



PowerOn Mobile Mini Grant Impact

MAY 2022 IMPACT REPORT

PowerOn Mini Grant was made possible by support from T-Mobile

KEY METRICS WE ARE TRACKING:

Total grantee centers: **32**

Data collected from **30** centers

Total number of center clients who benefitted from the granted technology in May: **2473**

Centers serving rural clients: **20**

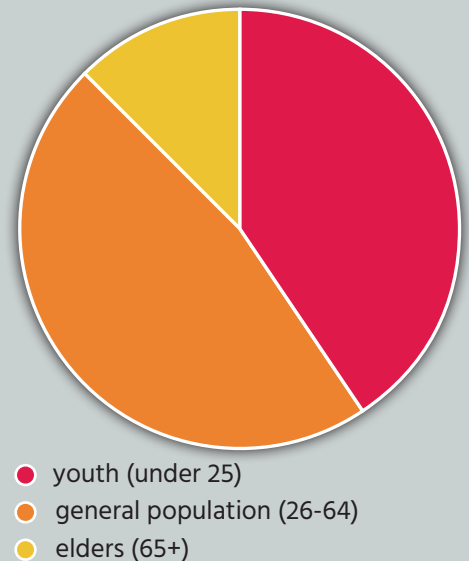
On average, **35%** of clients reside in rural areas

167 clients engaged in leadership development programs using the granted technology.

560 clients used the technology to access mental healthcare services

The granted technology enabled **103** people to access emergency services.

Age groups served by centers:



SERVICE HIGHLIGHT

YOUTH

PowerOn partner centers provide a wide variety of services to LGBTQ+ youth, a segment of the population that is especially vulnerable without access to these essential resources. Up to 40% of youth experiencing homelessness identify as LGBTQ+, and for those not facing homelessness many still face discrimination and isolation within their homes, schools, and amongst peers. LGBTQ+ centers provide crucial support to youth in our community through services such as housing assistance, mental health services, educational and training opportunities, and safe social spaces. PowerOn is dedicated to supporting our partner centers' lifesaving work through providing them with the technology needed to carry out their programs and services.

"Several clients have been able to find employment, and clients have received over 60 hours of case management. We have been able to provide housing assessments for LGBTQ+ individuals experiencing homelessness, to get access to housing. Approximately 25 housing assessments have been provided this quarter and 10 applications for transitional living programs for LGBTQ+ youth 18-24."
—Our Spot KC

"This grant has really increased our capacity to provide services in our Young Adult Housing department. We've increased outreach and hired additional workers who are equipped with what they need to provide services."
—Youth Oasis

"This kind of thing should be the norm, and I'm happy this program exists. My therapist and I have gotten more done in six sessions than any other therapists I've seen in the past."
—LGBTQ+ youth client, We Are Family



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CENTER SPOTLIGHT



WE ARE FAMILY (CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA)

We Are Family’s mission as a Southern grassroots nonprofit is to provide affirming spaces for LGBTQI+ and ally youth in South Carolina through direct support, leadership development, and community engagement, with a focus on those who are low-income and BIPOC. Created by the father of a gay son in 1995 when he could not find affirming supports for his child, We Are Family (WAF) is the oldest LGBTQI+ youth organization in SC. Since then, WAF has responded to the needs of LGBTQI+ youth to create safer and supportive spaces, and currently serve 700+ youth in SC annually through supportive programs, community education, and youth-led advocacy. Their vision is that LGBTQI+ and ally youth feel empowered to find their places in the world, in their families, and in their communities.

Nearly 250 youth attended the 2022 Charleston Queer Prom, that one magical night of the year for middle and high school students to dance, celebrate, and build community free from anti-LGBTQI+ discrimination. This event highlights the transformative power of We Are Family’s work— lifting voices and shifting culture for a more just and equitable society.

“The invaluable support from the PowerOn Mini Grant, which provided the WAF team with org dedicated technology hardware for the first time in our history, we were able to utilize the technology for registration and check-in as well as properly following up on emerging youth needs during the 2022 Queer Youth Prom event. A huge thank you to the PowerOn and sponsoring organizations for being the CHAMPIONS our queer and trans youth deserve!”

Check out the Queer Youth Prom testimonial video, “Keep doing what you’re doing.” <https://buff.ly/3HEHsjm>



We Are Family’s participants celebrating at the 2022 Queer Youth Prom

“While our mental health services continue to be the area of greatest impact with our technology, our youth have found a new way to utilize our tablets! Our youth enjoy playing group video games like ‘Among Us’ and Jackbox TV. Kids who don’t have access to the technology required (i.e. a cell phone or tablet) have been able to participate in a more meaningful way. In a way, it has broken down an economic barrier between kids that we were previously unable to overcome. Before we had access to this tech, those kids without phones or tablets were included, but it was clear to them that they weren’t able to participate in the capacity they’d like to. Something as simple as playing a game of ‘Among Us’ together has brought our kids closer to one another in a way a million small group discussions or anything else for that matter never could.”

—Our Spot KC

