



Executive Summary for Community Education

As identified in the College purpose statement (B1000), community education programming is essential to community members' personal interest, growth, and enrichment.

According to the Board's Community Education Programming Strategic Outcomes policy (B1007), students receive value by engaging in the College's community education courses, seminars, camps, and programs (i.e., community education programming) designed to help them fully develop their natural abilities by gaining knowledge and skill on topics of personal interest. By completing these lifelong learning activities, students potentially enrich their lives, increase their personal satisfaction, gain a sense of self-fulfillment, adapt to change, increase their wisdom, and strike a balance between work and life. Further, students benefit from community education programming that enables them to continuously pursue and sustain their passion in ways that lead to feelings of social inclusion and demonstrations of active citizenship through active and meaningful contributions to society. Students receive greater value when their passions for community education programming can be linked to their professional interests or work life.

The Board directs the President to establish, deliver, and continuously improve community education programming to achieve these benefits. This report updates the College's Community Education Programming and its alignment with the Board's Strategic Outcomes using the Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) in the [Shawnee Community College Effectiveness System \(SCCES\)](#).

Some areas of focus for Community Education in 2023-2024, along with the [Strategic Plan](#) initiative to which they are aligned, include:

- Increase the variety and number of Community Ed courses (S2G3OA)
- Improve the recruitment process for Community Ed courses (S2G1OH, S4G4OA)
- Increase the number of course offerings at each SCC location (S2G3OA, S2G3OE)
- Increase our partnerships with community organizations to deliver Community Ed courses of interest to residents (S2G3OA)
- Determine ways to discover the Community Ed courses residents desire (S2G3OA)
- Make the registration process more accessible and user-friendly (S2G1OD)
- Determine ways to track fall musical ticket sales and track the revenue (S2G2OD)

As specified by Board Policy *B1007 Community Education Programming*, the following SCCES areas of performance have been identified:

- [Community Need](#)
- [Student Interest](#)
- [Enrollment](#)
- [Fiscal Stewardship](#)
- [Deployment](#)



When analyzing the KPIs aligned to these SCCES areas, the following patterns and trends are evident:

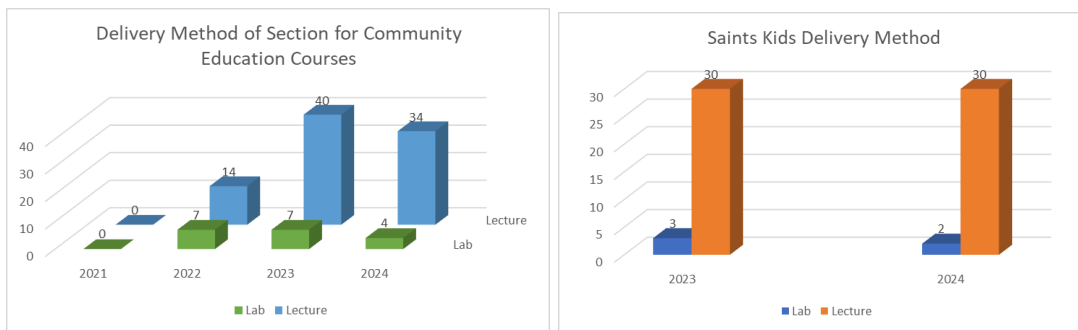
- The delivery method of Community Ed courses has continued to be primarily lecture and lab.
- Although the headcount for primarily adult-based courses has declined, the overall headcount has increased thanks to the Saints Kids course offerings. In 2023, the duplicated headcount was 1221; in 2024, it increased to 1255, a total increase of 2.8%.
- The duplicate headcount for Community Education decreased by 15% from the academic year 2023 to 2024. The duplicate headcount in 2023 was 782, which decreased to 671 in 2024.
- The duplicated headcount for Saints Kids increased by 24.8% from the academic year 2023 to 2024. The duplicated headcount in 2023 was 439, which increased to 584 in 2024.
- Saints Kids in-district participants saw a significant rise from 404 to 547. Out-of-district participants decreased from 28 to 20, and out-of-state participants more than doubled, rising from 7 to 17.
- The average number of sections per community education course has increased, and course offerings have diversified and expanded to meet the unique needs of each community the extension centers serve. In 2023, 59 community education courses were offered across all five locations. In 2024, 72 communication education courses were offered, an 18.1% increase from the previous year.
- The significant increase in Saints Kids participants at our extension centers, from 254 in 2023 to 367 in 2024, and at the Main Campus, from 185 in 2023 to 217 in 2024, is a testament to our programs' growing interest and engagement.

Performance Areas: Community Needs and Student Interest

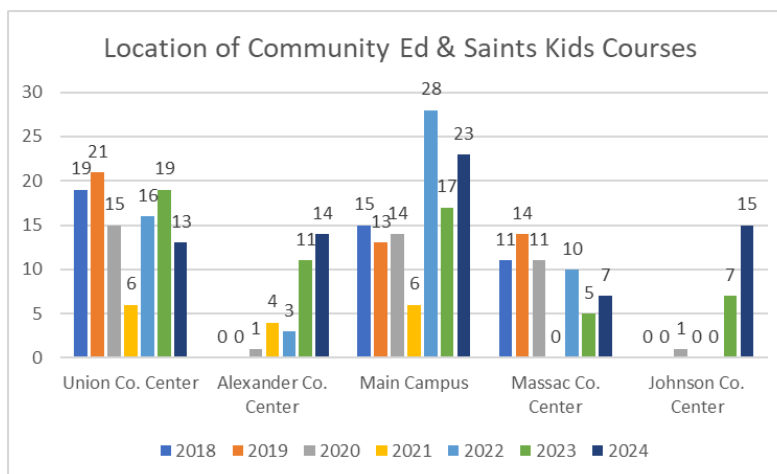
Academic Year	Number of Unique Courses	Number of Total Sections	Average Sections Per Course
2018	17	60	3.53
2019	13	6	4.62
2020	14	51	3.64
2021	17	24	1.41
2022	32	50	1.56
2023	35	71	2.02
2024	15	84	5.6



While offering a healthy variety of classes is essential, repeat sections of classes also have benefits. For example, the Little Saints Book Club meets routinely monthly. While some students are duplicated and attend every month, it is not uncommon for new students to join these classes as their schedules permit. These numbers reflect a blend of unique classes offered and repeating sections of courses as requested by the community.



Overall, the primary modality for delivery of instruction that the community prefers is in-person direct instruction. This chart shows our lecture and lab section offerings for both the Community Education and Saints Kids courses. We have currently partnered with Ed2Go to offer a variety of online classes. Once we determine what classes are in high demand, we plan to design our own coursework using Google Classroom to reduce the cost of courses since we will not have the added expense of paying for Ed2Go.





Academic Year	Union Co. Center	Alexander Co. Center	Main Campus	Massac Co. Center	Johnson Co. Center
2018	19	0	15	11	0
2019	21	0	13	14	0
2020	15	1	14	11	1
2021	6	4	6	0	0
2022	16	3	28	10	0
2023	19	11	17	5	7
2024	13	14	23	7	15

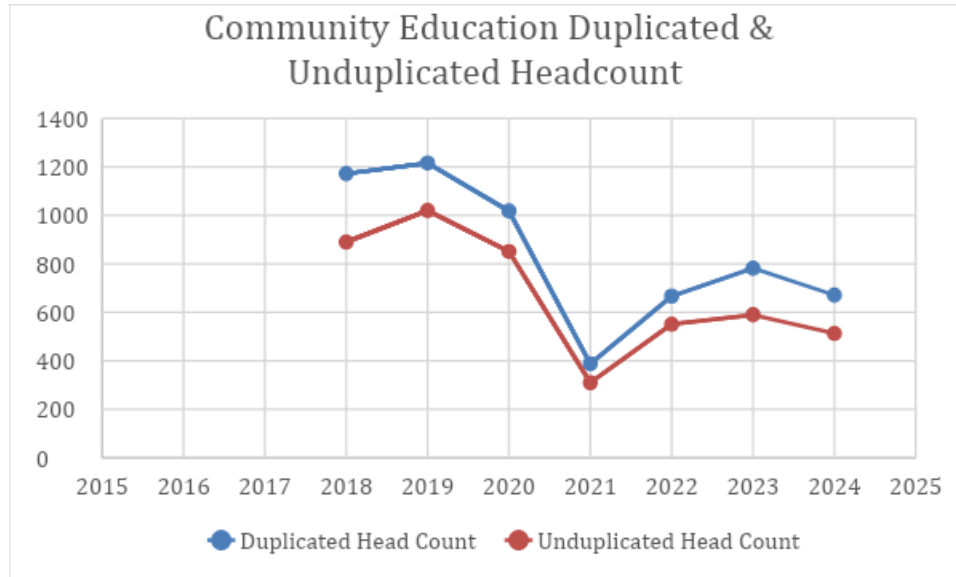
From the academic year 2023 to 2024, community education had two goals. The primary goal was to increase the number of community education course offerings. The subgoal was to expand course offerings at the Main Campus and Massac County Center. In 2023, 59 community education courses were offered across all five locations. In 2024, 72 communication education courses were offered, an 18.1% increase from the previous year.

Community Education courses are possible due to our community partnerships as of July 2023:

1. Arrowleaf, Regional Office of Education #30, Illinois Birth to Five, JAMP, Saints Foundation, Vienna High School 13-3 – PS 302-40 Little Saints Book Club.
2. Massac County Unit 1, Reading League Professional Development, PS 0310, offered six sections.
3. State Police, Pulaski County, Ullin Police Department, – PS 0085-01 Saints CSI Camp.
4. Safe Sitter Organization- PS 0192-01 & PS 0192-67 Saints Kids Safe Sitter Certificate Course.
5. Patron of the Arts, PS 0200-01 Fall SCC Musical Production.
6. Connect Massac Group (Broadband Breakthrough Grant), Grant Writing, PS 0291-50.
7. Ed2Go—Through Ed2Go, we can offer various online courses and tailor them to specific student requests.
8. Global Girls—PS 0144-30, in partnership with Alexander County Center, offered free dance classes to the youth in our community.
9. Legacy Training Center- PS 309-30 for Grant Writing class.
10. Community Health and Emergency Services, PS 0196-30, for Safety and First Aid Training.

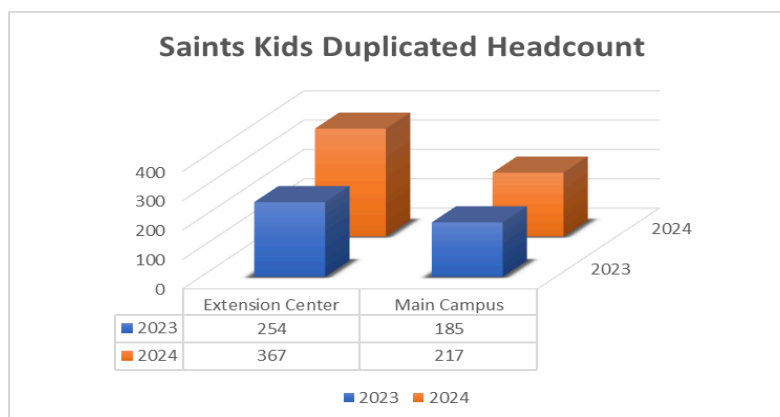


Performance Area: Enrollment

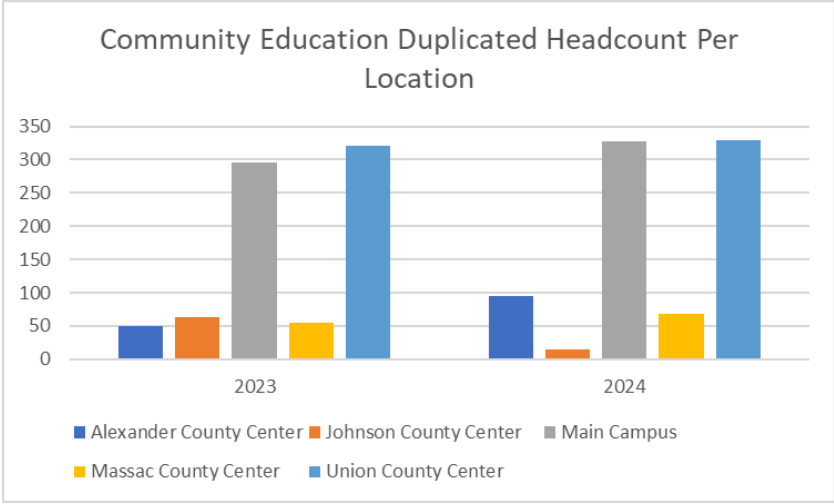


The Community Education Department's headcount decreased from 2023 to 2024, duplicated and unduplicated. Although the headcount for primarily adult-based courses has declined, the overall headcount has increased thanks to the Saints Kids course offerings.

- Duplicated Headcount decreased by 15% from 2023 to 2024. That is a decrease of 111 enrollees.
- Unduplicated Headcount decreased by 14% from 2023 to 2024. That is a decrease of 77 students.

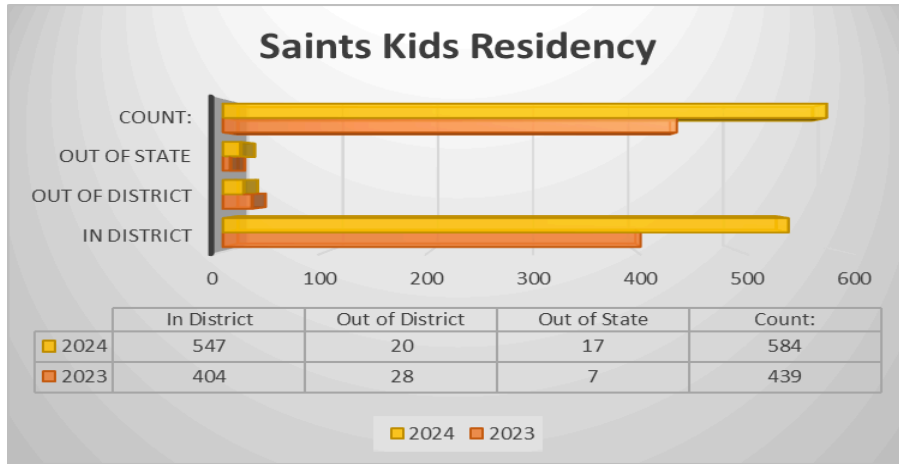


The significant increase in Saints Kids participants at our extension centers, from 254 in 2023 to 367 in 2024, and at the Main Campus, from 185 in 2023 to 217 in 2024, is a testament to our programs' growing interest and engagement.



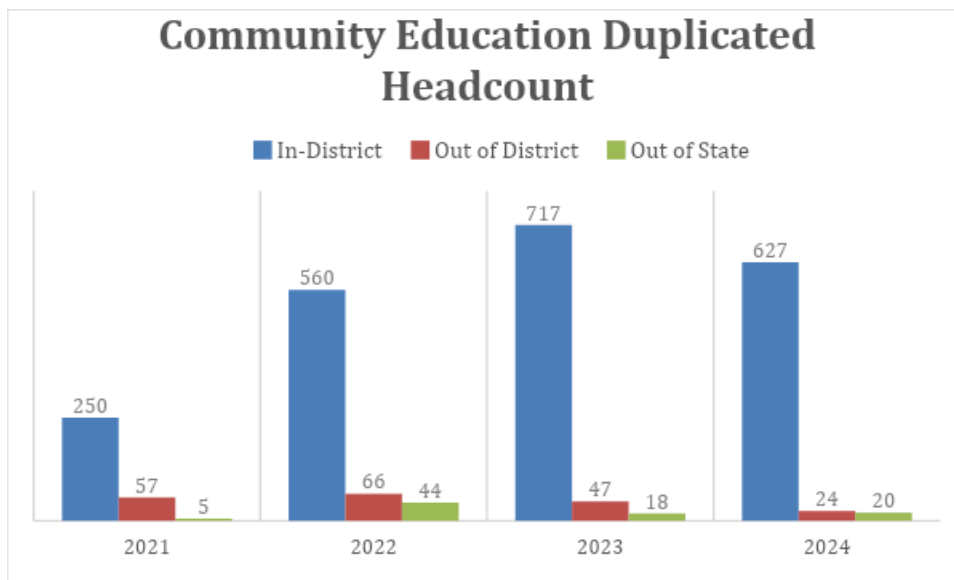
Location	2023	2024
Alexander County	49	95
Johnson County	63	14
Main Campus	295	328
Massac County	54	68
Union County	321	330

We increased headcount for all locations this past academic year except for our Johnson County Center. This center experienced a turnover of coordinators, which impacted the number of courses we offered there. Community Education and increasing our footprint in Johnson County are at the forefront of the current Johnson County Coordinator’s vision for 2024-2025.



Our community education is open to everyone, but it's important to note that most Saints Kids participants reside within the SCC District. By allowing local children to visit SCC at an early age, we convey that they are welcome on our campus and are already part of the Saints Family.

We would like to highlight the key points from the 2023 to 2024 Saints Kids Residency statistics: the total number of participants increased from 439 in 2023 to 584 in 2024. The number of in-district participants saw a significant rise from 404 to 547. Out-of-district participants decreased from 28 to 20. Out-of-state participants more than doubled, rising from 7 to 17.

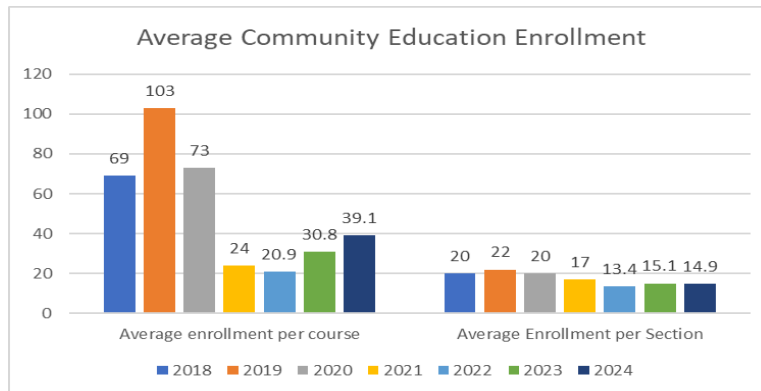


When looking at the data for Community Education participants since 2021, it is interesting to note that the total headcount increased significantly from 312 in 2021 to 670 in 2022, peaking at



782 in 2023 before slightly decreasing to 671 in 2024. The in-district participant numbers show a general upward trend, peaking in 2023 and slightly decreasing in 2024. The out-of-district participant numbers declined over the years, particularly in 2024. The out-of-state participant numbers showed a substantial increase in 2022, a decrease in 2023, and a slight increase in 2024.

Performance Area: Deployment



The above chart demonstrates that while we are duplicating some classes to have multiple sections, this is to keep section sizes at a reasonable average to ensure that every student has the chance to connect with the course and the instructor. Additionally, some duplication reflects courses that have been met multiple times, such as the Little Saints Book Club. Our average class size is similar to in-person academic classes on campus.

The Community Education Department continues to use the Smore newsletter platform to promote all Saints Kids and Community Education courses to our community. By July 2024, the Smore newsletter for Community Education courses had received over 49,400 visits. The Little Saints and Saints Kids Smore newsletters garnered 11,800 views, with an additional 5,596 views specifically for the Summer Saints Kids Camps in the summer of 2024. The Smore newsletter has been an excellent tool for increasing the visibility of our Community Education programs.

Performance Area: Fiscal Stewardship

The Community Education Department introduced a new online registration and payment portal in May 2022, featuring PayPal for secure transactions. Our community members have widely used this option. The registration link can be found in the Smore newsletter and on the Community Education section of the college's homepage. This link provides information on Personal Development/Community Events Classes for Adults and connects to the SCC Kids Camps and Events page. \$15,190.31 in registration fees was collected throughout the academic year via PayPal. This amount only includes paid classes, as PayPal is not required for free courses.



Since the summer of 2022, the Community Education Department has been tracking the revenue generated from Community Education and Saints Kids Camps through PayPal. Participants who enroll online are directed to PayPal. Each semester, the Bursar downloads the transactions into a shared spreadsheet for the Community Education to note the course taken and any other information needed.

- Summer 2023 PayPal Revenue for Community Education was \$10,053.62 (with fees deducted)
- Fall 2023 PayPal Revenue for Community Education was \$4,400.47 (with fees deducted)
- Spring 2024 PayPal Revenue for Community Education was \$736.22 (with fees deducted)

To promote equity among our younger Saints Kids, particularly in high-need programs like the Little Saints Book Club, which focuses on early childhood and elementary literacy, we have sought ways to expand offerings to our most vulnerable populations, ensuring access is not limited to students from affluent families. By applying for grants from the Dollar General Literacy Foundation, we secured \$11,600 to fund programs to increase elementary literacy and promote family literacy within our communities. This funding helps sustain our childhood literacy programs, making them accessible to all families, including those of lower socioeconomic statuses.

Performance Area: Values

Shawnee Community College believes in lifelong learning. Our community education programs support our area's growth by fostering a community of lifelong learners. By intentionally offering meaningful courses, we can enhance people's lives in our community. To ensure we meet our community's needs, the Director of Community Education has worked diligently with each extension center coordinator to determine what each community needs.

The Alexander Extension Center has expanded its Community Education & Saints Kids course offerings over the past academic year. Courses in Leadership, Grant Writing, and Men's and Women's Health have been well-attended. Continuing this programming aims to enhance civic engagement in our community. The Little Saints Book Club has also been warmly welcomed at the Alexander County Center. To boost childhood literacy in the area, we provide free books and organize engaging book-related activities. We even invited a published author from Cairo to inspire children about the potential of books in their futures.

In Johnson County, early childhood literacy has continued to be the focus due to the lack of opportunities for early childhood education. By partnering with local agencies, the Vienna Center has successfully hosted eight Little Saints Book Club activities to give out free books to children 0-5 while encouraging parents to understand the importance of childhood literacy. Healthy Meal Prep was another topic offered at the Johnson County Center. This course showed alternatives to making healthy meals for families.

The Massac County Center expanded its Community Education and Saints Kids course offerings this past academic year. A diverse array of courses, including Spanish for Kids and Reading Strategies, are held in collaboration with Massac County School teachers. Additionally, a grant-writing workshop for local



community members is hosted at the center. By continuing these programs, we aim to connect our citizens to their community and foster greater civic engagement.

In Union County, promoting overall wellness has taken center stage. The Anna Center has introduced a range of programs that prioritize physical and mental health. These initiatives include educational sessions on health literacy, such as workshops on cooking healthy meals, tai chi for beginners, and the fitness center PS courses Fit for Community and Fit for Seniors. Furthermore, the center offers mental wellness classes like decorative painting, cake decorating, and cookie decorating to provide citizens with a creative outlet to enhance their self-fulfillment and overall well-being.

At the main campus, community education has centered on providing enriching opportunities for children who may be underserved due to limited extracurricular resources at their local schools. In addition to replicating our successful Reading Adventures program, we have also offered a diverse range of children's programs in physical education, STEM education, arts and crafts, and technology. These initiatives have benefited children from local schools and provided valuable experiences for homeschooled students in our area, giving them a glimpse into what higher education may hold for them. The Main Campus offered new community education courses for SCC employees this spring semester. These “Just Google It” courses taught employees tips and tricks for making Google easier to use. During the Fall semester, a concealed carry course was offered to be a successful addition to the campus.

Actions and Recommendations

Actions Completed/Currently Implemented and the [Strategic Plan](#) Initiative to which they are aligned:

- Improve ways to track the revenue and costs for Community Ed courses, projected implementation, Fall 2023, Director of Community Education and Extension Centers, and the Director of Business Services. (S2G3OE)
- Increase our partnerships with community organizations to deliver Community Ed courses of interest to residents (S2G3OA)
- Make the registration process more accessible and user-friendly (S2G1OD)
- Determine ways to track fall musical ticket sales and track the revenue (S2G2OD)
- Increase the variety and number of Community Ed courses (S2G3OA)
- Improve the recruitment process for Community Ed courses (S2G1OH, S4G4OA)
- Increase the number of course offerings at each SCC location (S2G3OA, S2G3OE)

Recommendations and Actions for Future Consideration and the [Strategic Plan](#) Initiative to which they are aligned:

- Incorporate a new CRM (Navigate 360) to create a survey at the end of Community Education Courses for participants to reflect on enriching their lives, enhancing personal satisfaction, gaining a sense of fulfillment, and adapting to change (S2G3OA)
- Increase and create online community education course offerings, especially courses created by SCC, projected implementation, Spring 2025, Director of Community Education and Extension Centers. (S2G3OA)



- Create new community education courses with the new disc golf course and create community involvement on the new course by the end of Fall 2024.
- Evaluate opportunities to increase community engagement and educational opportunities with partnering Patron of the Arts group. (S2G3OA)