

2007

St. Nick's Day Program Evaluation

Meagan Cahill, Minnette Huck, Jessica Nickoson

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Executive Summary

The St. Nick's Day program is a community effort that the office of Fraternity and Sorority life are trying to revive. The program has been done in the past and was just brought back last year after a five year hiatus. The assessment was created to gauge the level of satisfaction the Greek members gained. Evaluations were given to the fraternity and sorority members that participated over a two day period. The results that were compiled will be used to aid the Office of Student Activities and Organizations in determining the overall benefit in implementing the program.

Problem and Purpose Statement

Problem: To evaluate the St. Nick's Day program and fraternity and sorority members' and Union Board members' satisfaction while participating in this program. The following questions will be evaluated in this program:

- Does the program positively encourage community involvement?
- Are there any aspects of the program that can be improved?
- The overall reaction from the fraternity and sorority members and Union Board members who participate in the program.

Purpose: To have some understanding of the St. Nick's Day programs impact on the fraternity and sorority members and Union Board members who participate. This evaluation will be used to determine if the program has an impact on students and if it will be continued in the future.

Research Questions

St. Nick's Day Evaluation

Please rank the following statements as they pertain to you and the St. Nick's Day Program.

1. I participated in this event only because it was a requirement of my chapter.

Completely Agree				Completely Disagree
1	2	3	4	5

2. I would participate in this event again.

Completely Agree				Completely Disagree
1	2	3	4	5

3. This program helped promote positive relationships between ISU's Greek community and the local Terre Haute community.

Completely Agree				Completely Disagree
1	2	3	4	5

4. What were your expectations of this event? Were these expectations met?

5. What specifically did you gain from participating in this program?

6. What would you change about this program in the future?

Any additional comments/concerns?

Key Indicators of Quality

The purpose of this study is to evaluate the effectiveness of the St. Nick's Day program on the sorority and fraternity men and women and Union Board participants. From this study, we hoped to gain an understanding of the St. Nick's Day programs' impact on the fraternity and sorority members who participate and whether the program should be continued in the future. We created a qualitative and quantitative survey in order to complete this evaluation. We surveyed the men and women who volunteered at the elementary schools on both days of the St. Nick's Day program. The key indicators of quality were students feelings of overall community service satisfaction and students overall increase of knowledge of local Terre Haute elementary schools.

Methods

Participants

The 69 participants consisted fraternity men, sorority women, and Union Board members. The participants were all undergraduate students at Indiana State University. The participants were either volunteered on their own, or volunteered as a requirement for their organization.

Measures

The participants were given a six question survey evaluation. The survey consisted of three qualitative questions that were arranged into a five point likert scale. The scale was defined in a range from completely agree to completely disagree.

Procedure

Following each days activity each participant was given a survey to complete. The surveys were given to the participant by an evaluation team member.

Sample

The sample of students that we used consisted of 69 sorority women, fraternity men, and Union Board members. These men and women either volunteered at one of the three elementary schools on one or both days of the St. Nick's Day program. All 69 participants were current full-time undergraduates at Indiana State University.

Procedures

Survey

On day one, evaluations were distributed to each participant after the children left for the day and the men and women distributed gifts to the desks and decorated the rooms. The Greek and Union Board participants filled out the evaluations and then left for the day. On day two, evaluations were distributed to each participant after they opened the gifts, read with the children, and helped the children clean up. Filling out the survey was the Greek and Union Board participants' last step before completing the St. Nick's Day program. On both days the evaluations were distributed and collected by members of the evaluation team.

Results

Method

Results from the surveys were compiled by the evaluation team. Results below are color coded by school. Blue represented Franklin Elementary School, green represented Demming Elementary School, and Purple represented Ben Davis Elementary School. Results were also broken down into day one and day two.

Day One Responses

DAY ONE - Franklin			DAY ONE - Davis			DAY ONE - Demming		
Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3
1	2	2	5	1	1	5	1	1

3	2	1	5	1	1	5	1	2
4	1	1	4	1	2	5	1	2
2	2	1	2	1	1	5	1	2
5	1	1	5	1	1	5	1	1
5	1	1	4	1	3	5	1	2
5	1	1	3	1	1	5	1	3
5	1	1	5	1	3	5	1	1
5	1	1	4	2	2	4	1	1
3	1	1	5	1	1	5	1	1
5	1	1	5	1	1	5	1	1
5	1	1	5	1	1			
3	1	1						
5	1	1						
4	1	1						

Total Participants:
15

Total Participants: 12

Total Participants: 11

What were your expectations of this event? Were these expectations met?

- To help children. Yes.
- Just talking to the kids and helping them out. Yes, my expectations were met.
- I thought we were simply reading—this was far better.
- First time doing it, so I had none. I did enjoy myself though.
- I didn't know what to expect, but I had a great time.
- I wanted to interact with the kids; I was able to do that.
- To read to children and have fun. Yes.
- I really didn't have any, but I loved it.
- To read with the kids and to distribute gifts and color and decorate room. Yes!
- Expectations were to come in and hang out with little kids, read to them, and help decorate. Expectations were met.
- To read with the children. Yes.
- Meet the kids and entertain them. They seemed to enjoy it, so yes.
- I did not have expectations.
- I didn't know what to expect.
- To meet children. Yes.

- High, Yes
- It was about what I expected.
- Interact with the kids.
- To read to kids. Yes.
- To read to kids. Yes.
- To have fun with the children. Yes.
- To have a great learning experience with the kids. Yes.
- It would be a positive experience. Yes.
- Expected to read. And, yes it was met.
- That we would read and color with them before decorating. I felt like we were sitting around more than we should have.
- I thought there would be more interaction with the children.
- Expected to interact with the kids but didn't really get to.
- To help put Christmas in kids hearts. Yes.
- Make kids happy. Yes.
- I thought there would be more interaction with the students.
- My expectations were exceeded because I did not realize that we would be able to interact with the kids on both days.
- Exactly what happened. Yes!
- To make the kids happy and bring a little Christmas to them.
- I expected exactly what happened.
- To participate with children and reading them a St. Nick's Day story. Yes!
- I had the same expectations as last year. My expectations were exceeded from last year; it was fun reading to the classes.

What specifically did you gain from participating in this program?

- Learning how to talk to children.
- Just learning from them and hope to make their day better.
- I learned what poverty in Terre Haute can really be like.
- Possibly making a child's day better.
- I loved seeing the kids smile.
- Better idea of the youth community around us.
- Getting out in the community.
- Being able to participate with the kids.
- A smile.
- I loved it! Wish we had more time with them.
- Let me connect with my inner child.
- Happiness!!
- I love kids in small doses.
- Kids love to be loved and need attention.
- I learned about the children's lives and had fun coloring with them.
- Helping kids is fun.

- It was a good experience.
- Volunteering is enjoyable.
- Tolerance.
- Child tolerance skills. Use birth control.
- Appreciation for kindergarten teachers.
- An appreciation for teachers everywhere.
- Appreciation for kindergarten teachers.
- Insight into 5 years old's minds!
- It is a good way to help little kids have a fun holiday.
- More Christmas spirit?
- Personal satisfaction also satisfied community service requirement.
- I got to know my fellow Union Board members better as well as see a part of part of the Terre Haute community.
- Chapter Unity.
- Fun.
- I just really enjoyed interacting with the children!
- The joy of helping others.

What would you change about this program in the future?

- N/A
- Nothing
- Nothing—it was really great. More time??
- None
- Nothing
- Nothing really
- Nothing—everything was good.
- No comment
- Nothing
- Make it a couple of days longer.
- Nothing
- Nothing
- N/A
- More time with kids
- More activities w/ the children and time.
- Nothing

- Nothing
- Nothing
- Nothing, Great program.
- Nothing
- Nothing
- Nothing
- More instructions at beginning.
- Do the reading later so there's not as much down time.
- More time
- Gloves, too!
- Nothing
- Nothing
- Have helpers do more than set books on desk in classroom
- I would make sure the classes have nothing planned on the days.
- Nothing
- Nothing
- The experience was good.
- Better organization between the classes.

Any additional comments/concerns?

- I really enjoyed my time here ☺
- Loved doing this!
- No sugar at lunch.
- It was fun!
- I thought it went well.
- It was really great!!! More time?
- It was a good experience for both.
- Had fun!

Day Two Responses

DAY TWO - Franklin

Q 1	Q 2	Q 3
5	1	1
3	1	1
3	1	1
4	1	2
5	2	1
5	1	1
5	1	1
5	1	1

DAY TWO - Davis

Q 1	Q 2	Q 3
4	1	1
5	1	2
4	1	1
4	1	1
1	2	1
5	1	1
4	1	1
5	1	1

DAY TWO - Demming

Q 1	Q 2	Q 3
5	1	1
5	1	1
5	1	1
N/A	N/A	N/A
4	1	1
4	1	1
4	1	3
4	4	4

3	2	2	5	1	1	4	1	1
3	1	1	3	2	1			
5	1	1	5	1	1			

Total Participants: 11

Total Participants: 11

Total Participants: 9

What were your expectations of this event? Were these expectations met?

- To make the kids happy and excited. Yes, they were met.
- High. Yes.
- My expectations were that the kids would be excited. Yes.
- To read to the kids. Yes.
- I thought the kids would be a little wild. No, they behaved and had good manners.
- I figured the kids would be excited and would enjoy it. I was right.
- To read to the kindergarteners. Yes.
- Our expectations were to have fun with the kids. Our expectations were met.
- To read to the children. Yes.
- Just to have fun and read with the kids. Yes!
- To help read to the children. Yes.
- To read to the kids. Yes.
- Reading to kids.
- To make some friends. Yes.
- To meet and spend time with the children. Yes they were met.
- Yes, to help out.
- Meeting with children and having a little fun. Yes.
- I expected to read a story to kindergarten students. Yes, but I also bonded with the students.
- I expected to just be reading, but we got to have fun with the kids and get to know a little bit about them.
- Expected to meet and read to children. It was a positive experience for both the children and me.
- I would read. Yes.
- To show kids the kindness of giving. Yes.
- Just the students having fun.
- To read and give presents.
- I didn't have anything because I didn't know what this was.
- Didn't know what to expect. Expectations are above and beyond.
- To give Greeks a positive public image. Yes.

- Meet the kids and make them happy with the presents and reading.
- To help kids enjoy the holiday. Yes!
- To give kids gifts and spend time with them. Yes!
- I expected to have fun with the kids and I did.

What specifically did you gain from participating in this program?

- Being able to help children.
- Joy of seeing these students get a new book, something they don't get that often.
- Knowledge that I helped make a child happy.
- A connection with young children.
- Seeing the little kids happy when they arrived at school.
- Being in an environment I wasn't used to.
- More experience working with children in a teacher setting.
- What it means to kids that we were here.
- Joy of helping kids. Their reactions said it all.
- Interacting with kids.
- Remembering to help others.
- Hanging out with kids.
- Met little kids.
- Even more respect for teachers and more patience.
- Enjoyment and pleasure.
- Community help.
- Enjoyment, remembering what it's like to be a kid.
- I gained a feeling of being able to help out our community.
- It was a fun experience that I would do again.
- Able to see how young children today are and how appreciative they are for positive adult attention.
- Little kids like me.
- I reinforced it is better to give than receive.
- Learning how to with younger kinds.
- Enjoyed ready to kids, wonderful experience.
- I gained my confidence back in major.
- I really like working with kids.
- Positive experience.
- Happiness.
- Knowing I made a kids day enjoyable.
- The sense of helping and making kids feel special.
- I gained a better relationship with children.
- I gained knowledge on how to handle kids.

What would you change about this program in the future?

- Not a lot—maybe more time to read b/c tons of the kids want their books read.
- More to do with the students.

- Nothing
- More time!
- Allow more time.
- Have a plan for what is expected from us to do and follow it.
- No tinsel, kids love to make a mess with it.
- A little later in the day.
- Nothing
- Nothing
- Read to whole class.
- I don't know.
- More Greek organizations would show up.
- We should stay longer.
- Nothing—more time with kids.
- Nothing
- More structured? Everything was great though.
- I wouldn't change anything.
- Nothing, I enjoyed it!
- Nothing
- Nothing it went very well.
- Nothing
- Nothing
- Nothing
- N/A
- I would love to do it again!
- Make it longer.
- Spend more time with the kids.
- Learning how to with younger kinds.
- E-mails to more than just the presidents.
- Nothing

Any additional comments/concerns?

- Had a great time! ☺ Merry Christmas!
- N/A
- It was a pleasure!!
- Very good program
- Can't wait to do it again
- ☺
- Cool
- None
- See ya next year!!
- Great program
- Keep it going! It's great for kids and as students.
- N/A

- I really enjoyed fun kids
- None
- I really enjoyed it.
- I would love to do it again!

Analysis

Averages by Day:

DAY ONE - Franklin			DAY ONE - Davis			DAY ONE - Demming		
Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3
4	1.2	1.0666667	4.3333333	1.0833333	1.5	4.909091	1	1.5454545
DAY TWO - Franklin			DAY TWO - Davis			DAY TWO - Demming		
Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3
4.18181818	1.1818182	1.1818182	4.0909091	1.1818182	1.090909	4.375	1.375	1.625

Findings and Points of Interest

- Enjoyment of participants
 - Emotions/Feelings
- Positive promotion of Greek life
 - Public relations
- Knowledge of community
 - Elementary schools

Enjoyment of participants

Findings: In analysis the data collected indicated that the participants enjoyed the overall experience of the St. Nick's day program. In the qualitative questions on the survey, students indicate what expectations they had and if those expectations were met. A number of the participants stated that they had fun and experienced happiness through doing the event.

Suggestions: In the future it may become helpful to advertise the positive emotions and feelings the participants felt. This may help in encouraging more students to join the program. The student's positive emotions show the satisfaction they gained from the experience.

Positive promotion of Greek life

Findings: In the survey on of the quantitative questions asked the participants if they thought this program provides a positive promotion of Greek life. The participants indicated that they thought that this experience did in fact provide the Terre Haute community an opportunity to see the good aspects of the Greek system.

Suggestions: In the future the office of Fraternity and Sorority Life should try to involve the media. This would allow more of the community to have insight into the Greek system at Indiana State University.

Knowledge of community

Findings: Many of the participants responded that they felt they had gained knowledge of the Terre Haute community through the St. Nick's day program. The participants stated that they learned about the schools and the children. The three schools that participated were Deming, Franklin, and Ben Davis. All of these elementary schools are schools in which the students normatively come from low income families. The participants stated that they understood the importance of donating time and money to these particular schools.

Suggestions: The office of Fraternity and Sorority life could market this fact as an advertisement tool in the future. This could help encourage the participants more. Knowing that these students gained knowledge about the community helps the office teach more of the Greek community about the Terre Haute community.