

SWAG

STUDENTS WILL ALL GRADUATE



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S.W.A.G

- Objective: Increase the high school graduation rate of students identified as most-at-risk of failing high school without intervention in the communities of Bellevue/Caldwell, Shillington, Debra Dynes, and Parkwood Hills.

Program Description

- Schools refer youth at risk of failing high school without intervention
- Academic support, social rec/life skills at Fisher Park Monday - Thursday from 3:00- 6:00 for youth in Grades 9 and 10
- Summer program for youth entering Grade 9
- Grade 11-mentoring

Staffing

- 1.5 Youth Workers
- Volunteers
- Staffing, Ottawa Carleton District School Board

Funding

- 5 year grant from Trillium, 3 year grant from CFO
- Carlington CHC-coordinator, volunteer coordinator
- OCDSB provides space, teaching staff
- Some schools provide bus tickets/passes
- Volunteer component
- Other funders

Best Practices

- Structured community/school/parent support
- Individualized contracts
- After-school program (Social Rec/Life skills/Leadership)
- Nutrition
- Evaluation-CANS
- Transition-readiness for HS youth entering Grade 9

Engaging families

- Intake form completed with family
- Signed consent to share information
- Special events-Open House/Graduation
- Meetings held with parents as needed/requested
- “check in” phone call first few weeks of school

Ongoing Support and Training for staff

- Supervision meetings, all staff meetings
- Professional development

Outcomes

- 38/40 youth in the program have obtained necessary credits
- 2 students accepted to YIPI program, 3 worked in Focus on Youth program
- All grade 10 students completed volunteer hours
- 5 students referred and completed the I Love to Mentor Program
- 2 students engaged in Ottawa Public Library Youth Committee