Until the onset of the pandemic, Aluminum Cans for Burned Children (ACBC) traveled to schools and community events with its specially-outfitted trailer to educate local youth on fire prevention and escape plans. The pandemic forced ACBC to reevaluate its education programs.

The ACBC LAP team began the project by researching comparable fire prevention activities and interviewing stakeholders and learned that a community needs assessment should be the first step in restructuring and reinvigorating ACBC’s programs. Based on data provided by MetroHealth’s burn unit, the LAP team focused its energy on community surveys and interviews about fire safety and burn prevention education in the City of Cleveland’s Detroit Shoreway and Cudell neighborhoods. The survey results (over 820 responses) will guide ACBC’s program re-launch and enable them to replicate community needs assessments across their service area.

Gigi’s Playhouse Cleveland

The Gigi’s Playhouse Cleveland LAP was to develop a strategy and timeline for the roll out of “Gigi U.” Gigi U is part of the Playhouse’s offerings of goal-oriented programs for adults that focus on the development of self-confidence, real-world skills, health and wellness, and career skills.

The LAP team met with Board Members, Student Ambassadors, Executive Directors of playhouses around the country. The LAP team members also leveraged contacts within their own networks to help provide Gigi’s Playhouse a well thought out plan for the roll out, implementation, and ongoing program maintenance of Gigi U. The team is gifting a promotional video for Gigi U and Gigi’s Playhouse Cleveland, specifically, as a token of our appreciation for welcoming the LAP Team into the Gigi’s family.

Joseph’s Home

The Joseph’s Home LAP was focused on better understanding and proposing strategies to increase retention of Resident Support Associate (RSA) and Peer Recovery Specialist (PRS) positions. These are the lowest compensated positions at the organization and are integral in providing services to their targeted population. Interviews were conducted with Joseph’s Home managers, Human Resources team members, and other staff.

In addition, the LAP team met with similar social service agencies in Cleveland including The Salvation Army of Greater Cleveland, Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry, FrontLine Services, Westside Catholic Center, and YWCA of Greater Cleveland, as well as representatives from College Now and Towards Employment. The LAP team proposed a comprehensive approach to recruitment and retention: Hiring Practices, Emotional Support & Stress Management, Compensation & Benefits, Staff Appreciation & Transparency, and Career Advancement.
Northeast Ohio Hispanic Center for Economic Development

The Northeast Ohio Hispanic Center for Economic Development (NEOHCED) LAP focused on community input on the CentroVilla25 project – adaptive reuse of a vacant warehouse and office building on West 25th Street – to learn what sort of businesses and vendors they would like to see in the new space. The LAP team created a bilingual survey for Clark-Fulton neighborhood residents, area businesses and employees, community stakeholders, and community visitors.

The survey was distributed physically and digitally through individuals, employers, and community stakeholders (e.g. Ward 14 City Councilwoman and Metro West Community Development Organization) in order to reach as wide an audience as possible. The LAP team also attended CentroVilla25’s open house in early April to distribute surveys directly to interested residents and community members. The team is committed to gathering data throughout the summer even after the formal conclusion of the CBB program.

Open Doors Academy

The Open Doors Academy (ODA) LAP focused on examining ODA’s programming, family engagement, and work-based experiences through its various internal changes and modifications during COVID. While examining these areas, the CBB team uncovered ways to align the organization internally and externally, including its centers and programming, family and youth needs, academic enrichment, and work-based experiences. The team outlined these strategic modifications with the goal of achieving optimal impact in order for ODA to efficiently and effectively serve their current families while also scaling their programs, and most importantly, to protect, inspire, nurture and challenge youth to reach their full potential.

West Park Kamm’s Neighborhood Development

The West Park Kamm’s Neighborhood Development (WPKND) LAP focused on conducting a marketing review and audit with an eye toward promoting diversity and inclusion in the neighborhood. The LAP team conducted an audit of WPKND’s social media content, communication platforms, and events to provide content messaging recommendations to support WPKND’s efforts to shift the neighborhood perception to one of diversity and inclusion. The team also reviewed relevant comparable communities/neighborhoods for examples of brand messaging and other tools to connect with residents, and summarized lessons learned along with their suggestions for effective messaging moving forward.
The Women's Recovery Center (WRC) LAP focused on client access to services and specifically, identifying potential solutions to transportation barriers that clients face. The LAP team divided the work into three areas:

1. Researching and speaking with local organizations that offer a variety of transportation programs/options.
2. Focus groups with current clients to hear their experience with transportation to/from WRC and to seek input for transportation options.
3. Providing budget analysis and cost breakdowns of potential options.

The team compiled transportation model options, as well as long-term sustainability recommendations to help ensure the Center is positioned to meet current client transportation needs and future client growth.

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