a C.

At City of Hope Outreach (CoHO) we’ve encouraged human servant leadership. We consider ourselves as servants to the community. CoHO Academy students took part in the UNSEEN campaign to raise awareness of homelessness in Conway, Arkansas. Our students were informed of the need for affordable housing and given resources through CoHO to assist their needs. The major project we practiced was making posters for the UNSEEN march. This exposure taught CoHO kids a sense of community and human servant leadership.

Recommendations

For CoHO Academy, we recommend significantly more involvement with the schools of our students. In order to better assist our students and track their accomplishments, we need access to our students’ grades, school attendance, and behavior in their schools. We are currently collaborating with the Conway public schools to develop goals with the student and aid them academically and developmentally. We’ve implemented the use of Peach Jar, a communication portal

used in the Conway Public School System, to advertise and increase enrollment for CoHO Academy. Additionally, we believe that by coordinating with the school transportation system, we could create a route to CoHO, increasing our student attendance, and decreasing parents' apprehensions. Through this collaboration, parents would have the assurance that their child is able to transition from school to CoHO, regardless of what school they attend.

One development for the 2023 program year is setting up activities that would require parental involvement. In June we will run our first Read-A-thon at CoHO Academy. Students will be given a packet to track their daily reading each day. Parents will be required to sign for verification and for Pre-K to 2nd students they would be required to read to their children each day and sign the verification form. These projects will include an overview sheet of each child's reading assessment so that the parents can also identify points of improvement for their child and communicate their observations with us. Once implemented and overviewed the project will cycle each year during the summer semester.

We also would like to increase our engagement with parents by creating a mock parent-teacher conference day at CoHO Academy. This day encourages parental involvement in the academic development of their children. It would also serve to strengthen our instructors' relationships with the parents, so both parties are comfortable with each other when it comes to improving their child's development.

CoHO Education Committee

Dan Williams, Committee Chairman

Dr. Phillip D. Fletcher, CoHO Executive Director

Tara King, COO/Academy Director

Marie Aldrich, Simon Intermediate School, Conway Public Schools

Sarah, Salazar, Greenbrier Elementary, Greenbrier Public Schools

Kayla Perry, Arkansas Health and Human Services

Sergio Rincon, Private Citizen