

## March 2021 Update for Ricketts Center

Written By: Jocelyn Charles

Current Staffing:

Hettie Webb – Front Desk

Joy Applebach – Program Coordinator

Paul Winterbottom – Fitness Center

Current Member Enrollment: 225

New memberships this month: 0

Virtual Learning Program Enrollment: 21

Current Operating Hours: M – Th 7 AM to 8 PM, F 7AM to 5 PM, Sat-Sun 11 AM-1PM (Fitness Center Only)

Current Running Programs:

- Virtual “Plugged In” School Program
- Soccer for Success
- Karate
- Borough Dance Program
- Fitness Center
- TCN Shower and Laundry Program

### Virtual “Plugged-In” Program

- Virtual program runs Monday through Friday from 7 AM to 5 PM
- Students attend program daily for class assistance, after school care and activities
- Daily attendance was between 12 and 18 students
- Variance in attendance is due to parent need and some students attending in-person classes on certain days
- Pottstown students began doing in-person classes at the end of this month
- Of the students we have enrolled, only 5 students have elected to attend in-person classes
- Little Italy’s Pizza provided pizza lunch every Friday for all students and staff

### Soccer for Success

- Soccer program was running Monday through Thursday
- Occurs twice a day from 12 to 1 and 4 to 5
- Had visit from program organizer, JT Dorsey to work with students
- Had 2 new members sign up this month to participate in our 4 to 5 session time

### Karate

- Karate runs every Monday and Wednesday from 7PM to 8PM
- 2 new participants joined this month bringing the total 11
- Program continues to be free to any and all
- Open to all ages

- Filmed a spotlight on PCTV for the positive work students have been putting in to learn the art form on 3/29/2021

#### Borough Dance Program

- No issues with program this month
- Program continues to be organized and tracked through Pottstown borough oversight
- Remains well organized with positive and steady participation of its registered members

#### Fitness Center

- The Fitness Center has seen steady participation throughout the month
- Daily attendance is between 10 and 15 people
- Staff makes sure to limit the number of participants in the fitness center at one time
- The fitness center and Paul also have a spotlight on PCTV
  - Video airs twice a day showing the facility as well as Paul leading a few volunteers through some helpful workout tips
- Paul has also started outdoor Bootcamp at the end of this month
  - Bootcamp runs every Tuesday and Thursday from 7PM to 8PM
  - Taking place at Pottstown High School track and field
  - Program is open to anyone who wishes to take part

#### TCN Shower and Laundry Program

- Shower program runs every Tuesday and Thursday night from 6 to 8:30 PM
- Participation has varied this month
  - Mostly attributed to weather and transportation
- Van that is usually used to transport participants had to be taken in for repairs
  - This caused a slight decline in participation for a week
  - Note: van and driver are provided by volunteers that coordinate and run shower and laundry program

#### Other Occurrences

- Community event was held 3/13
- Jule 4 Jesus organization held a giveaway of children's clothes, pampers, wipes, and personal hygiene supplies
- Event was open to anyone in need
- Turnout was not as big as desired due to a few factors – one being that event was planned last minute

#### Future Program Planning

- School year is projected to end June 4<sup>th</sup> which will free up building availability
- Currently working on safely opening the building gymnasium to youth within the community for basketball
- Currently planning summer activities and roll out of new “summer programming” that will be morning activities instead of an all day, 9 to 5, summer camp
  - Rest of the day is intended to be open to the community

### Building Updates

- Began working with a master gardener to work on the garden areas around the building as well as work on our own garden plots for students
- A new scoreboard for the gymnasium was put up and connect by borough workers
- Currently working with borough to correct the water infiltration issue on the gymnasium wall and floor
  - Discussions are being had about expected cost for work, current and potential grants, and when work will be able to begin
  - Main hold up is around the need for an electrical box to be moved, which involves PECO and the potential for additional cost
- Currently working with the borough to improve the current lighting around the outside of the building as well as on the blacktop basketball court

## Food Donations

The chart below shows the food donations and contributions from outside sources. Food is provided to family's suffering from food insecurities as well as the youth who participate in our current virtual school programming.

<b>2021 FOOD DONATIONS</b>						
<b>Month</b>	<b>Archdiocese</b>	<b>Little Italy Pizza</b>	<b>Potts. Cluster</b>	<b>Wawa</b>	<b>Kiwanis Club</b>	<b>Misc.</b>
<b>January</b>	482.7	218.2	4513.6	107.6	66.6	102.2
<b>February</b>	396.1	189.1	3932.5	191.6	26.2	
<b>March</b>	550	331.7	4290	164.6	79.9	
<b>April</b>						
<b>May</b>						
<b>June</b>						
<b>July</b>						
<b>August</b>						
<b>September</b>						
<b>October</b>						
<b>November</b>						
<b>December</b>						
<b>Total Weight</b>	1428.8	739	12736.1	463.8	172.7	102.2