

●●● SHOCK & AWE ●●●

PROGRAM FACTS

- Launched in 2008, funded by Dekko Foundation, a family foundation
- Covers Norman County- a large rural county in Minnesota with 3 large population centers
- 21 students: 7 students from each of large population areas
- Diversity, especially gender diversity, has not been an issue

ESTABLISHING LEGITIMACY: REPUTATION & CREDIBILITY

- Funded proactive grants across funding area to ensure dollars and youth represent the communities served
- Adults have seen benefit across community from grants & impact on youth engaged
 - Initial grants supported every county fire/rescue department
 - Family Carpooling: Alumni relatives provide transportation if needed
 - School Buses: Schools (sometimes past grantees) allow bus use



CREATING SYSTEMS

- Have adult allies in each of the three larger regions of county
- Youth Support:
 - Youth held accountable (no emails to parents), responsible for decision-making and outreach
 - Older youth give younger members rides & mentor younger youth
 - Texting and closed Facebook group: youth check-in with other students for accountability & due to logistical challenges with tech
 - Youth build community with peers
 - When youth experience a family crisis or personal crisis, other youth lend support & connect to community resources
- Ask-a-Thon campaign:
 - Many groups serving youth locally aren't formal nonprofits
 - There is not a culture of asking for help and grants
 - The ask-a-thon allows groups and the community to identify needs

VOLTZ, A SUBGROUP OF SHCOK & AWE

- More students from each part of the county wanted to be involved than could join the YAC or fit into a car
- Provides opportunities for more students to participate in service projects and for team/relationship building- most activities are during school breaks
- Past projects include a community mural, work in a courtyard in a living center, raking yards, serving in a food bank, etc.



Learn more about the program featured here at Shock-Awe.org