TITLE: College of Social Work Arts & Athletic Community Outreach Project

FSU Principal Investigator: Nick Mazza, MSW PhD, FSU College of Social Work

PROJECT ABSTRACT:

Building on the College of Social Work’s commitment to community service, a new initiative is being developed for outreach to local youth. This program combines Arts and Athletics as vehicles to teach and enhance leadership development, academic achievement, socialization and other life skills for youth with limited social and economic opportunity. A service-learning component will involve FSU students from various disciplines participating as mentors, while also gaining additional leadership and community service experience. The first 2-week summer camp (pilot project) was successfully launched in June 2012. This project includes a significant program evaluation component to determine its effectiveness, identify areas for improvement, disseminate promising practices, and contribute to the knowledge base on the use of the arts and athletics in community-based practice.

Funding Sources:
Private Donators: (The Spearman Family) $50,000

Co-Investigators:
Stephen Tripodi, PhD

FSU Collaboration:
The College of Visual Arts, Theatre and Dance, The Center for Academic Retention and Enhancement (CARE), and the FSU Athletics Department.