

2017-2018 ANNUAL REPORT



AMERICA SCORES MILWAUKEE IS A PROGRAM OF THE MILWAUKEE KICKERS SOCCER CLUB



Working Together To Help Milwaukee Youth Succeed

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Our Mission

To inspire youth to lead healthy lives, be engaged students, and have the confidence and character to make a difference in the world.

Recognizing that kids' social-emotional health is integrally tied to the people they live, go to school, and play with, America SCORES Milwaukee's whole-child approach (integrating sports, arts, and service) uses the power of teams, mentored by adults from kids' own communities, to build social-emotional skills in kids who live in high-poverty neighborhoods or attend underperforming schools.

Each day after school hundreds of students in 1st-5th grade will transition from student to a member of the SCORES team. Together these team members will write dozens of poems, play hundreds of minutes of soccer, and complete meaningful service projects that will positively impact a community need before the school year comes to an end.

Within these pages you will find many shining examples of how day school teachers, volunteers, alumni, and community partners form a protective web of caring and committed adults that work together to ensure that SCORES youth feels safe and supported in the classroom, and on the soccer field.

Whether you're a teacher, a principal, a parent, a volunteer, or a funder, thank you for helping us create the SCORES opportunity for hundreds of poet-athletes. With your help, we will continue to expand our reach for years to come!

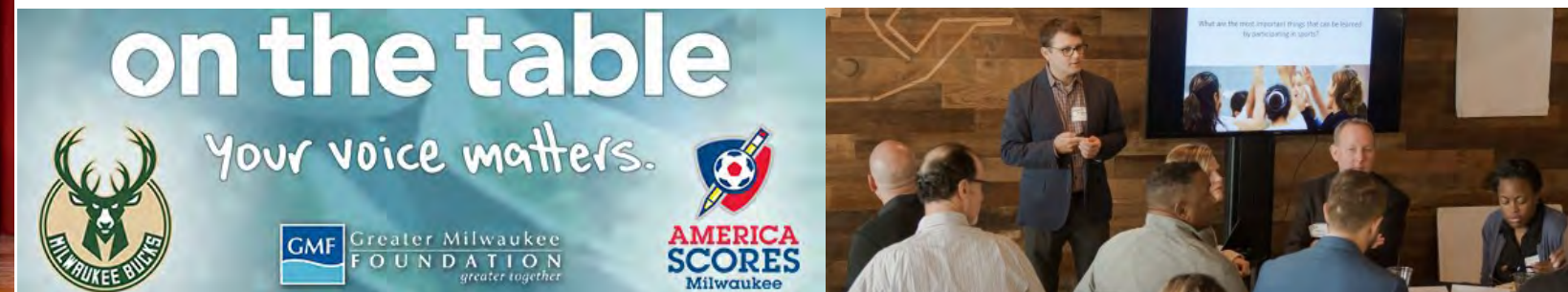


Kate Carpenter, Executive Director



After hosting the 1st and 2nd grade Junior SCORES program each summer since 2015, SCORES expanded during the Fall season to host year-round programming for youth in 1st-5th grades at the Silver Spring Neighborhood Center. Though the team's first few games were challenging, they were committed to improving each week. This commitment proved to be worthwhile as the team went on to celebrate many goals.

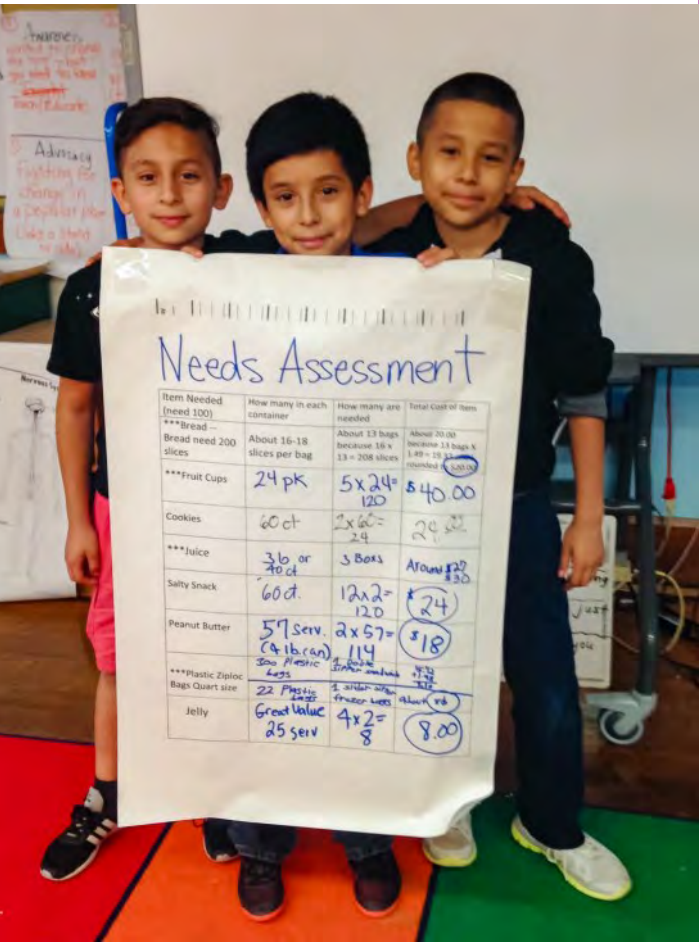
In partnership with the Milwaukee Bucks, SCORES hosted an "On the Table" community conversation focused on Sports-Based Youth Development (SBYD). Attended by numerous athletes, youth-serving organizations, city officials, and engaged community members, this event brought about meaningful discussion about how Milwaukee can use sports to promote a healthier and safer community.



Helping the Homeless

Service Project Summary from the Lincoln Avenue SCORES Team

The Lincoln Avenue SCORES Team decided the problem they wanted to address was homelessness. While we were aware we would not be able to solve the problem, we continually notice people with signs asking for food or money and thought we could provide food for them. So we partnered with Milwaukee Rescue Mission and learned



they needed 100 bag lunches to help feed the homeless. We wanted to help and immediately went into our action plan.

We had the letter writing team who contacted four different grocery stores requesting food donations. The poster making team made advertisements for the upcoming snack sale to our school population. We also had our needs assessment team which researched what food items were needed and how much money was needed for all the supplies.

We determined that we needed \$182.00 so our team decided to sell snacks to raise the money. We sold these items for 25¢ each during recess. We sold 988 items, raising \$247.00!

After raising the money, the team decorated the bags with positive messages, filled the bags and packed them into boxes. We not only fed the homeless, but gave Milwaukee Rescue Mission a monetary donation so they could continue providing services to many people.

Promoting Peace



After researching the negative effects of violence (specifically gun violence), both the Browning Elementary and Clarke Street School SCORES teams developed plans to promote peace. The Browning team crafted an agreement letter to be signed by students, parents, and community members that they agree to keep the neighborhood surrounding the school a “violence free zone”. Clarke’s approach was to beautify the neighborhood and spread their message of peace. After painting flower pots, the team filled them with Zinnias and notecards with kind messages and safety reminders before distributing them to neighboring houses.



Child Trends, the nation’s leading nonprofit research organization focused exclusively on improving the lives and prospects of children, youth, and their families, reports that “Adolescents who are involved in community service or who volunteer in political activities are more likely as adults to have a strong work ethic, to volunteer, and to vote.”

-<https://www.childtrends.org/indicators/volunteering>

92% Participants who believe it is important to help the community.

87% Parents who believe SCORES has taught their child about volunteering or how to make a positive impact in the community.

What SCORES Means to Me

What it Means to Me to Be in Scores

Being in the Scores soccer program is a big opportunity, not just for me but for everyone. You see, this program is not only about sports but to me, it's also about hope, dreams, limits, and of course courage and prosperity. Scores teaches children plenty of things, such as social skills, leadership, writing skills, cooperation, and health. We learn how to make amazing poems using our creativity and free imagination. These skills are very important to have because they help you express your true personality. The best part of this program, in my opinion, is the companionship and trust that we all have for each other. Cooperation is very important because there are times when we cannot do things alone, and it's okay if you can't do it alone. As long as we

respect for each other and have patience, everything will be alright. When I think of leadership skills, I see someone who is able to lead someone through something smoothly without conflict or any sorts of problems. That is about all of everything I have to say.

Scores really changed me because I was once just a shy girl that was afraid to show her thoughts or someone would judge me. Now I've learned that people shouldn't be afraid to be who they really are. Thanks to the Milwaukee Scores program, I was able to be myself. That is what Scores really means to me. A life-changing opportunity.



Pre/post writing samples showed that participants learned various poetic techniques and improved their ability to accurately identify such things as alliteration, simile/metaphor, onomatopoeia, and rhyming. At the beginning of the program, 46% were able to accurately identify these which increased to 73% at the end of the program.

Coach observations showed that the percent of participants who "resolve conflicts constructively/peacefully" increased from 67% to 94%, and those who "work cooperatively with others" increased from 65% to 92%.

Alumni Stay Engaged



Having learned the importance of supporting the community and giving back, SCORES Alumni (many now in high school or college) return to their elementary schools to volunteer as assistant writing and soccer coaches. This mentorship shows current participants what life can be like in the future.

"I graduated with high honors and took all college courses my Junior and Senior year, I played Varsity soccer all 4 years, won city championship all 4 years and became captain my Junior and Senior year. I plan on playing intramural soccer with Marquette so I'm VERY excited to continue my soccer career! Thanks to you and the entire SCORES program I not only am continuing in soccer but writing as well! I am double majoring in History and Journalism! "

-Mercedes, SCORES Participant 2009-2011

Thanks to support from Sobelman's Pub & Grill, a team comprised of SCORES alumni and coaches not only participated in the SCORES CUP tournament, but won their division!



"What motivated me to keep in touch with Kate, and keep in touch with the program and just keep giving back, is knowing how much I benefited from it when I was in elementary..."

-SCORES Executive Director, Board Member, and Alumn appeared live on TMJ4's Morning Blend (4/3/18) to promote the annual SCORES CUP fundraiser.



New Partnerships



With support from the Milwaukee Bucks, and Matthew Dellavedova, SCORES partnered with Our Next Generation to provide soccer programming at Washington Park.



"I was talking to James and he shared how gracious and wonderful you have been regarding summer programming. We are trying to make it work for the children, and it makes all the difference to have wonderful partners."

-With Much Regard, Tom Ellis—Executive Director, Silver Spring Neighborhood Center

A once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, SCORES coaches led Journey House participants in soccer drills and games on the grounds within Miller Park.



In support of the 2018 World Cup, and the broader soccer scene in Milwaukee, SCORES partnered with Nomad World Pub's "Nomad Nacional" to provide fun soccer activities for both youth and adults during the month long tournament. A "Panna Cage" was installed for 1v1 soccer matches, and is now housed at Uihlein Soccer Park where it is free to use for the public.



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