



March 5, 2015

Community Connectors

To Whom It May Concern.

Through Lorain County Community College's outreach and commitment to the community I had the opportunity to do Role of the Board training. In 2012 I was matched to Save Our Children's board. How fortunate for me.

I am writing to let you know how important I think the Save Our Children after-school program is to the Elyria, Ohio community. I first became aware of Save Our Children (SOC) in 2006 while serving on the Outreach Committee at my church. We felt the program was a great service to the children of South Elyria. A connection was made. SOC is one of my church's missions. Church members volunteer at SOC. I was able to visit and meet the children and see what the program was all about. I love the children and what they are doing and what Save Our Children does for them. The children do homework during their time at SOC. The program focuses on literacy which is key to success in life.

Academic testing is being done in order to see how a child is progressing. More recently school grades are being followed so intervention can take place when necessary to help with academic performance. Technology in learning is incorporated into the program. The children have fun in learning and in life at the SOC site and in the collaboration between SOC and the Boys & Girls Club of Lorain County.

The program currently serves grade school children. Each day these children experience so much. At one time there was a program for youth. We all know how important it is to have creative and positive ways for youth to spend their time. SOC is working to bring a youth program back. In my eyes this is critical! This program has been serving students for about three decades. It has been incorporated since 1997. There are many success stories. Former SOC participants who did not think they would ever go to college now hold Master's degrees. One young fellow who began spending time at Save Our Children during a difficult time in his family when he was in his teens is now a President and CEO.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Teresa Cassidy, M.Ed.
Career & Academic Advisement Professional
Lorain County Community College