



CoHO Academy Quarterly Report

April - July 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.

This quarterly report will detail the end of the academic year program, CoHO Academy's summer program, and goals for the 2023-2024 after-school academic program.

Attendance

Throughout the 2023-2024 academic year, CoHO Academy, a free after-school program designed to encourage and develop a love of learning among students of all ages, our primary focus has been keeping consistent attendance among our enrolled students. In the last two months of the school year (April and May), we saw six new students enrolled, bringing our enrollment for the 2022-2023 academic year to 35 students. In that time the daily average attendance was 11 students, with notable jumps in attendance on days when there were visitors. We consistently noticed that Thursdays, S.T.E.M days, which were taught by students from UCA, had the highest attendance of students, often reaching 16 kids. Out of the 35 students enrolled at CoHO Academy, 12 attended two times or less in April and May. It should be noted that if we excluded the

12 students from our enrollment records, bringing our total enrollment down to 23, 22 of the 38 (57%) instruction days had a daily attendance of at least 11 students.

Summer at CoHO Academy is slower-paced with a focus on fun, but our primary objectives were knowledge retention and preparation for the coming school year. Overall, 29 students were enrolled in the summer program. Of the enrolled students, 3 never attended a class, and the average daily attendance for the summer was 4 students. Initially, the low attendance was concerning. There were 10 days on record where none or only one student attended Academy despite the high enrollment. After contacting parents, we found several reasons for the low daily attendance including but not limited to; extended vacations, split custody agreements where the child spends the summer with the other parent, families moving out (especially after the storm in June), and parents enrolling their children in other programs such as day camps due to our limited operating hours.

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 Third quarter.

- May 1-31, 2023: \$8,716.56
 - Salaries: \$7,002.00
 - Fringe Benefits: \$964.56
 - Supplies: \$750.00

- June 1-28, 2023: \$8,716.56
 - Salaries: \$7,002.00
 - Fringe Benefits: \$964.56
 - Supplies: \$750.00

- July 1-31, 2023: \$9,662.48
 - Salaries: \$6,464.50
 - Fringe Benefits: \$783.98
 - Supplies: \$2,414.00

Personal and Social Development

Outcomes:

1. 80% 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. 80% of Students attending are participating in dance class and other physical fitness activities a minimum of once a week.
4. 80% of Students attending are decorating the walls with their artwork and accomplishments to boost confidence.
5. Parent engagement has stayed the same from 6%-10% in the last quarter. However, Parents are showing 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. 50% 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. 50% 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. 80% of students enjoy sharing their writing; a 60% 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

We are happy to report that we had one student who read more than 3 books. This was outstanding for them since they have struggled with reading throughout the year. We also had another student who read 6 books, which was amazing since a minimum of 2 books were encouraged. We also had our first Read-A-Thon in June, which helped these students with their wonderful accomplishments. This contributed to the class reading a total of 30 books. Over 80% of our students read at least 2 books during the semester. Many of our students read more though.

Recommendations and Goals for the 2023-2024 Academic Year

For CoHO Academy, we recommend better and safer transportation to our after-school program. Currently, the majority of our students arrive at CoHO Academy through the following paths: bus stop, walking, and parent drop-off. These methods are satisfactory however the majority of our students walk to and from CoHO Academy which can be deemed unsafe for children 5 to 8 years old. Therefore seeking to make CoHO an official

bus stop. Making CoHO an official bus-stop will put us on the map for Metro Connect and Conway school buses. This will also ensure safer travel to and from CoHO Academy for our students. Parents will no longer have to worry about transportation for their children and our students won't have to walk long distances to and from CoHO Academy. Currently, we ensure kids arrive safely to and from CoHO Academy by walking kids home or dropping them off in our CoHO van; however, we are seeking more efficient methods to end this ongoing issue; and we believe that having an official bus stop will resolve this dilemma.

One development for the 2023 program is setting up activities that would require parental involvement. In June we successfully ran our first Read-A-Thon at CoHO Academy. We will be incorporating similar tactics in other areas of education as well. We are also developing a nutrition program for September 2023 that teaches better health and eating habits for adults and children.

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

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Marie Aldrich, Simon Intermediate School, Conway Public Schools

Sarah, Salazar, Greenbrier Elementary, Greenbrier Public Schools

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