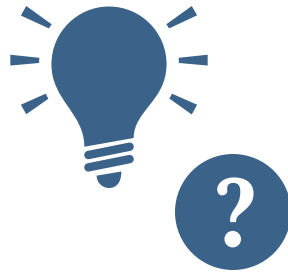


Revamping Creative Action's data collection process



Project Background

Creative Action's mission is to spark and support the academic, social, and emotional development of young people. All programming - school-based, out-of-school (OST), community-based and teen - is designed to help young people develop holistically - blending arts education and youth development. The focus of this CONNECT project was on improving the quality of Creative Action's OST programming.



Project Challenge

To revamp Creative Action's data collection process to better understand how to gather ongoing program data to inform the quality of its OST programs, specifically those with a coaching component that is critical to the program model.



Key Milestones

- *February 2019:* Creative Action matched with 2 graduate students
- *February 2019:* Project kick-off meeting
- *March 2019:* Site visits and classroom observations of OST programming
- *Mid-March 2019:* Research conducted on best practices for tracking/evaluating programs with a teacher and/or coaching component
- *Mid-March 2019:* Ongoing interviews of program staff
- *April 2019:* Review proposed system for data collection and evaluation



Project Deliverables

- Literature review on evaluation best-practices
- Data collection of program feedback from internal staff about what kinds of features would be useful in a data collection tool
- Design/plan a data collection schedule and tool for tracking program attendance



What's Next?

Creative Action will pilot its new data collection plan designed by the CONNECT graduate students over the 2019 Summer, with the goal of full implementation during the 2019 - 2020 school year. Additionally, Creative Action will use the findings from the literature review and the data collection pilot to inform the building of its customized data collection tool.



Maintaining Momentum

Creative Action will participate in the CONNECT program again during the 2019 Summer cohort. Concurrent with its efforts to build tools to capture high-level programmatic data, the next project's desired outcomes are to prototype a reporting suite using existing program data and conduct informational interviews with program staff to inform development of a set of standard reports.