1. Community and Evaluation Overview

The Children’s Services Council of Broward (CSC), at the request of and in joint partnership with, the School Board of Broward County, operates 21st Century Community Learning Center (21st CCLC) programs at eight (8) of the District’s highest need High Schools. The CSC and District sought and received FDOE 21st CCLC funding for (3) High Schools (Boyd Anderson, Deerfield Beach, and Miramar) one in each geographic area in Broward County, Florida. This 21st CCLC program is funded by federal 21st CCLC funds passed through the FDOE, CSC dollars, and transportation is provided by the District. CSC increased its funding in the 2013/14 program year to offset FDOE’s third year reduction. As required by the FDOE, the CSC’s Research Department evaluates the success of this 21st CCLC program each year. The three (3) schools were identified due to the community risk factors (poverty, juvenile crime rates and number of English Language Learning parents) that effect many of the students attending the High Schools. Many students, who at high risk for not graduating on time because they read below grade level, perform below the 40th percentile on standardized tests, and/or have documented school behavioral challenges. The project goals are to improve academic performance, school attendance, and behavior while increasing parental involvement by utilizing best practices known to improve the likelihood of students graduating on time. This partnership is funded by

The data and information within the Summative Evaluation report cover the summer 2012 and 2012/13 afterschool program.

2. Program Operation

The principals selected the CSC service providers (YMCA for Boyd Anderson and Deerfield Beach and Hispanic Unity of Florida for Miramar) and designed the program to serve 366 (122 students per school/Center) high risk students during the school year and summer. Two schools, Boyd Anderson and Miramar operate Monday - Thursday during the school year (122 days) and summer (23 days). By principal request, Deerfield Beach operates Monday - Friday during the school year (141 days), and Monday - Thursday in the summer (23 days). The program operates 12 hours per week after school and 16 hours per week in the summer. The
principals designed the activities and schedule to meet their school need, and FDOE’s daily 90 minute Project Based Learning requirement reinforces core academics for each student.

3. Student Attendance

During the summer component, 267 students attended the program on average each day, and the program’s average daily attendance increased to 309 students during the school year. The overall average daily attendance rate was 72.9% during the summer and 84.4% after school. Utilizing FDOE’s Monthly Attendance Reporting guidelines, the school year component is at moderate risk, and the summer component at a high risk for not meeting attendance requirements. As the chart shows, the low attendance at Boyd Anderson High, one of the District’s most challenging High Schools, suppressed the overall aggregate attendance at all three (3) schools. The CSC placed the YMCA on a Program Improvement Plan that helped improve its overall average daily attendance during the spring of 2013 until year end.

4. Objective Assessment

The program was assessed on ten (10) objectives that include: academic gains, improved attendance and behavior, and family engagement. The program achieved seven (7) of its objectives (improved reading, science and math grades, improved behavior, and increased family engagement) and made significant progress on the other three (3) objectives (improved attendance and increased FCAT reading scores).
5. Recommendations

The program has been successful at meeting and or demonstrating progress on all of its objectives, and the YMCA dramatically increased the daily attendance at the Boyd Anderson Center. Parent and student surveys reveal that the program is popular with high degrees of satisfaction. Teacher evaluations of student progress illustrate that students attending 30 or more days of programming are improving their classroom behavior and grades. Despite these incredible outcomes, there are several recommendations to ensure continued program quality:

- The CSC needs to fully implement the 21st CCLC Storing and Tracking of Attendance Records (STAR) system. Funded by the Council March, this system will (1) that the CSC is able to accurately track the daily attendance of the service providers; and (2) automate the process of accessing the District TERMS data used to evaluate the 21st CCLC objectives.
- Due to FDOE’s new mandate to incorporate Project Based Learning Activities into the 21st CCLC program, the CSC should budget additional planning time for teachers. This will enable teachers to adequately create and update the Project Based Learning Plans required to successfully implement high quality project based activities.