



**street school**

*2004 Annual Report*

## Table of Contents

page	1	Letter
	3	Street School Programs
	8	Carrie's Story
	9	Street School Successes
	11	Dan's Story
	12	Street School Services
	13	Contributors
	15	Donors
	17	Board of Directors, Advisory Board, Administration, Faculty, Counselors and Staff

**Street School, Inc. began in 1972 as a community volunteer effort trying to meet the needs of the teenagers who had dropped out of school, and were just “hanging out on the streets.” It began as a drop-in center for these youth, hoping to attract them in from the streets, offering them a safe, supportive environment while helping them to identify and reach their goals. It now serves as a local, state, and national model for alternative education programming.**

Street School, Inc., Oklahoma's longest running, most unique and highly successful alternative education program and youth service agency has been serving at-risk youth and their families for thirty-two years as a non-profit agency through a partnership with Tulsa Public Schools (TPS). Although TPS offers numerous services for their at-risk population, the district recognizes the specialized services that Street School provides. For example, Street School is certified through the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services as a drug and alcohol treatment program to meet the needs of students with substance abuse issues. Because of our non-profit status, private and public monies are relied on to continue providing services. This school-of-choice model program meets the needs of at-risk high school students in 9th through 12th grades.

Students attend Street School from 8:30 a.m. until 2:05 p.m. Monday through Thursday and from 8:30 a.m. until 12:45 p.m. each Friday for academic classes and therapeutic counseling services. This modified block schedule allows a maximum of ninety students to enroll in two classes each six-week session; it must be noted that more than ninety students are served each year. This schedule allows students to participate in the necessary coursework leading to a high school diploma as well as numerous school-sponsored activities.

Counseling has always been a critical part of the program. The founders realized that if the student's personal and emotional problems were not addressed, then the ability to focus on academics could continue to be affected. Students meet regularly with the six full-time counselors on staff for individual and group psychotherapy. Every counselor begins the day by meeting with their caseload in "homeroom." This allows the counselors to assess any immediate needs that the students may have. Then each student meets with his or her counselor for an individual psychotherapy session, and participates in up to four group counseling sessions each week. Family counseling is offered continuously as needed, and a parent support group is offered each month.

Experiential learning, through a fully integrated thematic curriculum, assists students in finding interest and relevancy in their subject areas. The staff is committed to using the research regarding brain-based instruction to offer students the best possible education. The belief of the Street School staff is that attendance, self-esteem, communication, grade point averages, and test scores continue to improve as a result of the strong academic and counseling components.

Outreach services are integral to the success and uniqueness of the program. Students participate in numerous activities to increase or to develop their intrinsic satisfaction. As the first Key Club established in an alternative education program in Oklahoma, students lead volunteer efforts by working with many community agencies to impact client services. Moreover, as the state's first alternative education Red Cross trained HIV/AIDS Pregnancy Peer Prevention Program, numerous youth audiences receive the prevention message.

A myriad of services occur daily to best meet the needs of the Street School students and their families. Street School continues to be recommended to others as an effective model for alternative education and one that has proven to be successful through our outcomes. Street School is proud to be known as Oklahoma's landmark alternative education program.



Dee Anne Ayles  
President



Lori McGinnis, Ed. D.  
Executive Director

## Programs

## Street School Programs

### Education

Street School is student-centered, which is evident throughout the building. Student work is displayed, typically highlighting an integrated theme. The classrooms are non-traditional in appearance; students sit at table groupings, comfortable sofas or wing-backed chairs to complete projects or various assignments. Each classroom also has available space for students to have a quiet place to reflect, meditate, or de-stress. Students are encouraged to take control of their learning by reflecting what they have learned through writing each week. Baroque music is heard throughout the environment as research has shown that it increases brain activity. Care is given regarding the colors used in the building to create a calm and relaxing environment that encourages learning. Students feel more relaxed in classrooms that are designed to be non-threatening and they are more likely to take risks in their learning. Visitors often comment about the wonderful energy they feel when they walk into the building. Academic and elective classes are offered to help students complete the requirements for a high school diploma. Features include:

- 346 students seeking services through Street School were served in some capacity
- 145 students were enrolled in the program
- 26 students participated in commencement exercises
- Completed fourth year dedicated to curriculum expansion
- Weekly staff meetings to discuss current brain research and how one best learns
- Students fielded questions from visitors with the Tulsa Global Alliance
- Three students were chosen by the Optimist Club for the “Student of the Year” award
- Three students received awards from the Optimist Club for an essay contest
- Several students entered the Southside Rotary Club “Four-Way Test” contest; three were awarded cash prizes
- Six student works of poetry were published in Tulsa Community College’s TCC Outside the Lines Creative Writing Anthology

- Students contributed art works to Street Party, Senator Penny Williams’s retirement party, booklets for the Tulsa International Route 66 Festival, and other events
- 20% of the student population were accepted to the Tulsa Technology Center program

### Counseling

Academics can become secondary to our students due to life situations beyond their control; our counseling program is an essential component to student success. A counselor conducts a bio-psychosocial assessment, conducts testing, and designs an individual treatment plan for each student on his/her caseload. Frequently, problems will surface at school, which have been virtually unaddressed in public schools or in the student’s home. Features include:

- Counselors meet each morning with their caseload
- Weekly individual counseling
- Weekly group counseling (sessions include women’s issues, recreation, drug/alcohol intervention, drug/alcohol information, HIV/AIDS pregnancy prevention, and anger management)
- Monthly family counseling
- “TRIBES” (group activity promoting positive skills)
- Weekly staff meetings about students and case management review
- Over 12,000 hours of individual, group, family, and crisis intervention counseling took place during the 2003-2004 school year

### First Time Offender Program (FTOP):

Street School offers an outreach service in partnership with the Juvenile Bureau District Court (JBDC) to reduce repeat juvenile offenders. The JBDC refers juveniles who have committed their first offense to Street School’s FTOP. The offending juvenile and parent/guardian must attend the required sessions and complete the curriculum. This curriculum includes a parent/child

education component utilizing a family support group model. Features include:

- Reduce recidivism
- Expand communication skills
- Develop problem solving skills
- Increase decision making skills
- Raise awareness of diversity
- Improve impulse control
- Acquire anger management skills
- Complete weekly homework, a research paper and final exam
- 98% of the participants completed the program

### **HIV/AIDS Pregnancy Prevention**

Street School is Oklahoma's first alternative education Red Cross trained and certified HIV/AIDS Pregnancy Prevention Program. Student trainers reach out to their peers to increase awareness. Results include:

- 15 Street School students were trained by the Red Cross
- 356 of youth representing alternative education programs, youth shelters, and group home received the prevention message
- The student group was awarded the STAY Program of Excellence Award by the State Department of Education for their superior peer trainings
- The program sponsor received the Evergreen Award through the Community Service Council

### **Key Club**

Street School holds the first Key Club Charter presented to an alternative education program in Oklahoma. Key Club offers students numerous service-oriented opportunities so that they can learn the value of giving back to their community. Their efforts include:

- 6,675 clients from the Tulsa Area Food Bank, Emergency Infant Services, and Habitat for Humanity benefited from students' volunteer efforts

- 39 elementary students benefited from the Reading Buddies Program
- Students hosted the annual Street School Prom
- Students assisted with Red Cross Blood Drive

### **Mentoring**

Street School mentors are an integral part of the program. These individuals help to instill a sense of self-worth and to establish an open line of communication with their student. Mentors are positive role models and trusted people who care and listen. Features include:

- More than one-half of the students were paired with a mentor
- Weekly connection with a caring adult
- Collaboration with the Tulsa Junior League and Parent as Teachers to benefit pregnant and parenting teens
- Collaboration with the Will Rogers Methodist Church to provide many mentors and as a support to the program

### Carrie's Story

“Carrie” came to Street School at the age of 15, after living on the streets for a year. She was this tiny, scared young girl who had lived a frightening life. Her parents had abandoned her and she was scared to come to school. Carrie told us this, “My friend said I should come here. I think I want to be in school, but I haven’t gone anywhere in a long time. I hate school.” Carrie needed a place to live and the staff found a home for her. Although it took her a long time, she began to feel more secure and told the staff, “For the first time I feel like I have a family, like I belong somewhere. I think I can make something of myself.” Carrie gained enough confidence to interview with Tulsa Technology Center, and was subsequently enrolled in the medical technology program. She is now working in the medical field and plans to continue her education. Carrie said this, “I am forever thankful to Street School for giving me the support, love, and encouragement I needed.”

## Street School Success

### Follow-up

Three-year follow-up surveys are another unique aspect of the Street School program. The staff conducts these surveys yearly with students who attended the program for the previous three years; Street School’s success is also measured by what students do after they leave the program. Based on these surveys, 87% of students completed their high school education, 31% of all of the graduates continued their education, and 73% obtained full-time employment. The surveys also provide a continuous connection with former students to the program, because staff members put forth the effort to contact each individual and talk with them about “life after Street School.”

### Outcomes

The Oklahoma Technical Assistance Center (OTAC) evaluates our program yearly. OTAC is a research-based facility and possesses the most current research regarding students in alternative education programs in the country. OTAC is the agency chosen by the Oklahoma legislature to evaluate and to provide technical assistance to the state’s alternative education programs. This report is recorded and provided to the Oklahoma State Department of Education and to the Oklahoma State Legislature.

We are evaluated in how effectively we meet seventeen criteria mandated in state law. It should be noted that the success of this program is consistently based on numerous years of OTAC evaluations. OTAC uses a five-point rubric designating 1 as non-compliant, 2 as unsatisfactory, 3 as satisfactory, 4 as excellent, and 5 as exemplary. Street School has achieved consistent exemplary or excellent ratings based on the OTAC criteria. The key points of the evaluation are highlighted:

- Grade point averages increased by more than one full letter grade
- Students significantly passed more courses
- Absenteeism improved by 50%
- Reading, math, language, and composite TABE scores improved significantly
- Program validity is indicated by the increase in grade point averages and test scores
- Dropout rate was 6% compared to the state average of 13%

- Graduation rate was 85% compared to state average of 69%
- Suspension rate was 0% compared to state average 2%
- Student surveys reported that 77% of students felt that Street School positively impacted their lives
- Students gave the program a 9.3% rating based on a ten-point scale.
- 61% of students reported they would not succeed if they transferred back to the traditional school
- 50% of the reporting students stated they planned to pursue post-secondary education

Dr. Kathleen McKean, OTAC Director, stated this: “Street School has been Oklahoma’s model program for over thirty years. It is a program by which the standards for others are set.”

Street School has a long, rich history in meeting the needs of at-risk youth. Every effort is made to meet the educational and emotional needs of the students.

### **Dan’s Story**

“Dan’s” mother enrolled him in Street School when he was 15 years of age. Soon after enrollment, his mother moved out of the home, leaving Dan by himself. Dan continued to attend school as it seemed to be his life-line. He reported this, “Without the help I got from the people at Street School, I would have felt lost.” Dan hung in and graduated from the program. After graduation he enlisted in the Armed Services and participated in Desert Storm. He sent a postcard from the Middle East to Street School to let everyone know how he was doing. When Dan was able to come home on leave, he made Street School his very first stop. He proudly wore his uniform and said, “I am proud to serve my country and I am proud to be a Street School graduate.”

**Street School Services:**

Educational  
Individual Treatment Plans  
Individual Counseling  
Group Counseling  
Family Counseling  
Crisis Intervention  
Case Management  
Parent Support Groups  
Parenting Classes  
Career Development  
Life Skills  
Bovaird Foundation Scholarships

Job Readiness  
Recreational Services  
Substance Abuse Screening  
Substance Abuse Treatment  
Health Services  
Court Advocacy  
First Offender Program  
Community Involvement  
Testing and Referral  
Mentoring  
Follow-up Interviews  
Technical/College Preparation

Contributors

## 2003 - 2004 Street School

### Contributors

Steven Adams  
 AEP  
 American Airlines  
 Anco Property Services, Inc.  
 Rebecca Bagby  
 The Bama Companies, Inc.  
 Bank of Oklahoma  
 Mark and Dixie Banner  
 Douglas Baumunk  
 James Bender  
 Steve Berlin  
 Arnold Bieber  
 Rachel Blue and Tom Vincent, II  
 Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bockmeulen  
 Bert Boles  
 Bradley Bryant  
 Paula Bryant Ellis  
 Barbara Burdick  
 Thomas Byers  
 Carpet Supply Company  
 Central Plains Concrete  
 Close Bend, MC  
 Robert and Kimberly Coretz  
 Doerner, Saunders, Daniel &  
 Anderson, LLP

Fred Dorwart  
 Annette and Bob Ellis  
 Paul and Debbie Fleming  
 Fox Cleaners  
 Great Plains Mortgage Co., Inc.  
 GT Industries  
 Sarah Hansel and Mike Cook  
 Iron Lightning Motorcycles  
 The Kaiser Family Foundation  
 John Kittelson  
 Ron Lieman  
 Mailrun Courier Services  
 Kerry Malone and John Stancavage  
 Lanny and Becki McIntosh  
 Meek's Electrical Services, Inc.  
 Midwest Painting, Inc.  
 National Construction Services, LLC  
 Gary and Jamie Neal  
 Steven and Malisa Nell  
 Dale and Donna Nutter  
 Office of Juvenile Affairs  
 Oklahoma Department of Mental  
 Health and Substance Abuse  
 ONEOK  
 Paragon Films

PricewaterhouseCoopers, LLP  
 QuikTrip  
 Riggs, Abney, Neal, Turpen, Orbison  
 & Lewis  
 Brian K. Rogers  
 Samson  
 Charles and Lynn Schusterman  
 Family Foundation  
 ServiceMaster Advantage  
 SolArc  
 Robert Soza and Jana Shoulders  
 State Department of Education  
 Subcom, Inc.  
 Summit Construction, Inc.  
 Betty, Ronald and Steven Taylor  
 C.W. Titus Foundation  
 Tulsa Area United Way  
 Tulsa Community AIDS Partnership  
 Bill and Nancy Wienker  
 Woodland Hills Mall  
 The Zarrow Families Foundation

## 2003 - 2004 Street School

### In-kind donors

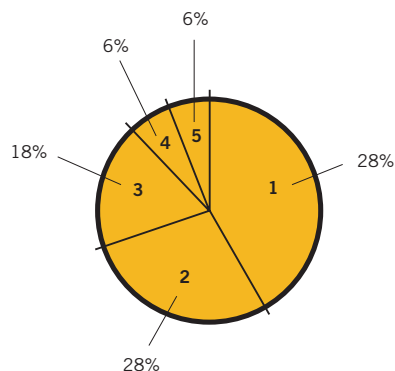
A&W Root Beer  
 Adams Mark Hotel  
 All About Hair  
 All Star Sports Complex  
 Architectural Resources  
 Art Gallery on Brady  
 August Photoworks  
 B&B Liquor Warehouse  
 Baskets to Treasure  
 Baxter's Interurban Grill  
 Beechwood's  
 The Bistro at Seville  
 Coach Blankenship  
 Bodean's Seafood Restaurant / Biga  
 Camille's  
 Cardigan's  
 Charleston's  
 Chimi's  
 Marian Clark  
 Class Act Party Rentals  
 The Copy Shop  
 Council Creek Cheese  
 Creative Spirit Design  
 Cypress Avenue  
 Danita Findahl's  
 Mrs. DeHaven's Flower Shop  
 Dining Express  
 El Chico's  
 Lulu Faboo  
 Krutka Fitness  
 Flemings Prime Steakhouse  
 The Fountain's Restaurant  
 Francine's Photography  
 Full Moon  
 The Gadget Company  
 Gourmet on the Go

Grady's  
 Harvest World Market  
 Health Zone  
 Hideaway Pizza  
 Angela Hooper  
 Marilyn Ihloff  
 India Palace  
 J. Jill  
 Jarrett Farms  
 Jason's Deli  
 Jazmo'z Bourbon Street Cafe  
 Mayor Bill LaFortune  
 Little Bit of Country  
 Ludger's  
 M.A. Doran Gallery  
 Pat Malone  
 Marjorie Atwood Fine Art  
 Rhett Matthews  
 Mazzio's  
 Merry Maids  
 Metropolitan Museum of Art  
 Michael Fusco's Flavors  
 Miller Printing  
 Mimi's Cafe'  
 Nature's Helpers Day Spa  
 Nelson's Buffeteria  
 Palace Cafe  
 Panera Bread  
 Paragon Films  
 Joan and Jerry Parkhurst  
 The Path  
 Pengaro's  
 Photography by Laura  
 Coach Steve Randall  
 Restoration Hardware  
 Riverview Liquor

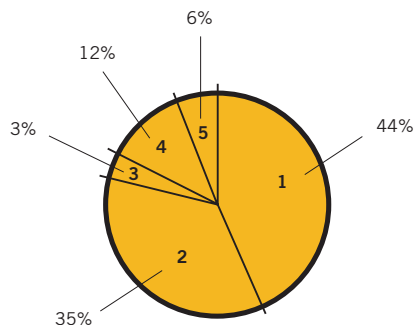
Route 66 Festival Committee  
 Runner's World  
 Select Comfort  
 ServiceMaster Advantage  
 Snow Goose  
 Coach Bill Springman  
 Coach Jim Stacy  
 Starbucks  
 Steven Glory  
 Mary Stewart  
 Talbot's  
 Tan Your Moon  
 Te-Kei's Chinese-Asian Kitchen  
 Terminix  
 Texture Hair  
 Thyme  
 Ti Amo's  
 Tim Fitzgerald Catering  
 Dr. Dean Todd  
 Jackson Todd  
 TruGreen Chemlawn  
 Tulsa Foundation for Architecture  
 Tulsa Opera  
 Tulsa Public Schools  
 Tulsa Stained Glass  
 TW's-Afab Catering  
 Urban Furnishings  
 Varsity Contractors  
 Michael Wallis  
 John Brooks Walton  
 White River Fish Market  
 Whitlock Cosmetic and  
 Reconstructive Surgery  
 Ziegler's Picture Framing

This past fiscal year, the Tulsa Area United Way (TAUW) continued to provide substantial funding to Street School during challenging economic times. Street School provided speakers for work-place presentations throughout the TAUW campaign period presenting the need for the TAUW. Volunteers joined forces with 95 employees from Williams, Philbrook Museum, Senior Star Living, and Gray Star Property Management making significant improvements to the school during United Way’s Day of Caring. Street School’s internal United Way employee campaign was record setting with 100% participation and an increase in donations of 30%.

**FY 2003-2004 Revenue**



**FY 2003-2004 Expenses**



1. Government Grant and Fees	\$ 490,950
2. Tulsa Public Schools In-Kind	331,384
3. Tulsa Area United Way	212,661
4. Contributions and Fund Raising	74,954
5. Misc. Income (Interest, etc.)	67,535
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,177,484</b>

1. Alternative Education	\$ 490,008
2. Social Services	394,487
3. Scholarship	39,167
4. Management and General	131,369
5. Fund-Raising	69,076
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,124,107</b>

**Board of Directors**

Dee Anne Ayles  
 Rachel Blue  
 Jennifer Broker  
 Gina Carroll  
 Maralene Coggins  
 Tuck Curren  
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 R. Lynn Fesperman  
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 Hilary Kitz  
 Curt Long  
 Thomas K. McKeon  
 Donna Nutter  
 Dana Percefull  
 Tamara Rains

**Staff**

Lori McGinnis, EdD  
*Executive Director*

**Faculty**

Laura Abbott, *Art*  
 Mike Brungardt, *Social Studies*  
 Kim Camp, *Life Skills*  
 Mary Girty, *English*  
 Sheila Jones, *English*  
 Jill McNew, *Science*  
 Sean Spellecy, *Math*  
 Jane Wright, *Resource*

**Counselors**

Jimmy Abraham  
 Suzanne Bass, LCSW, CADC  
 Wilton Cuevas, LPC  
 Pat Moran  
 Pam Sinor, LPC  
 Maureen TeRuki

**Administration**

Carolyn Burke,  
*School Administrative Assistant*  
 Michelle Carter,  
*Registrar*  
 Jenise Hardesty,  
*School Administrative Assistant*  
 Lorraine McReynolds,  
*Program Director*



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