Case Studies

Boys & Girls Clubs of Chicago

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Chicago (BGCC) faced a major challenge in maintaining attendance data. With 31 locations serving 17,000 youths in Head Start, after-school, and after-school daycare programs, BGCC needs detailed records for internal evaluations and grant preparation. Managers have automated the process with KidTrax, which includes bar-coded ID cards to capture attendance data electronically and uses the data for analysis and reporting purposes. This data has helped BGCC retain existing funding as well as attract new grants. "TraxSolutions (KidTrax) plays a direct, or an indirect, role in every dollar we secure," says BGCC Senior VP of Operations Dennis Chudoba.

ICAN

As an organization providing research-based after-school programs to youth, ICAN relies heavily on tracking participants and program data. ICAN has expanded by 280 percent in the past five years. The organization attributes its award-winning programs to using TraxSolutions for consistent data collection and the ability to evaluate services to determine strengths and areas for improvement. "Thanks to TraxSolutions' extensive data collection and reporting capabilities, ICAN was able to renegotiate our evaluator contract with a 60% savings. It was a win-win solution and I highly recommend it for other nonprofits. It saves time and money, and is very simple to use," said Christy McClendon, CEO of ICAN.

Ventura Police Activities League

Until 2003, the Westpark Community Center in Ventura, California, had no adequate way to track participant attendance or facility usage. The youth center used sign-in sheets, but had no member database, and no way to gather reliable data for internal management purposes or to support their fundraising efforts. Today, Westpark uses TraxSolutions (KidTrax) to automate these processes, capturing attendance information electronically and producing comprehensive usage and demographic reports with a few clicks. This change has equipped management with concrete data that is used for program analysis, saves hours of time in grant preparation, and ensures a level of accuracy and accountability that supports funding requests.

United Way of Massachusetts Bay and Merrimack Valley

The United Way of Massachusetts Bay and Merrimack Valley funded a National Institute of Out-of-School Time (NIOST) Afterschool Program Assessment System (APAS) pilot project, which began in October 2007. TraxSolutuions (KidTrax) was an integral part of the project, which worked to find a quantifiable way to define outcome measurement and refine program quality. The results will be used to improve the organization's programming and establish a continuous process of data collection, analysis, reflection, and action.

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Jefferson County Public Schools

The Jefferson County Public Schools (JCPS) in Louisville, Kentucky, made a decision to share student information with area youth centers so that they could measure the effectiveness of after-school programs. They utilize TraxSolutions (KidTrax) to track time and attendance in youth services throughout the community. This data sharing process allows the community to know which services are having the greatest impact on academic performance. This not only allows for a results-oriented alignment of resources, but also provides an environment where best practices are established and practiced. When funding is aligned with "what works," community-wide results are achieved.

General Dynamics

nFocus Software is working with General Dynamics C4 Systems to develop advanced training for the Department of Defense's Future Combat System. nFocus Software provides General Dynamics with advanced instructional design, 3D modeling and interactive course development capabilities. "We see key areas for collaboration with nFocus Software for what General Dynamics is doing with the DoD," said Ralph Whitney, Training Simulation and Support Systems Director for General Dynamics C45. "The battlefield is fast becoming a digital environment, so meeting warfighters' needs requires a combination of enterprise-level tracking and management software and tactical-level, embedded training and logistics software to ensure mission readiness."