2017-2018
SAINT PAUL’S
AFTERSCHOOL REPORT
Afterschool builds youth success.

Tutoring. Soccer. Boatbuilding. Gardening. Art. Although afterschool programs in the Sprockets network look very different, we’re joined by the same goal: to help every young person in Saint Paul develop their abilities and reach their greatest potential.

The educational disparities between youth of color and white youth in Saint Paul are stark, and are made worse by lack of opportunities for young people to engage in afterschool. Sprockets addresses this opportunity gap by connecting youth to afterschool programs that support them.

Afterschool is key to youth success, helping youth explore areas of interest and build social and emotional skills in relationship with caring adults. It reinforces and contributes to academic success, and builds work readiness skills that young people need to learn, contribute, navigate, and thrive.

All young people have a right to high-quality afterschool experiences, yet many youth and their families face barriers to accessing those opportunities. Low-income youth face greater barriers (such as cost or transportation) to participating in afterschool programs.

Once a young person finds the right program to match their interests, it isn’t enough to just attend once or twice a year. In fact, the more that youth participate, the greater the benefits. When young people participate in afterschool and summer opportunities frequently and regularly over a long period of time, more benefits accumulate.

But access and participation only matter if the programs attended are of high quality – providing a safe, supportive, and structured environment for youth to learn and grow supported by caring, responsive adults.

It’s a winning combination, backed up by research: Access + Participation + Quality Programs = Benefits to Youth.

Sprockets works to support afterschool programs in Saint Paul so that youth & families have access and participate often and so that participation is in high-quality programs. Because that’s the equation that leads to strong benefits for youth - and youth are at the center of all that we do.
Sprockets connects youth to programs and decreases barriers to access for families through the Program Finder. We also track who’s participating in programming across Saint Paul, to make sure we’re reaching youth who most need the opportunities that afterschool provides. Here is what afterschool and summer learning participation looks like in Saint Paul!
QUALITY

Sprockets trains front-line youth workers and their supervisors to create and deliver high-quality, impactful programming for youth. We support our partners to help them continuously improve their programs. Here’s a snapshot of the trainings we provided and who attended.

2017-2018 Sprockets Trainings

- Reframing conflict X2
- Active Participatory Approach X2
- Building Community
- YPQA as a Self Assessment
- You are an Expert
- Getting the Most out of the Sprockets
- Shared Data System
- Structure and Clear Limits
- Quality Coaching
- Family Engagement
- Empathy and Emotional Management
- Initiative and Problem Solving
- Youth Voice
- Restorative Practices
- Planning and Reflection
- SEL Coaching on Thrive
- Autism 101

Attendance at Sprockets Professional Development

- MN Alliance with Youth Promise fellows attended a youth voice training
- Individual attendees of Sprockets trainings (397 total attendance)
- Youth workers attended the Summer Youth Institute

Sprockets Activator Cycle

- Assess: Collect data about your program
- Plan: Create an improvement plan based on data
- Improve: Carry out your plan, train and coach staff

28 Organizations completed the Activator Improvement Cycle

Activators use data to...
- Inform changes in the day-to-day work of their program
- Inform changes to their overall program model or services
- Meet reporting requirements
Sprockets encourages ALL programs to be intentional about the impact they want to have on young people. But because each program in the Sprockets network looks different—and focuses on different outcomes—it can be difficult to measure across the network our collective impact. But measurement of outcomes is integral to assure that all young people are benefitting from the programs they’re participating in.

**Survey of Youth Outcomes (SAYO)**

The Survey of Academic and Youth Outcomes (SAYO) and the Holistic Student Assessment (HSA) are only two examples of measurement tools being used by organizations in our network. Here’s a snapshot of how our partners tracked youth outcomes.

7 partner organizations used the SAYO.

- Children’s Defense Fund-Minnesota
- ComMUSICation
- Keystone Community Services
- Neighborhood House
- Opportunity Neighborhood
- Wilder Foundation Youth Leadership Initiative
- YouthCARE

SAYO results in 2017-2018 shows a statistically significant correlation between a positive relationship with a supportive adult and a high sense of competence as a learner, indicating that strong relationships with supportive adults plays a role in boosting youth learning.

Additionally, relationships between you and staff were viewed positively by both youth and staff. SAYO results in 2017-2018 show that:

- **93%** of 85 youth surveyed reported having a supportive adult in their program
- **63%** of 133 adults surveyed reported youth usually or always have positive relations with adult staff

**Holistic Student Assessment (HSA)**

Sprockets led a regional SEL pilot in partnership with the PEAR Institute, using the Clover framework and HSA tool. Here’s a snapshot of Year 3.

7 partner organizations participated in year 3 of this pilot.

- Boys and Girls Club-Twin Cities
- Neighborhood House
- The Sanneh Foundation
- Wilder Foundation Youth Leadership Initiative
- CLUES
- One2One Mentoring
- Minneapolis Community Education

At the end of Year 3, cohort members completed a survey about the impact of the pilot. Respondents expressed that after this pilot, they were more equipped to:

- **92%** Support the SEL needs of youth in their organization
- **100%** Support cultural diversity in their approach to SEL
- **100%** Interpret and use HSA survey results to inform SEL-based interventions
This map is one way of showing how well the Sprockets network reaches youth who face opportunity gaps—at least where we need to do better. Each Sprocket across this map represents a program site in the Sprockets network. The dark sections on the map are areas of Saint Paul where the highest percentages of youth with low-income attend Sprockets programs. Lighter areas have high percentages of low-income youth who aren’t attending Sprockets programs.

**KEY**

- 58.3 - 74.7%
- 53.8 - 58.3%
- 49.1 - 53.8%
- 42.4 - 49.1%
- 16.6 - 42.4%
- Sprockets Partner Site

**Sprockets Impacts Youth Success All Across Saint Paul**

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