March 2024 Update



2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR ENROLLMENT

- Current Enrollment of 1,409 including 354* spaces for LINK Club participants at six locations; waitlists total 179.
- ARPA funds are supporting enrichment opportunities at William Ramsay, Charles Houston, Leonard Armstrong, Mount Vernon, & John Adams.
- RPCA partnership programs provide additional opportunities for OSTP participants, including dance, theater, STEM, and field trips throughout the school year.
- * The total enrollment shows a reduced number from Fall 2023 report due to declining participation in the LINK Club programs.



March 2024 Update



2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR ENROLLMENT DETAILS

Power-On and Power-Up OSTP

- School Year Full Rate 477 Participants (114 Multiple Child Discounts)
- Free/Reduced 322 Participants (61 Multiple Child Discounts)
- SNAP 97 Participants (18 Multiple Child Discounts)
- TANF 14 Participants (2 Multiple Child Discounts)

OSTP Pre-Registration

• 201 families (22%) used the pre-registration process for the 2023-2024 School Year

Alexandria City Public Schools LINK Club in Partnership with RPCA

- 206* Participants (21st Century Grant)
- 148* Participants (ESSER Funds)
- There is no fee for the participant family
 - *Both programs are under capacity as students left the program with spaces held per grant requirements

Youth Achieving Greatness – inclusion program at the Nannie J. Lee Recreation Center

• 126 Participants (3 Free/Reduced)



Therapeutic Recreation at the Nannie J. Lee Recreation Center

19 Participants (7 Free/Reduced)

March 2024 Update



2024 SUMMER ENROLLMENT

Summer Registration

- 768 Participants currently registered (459 Full/ 225 Free & Reduced)
- 84 Participants currently registered under the SNAP or TANF \$0 fee
- 190 slots are set aside for LINK Club summer registration at Ferdinand T. Day, Patrick Henry, George Washington Middle School (Power-Up)

Pre-Registration

- Information about the Pre-Registration process was shared via ACPS, Press Release, on Social Media, on the OSTP Webpage, OSTP FAQ sheet, in our Summer of Smiles Guide, and center managers/ coordinators sent emails out to current and past customers.
- Many sites still have space!



March 2024 Update



OSTP STAFF RECRUITMENT

RPCA continues to focus on recruitment and retention of OSTP part-time and seasonal staff to ensure the highest quality and safe programming.

- Job Fairs: RPCA frequently recruits at City-sponsored, ACPS, local college, and outside agency job fairs.
- Workforce Development Hiring Events: Most recently in March RPCA participated in a joint hiring event.
- Online Platforms: Indeed, Social Media, City Website https://www.facebook.com/reel/254697901034802
- Advertise through internal special events and programs.



March 2024 Update



OSTP STAFF RECRUITMENT

Many applicants for OSTP positions do not meet the minimum qualifications for the Recreation Leader positions with limited to no experience in the field:

- RPCA has developed the OSTP Employee Onboarding Academy that provides on the job training and in class sessions. The academy provides committed candidates an opportunity to gain hands on experience and training prior to site placement.
- 17 new hires have completed the OSTP Employee Onboarding Academy, including 3 High School students since Fall 2023



March 2024 Update



OSTP STAFF RETENTION

- Required 2-week enhanced onboarding and training is required prior to site placement; new employees are paired with experienced staff.
- Increasing professional development opportunities and job specific training in partnership with ACPS and DCHS (e.g., Youth Mental Health and First Aid, PBIS model for after school, Developmental Assets, and ACES).
- Promotional opportunities with the Recreation Leader classification.
- Stabilization through the 12 recently funded part-time, benefitted positions
- Language pay for multi-lingual staff
- Summer retention bonus for seasonal staff.



March 2024 Update



OPPORTUNTIES & CHALLENGES

- Ensuring transportation for summer camp programming and field trips; RPCA works
 closely with ACPS to provide East and West End transportation as well as field trips.

 Driver availability and bus limitations may reduce these opportunities for
 participants.
- Ongoing (year-round) hiring is needed and is time/resource intensive. Improved collaboration with ACPS with the recruitment and training of high school student employees may support a more streamlined process.
- The onboarding academy provides increased opportunities for successful teen employment and supports City efforts to provide training and job skills to youth while earning money.

