

March 9, 2015

Community Connectors

To Whom It May Concern.

I returned to my home town after living away for several decades. I settled into a new job and my new life but with my children grown I wanted something else. I found out about Save Our Children, an after school program from a friend. I have a background in banking and the program was looking for a Trustee and one with a financial background. I know that young people are the future and so I was very interested to know more about the program. I attended a board meeting and after hearing the mission of the program and meeting some of the Trustees, I knew I was interested in being a Trustee. Soon thereafter I was voted to the board.

Save Our Children has been serving young people in the local community for approximately thirty years. In the months that I have been on the board I have seen the program grow and expand and reach out in amazing ways. The program focuses on literacy. The children read while at Save Our Children, they do homework, they have fun. They make regular visits to the local library but the after school program is looking into acquiring some learning tablets and a big screen TV. This way the children can spend more time working with the wonderful educational software programs available like Flocabulary, etc., without needing to go to the library to do it. Visits to the library won't need to be as often and can be for other learning opportunities. The children have visits from a Lorain County Metro Parks staff person who teaches them about nature and wildlife. They spend time at the local Boys & Girls club in a collaboration between the two programs.

The children are tested to monitor progress and their school grades are monitored.

The program currently serves grade school children but is planning to expand to offer programming for youth as well as a summer program for the children. There have been many successes as a result of this fine program.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Laurie Figueroa". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Laurie Figueroa

Save Our Children Trustee