



City of Cleveland
Justin M. Bibb, Mayor

Department of Public Works
Division of Recreation
Zelma Watson George Community Center
3155 Martin Luther King Blvd.
Cleveland, Ohio 44104-5003
216/420-8800 *Fax: 216/420-8809

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in regard to the After School All-Stars program. When I first came to Zelma George in 2021 it was not a program that I was familiar with coming from a different recreation center. As I got to know the players involved in the organization the program started to grow on me and my staff and became a staple in our recreation center. Yes, there are times when we have some issues with attendance, but it is not due to the lack of trying on the part of the instructors or their supervisors.

There are some things that we can do to get better and try to find other ways to try to get the numbers higher and we will, but taking away the program would be detrimental to the relationships that have been built within our center as well as the other facilities that they operate out of within. We need programs like this and the people that they have working are all good for the recreation centers.

So instead of getting rid of a program, let's put our heads together and see how we can expand not just for the numbers but for the youth that are being helped within the program. Cause getting rid of this program and this organization is not going to be helpful, it will set us back, and this is a time in this city and this country that we need to be moving forward.

I thank you for your time in this matter, and letting me say my piece.

Sincerely,

Merelene A. Dozier
Center Manager, ZWG

To whom it may concern:

I have worked for the City of Cleveland for over twenty years with volunteer time and employment combined. During my time, I have seen many programs for the kids come through. I have been working closely with After-School All-Stars staff since they were originally stationed at Zelma George in 2024. I often drive them to field trips and some of the kids that participate have participated in the athletics offerings I run at the recreation center. Working with After-School All-Stars has been a pleasure, and I have been very impressed by how many different things they arrange for the kids to experience. On top of getting to try new things, the kids that participate also get help with their homework, get to make new friends, and get to work with adults that care about their well-being. I highly recommend that After-School All-Stars be able to continue their programming with the City of Cleveland.

Regards,

“Coach Mike”

Michael Stennett