CHAPTER NAME: Junior Auxiliary Corinth

CHAPTER ADDRESS: PO Box 2625
Corinth, MS 38834

POPULATION CATEGORY: 15,000 - 29,999

NAME OF PROJECT: Campus Smarts

CATEGORY: (Check One) (A) X (B)

ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP OF CHAPTER: 31 members

NUMBER OF MEMBERS PARTICIPATING: 4

TOTAL HOURS OF SERVICE GIVEN BY MEMBERS: 8-15 hours

COST OF PROJECT: $107

NUMBER OF PERSONS SERVED: 100-80 people

YOUR ENTRY MUST BE IN ESSAY FORM (1000 WORDS OR LESS, DOUBLE SPACED)

Send one digital photo per entry either email or on disc.

IT IS UNNECESSARY TO SUBMIT ANY SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIAL. THE AWARD WILL BE JUDGED ON THE NARRATIVE ONLY.

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MAR 15 2016
N. A. J. A.
I. Background

Twenty years ago, there were no smart phones; no social media. Children dealt with any personal conflict either in person or over a landline. These days, there is a whole new dynamic added to growing up. There is a strong online presence that offers more to children now in terms of education, but also opens up many more avenues for conflict to arise and occur. Because parents didn’t grow up with these issues, it makes it hard for them to be prepared to guide their children through these issues when they occur.

Social media websites and smart phone apps such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat and many social networking games have become daily activities to school aged children and teenagers. According to Internet Safety 101, 95% of teenagers have witnessed cruel behaviors on social networking websites. Bullying via social media and smart phones are only some of the current trends. Communicating with strangers online via online games is also a danger that is tough for parents to regulate. The American Academy of Pediatrics states that 93% of 12-17 year old children own or have access to a computer. Teaching children about being smart online offers a great opportunity for both members of Junior Auxiliary as well as the community.

II. Project Summary

CyberSmarts debuted in July 2015 to a group of school aged boys and girls attending a summer camp. The summer camp was put on by a local
missions group called The Lighthouse. Students were separated into
different age groups and shown three PowerPoint presentations over a two
day period. Our three topics that we discussed were cyber bullying, digital
citizenship and screen time. We showed a mixture of lighthearted videos as
well as very serious videos about the dangers of talking to strangers online.
At the end of each talk, we tossed a beach ball around with questions written
on each color to recap what everybody had learned. This was a great way to
get all the children involved. We repeated our presentation in January 2016
to 3rd-6th graders at a local church over two Wednesday nights. There is
potential to add more groups to present this project to in the future to
further expand whom we are reaching as well.

III. Project Summary

a. There are 14,573 residents in Corinth and 37,057 total residents in all
   of Alcorn County.

b. The Junior Auxiliary of Corinth has 37 active members

c. Four members of Junior Auxiliary participated in the CyberSmarts
   project

d. These members spent approximately 10 hours planning the project
   and another four hours presenting the projects, one hour each day.

e. Participants were all students in Alcorn County

IV. Public Relations and Expense

We contacted the local mission's organization as well as the local church
privately which was cost free. The children's parents were notified prior to
our presentation and were given the option to not send their child on the presentation dates if the subject matter was not something they wanted their child exposed to. The only chapter funds spent on this project was for candy to encourage participation from the children.

V. Project Evaluation

The environment and content was casual however we did offer candy to encourage participation from the children. We offered a good mix of video content mixed in with the discussion and ended with an active game to recap what everyone had learned that offered us a chance to reinforce some key points. The parents of the children contacted us and thanked us for opening up this discussion with their kids. The children were also very honest and open to talking about how these concepts directly applied to them. This is clearly a very beneficial and needed project that would have a lot to offer other Junior Auxiliary chapters as well.