

# sticks and stars

Sticks and Stars is a collaborative, educational, diverse, interesting, hands-on, high energy, and impactful program focused on building science and hockey skills, confidence and positive future goals among at risk boys aged 9-12.

The program targets boys that had been demonstrating increasing interest in pursuing gang lifestyles, (which they see daily in their neighbourhoods as a symbol of financial and social success), were disconnecting from school, and setting themselves on a path that would be hard to change as they entered secondary school and teenage years where behavior becomes entrenched and peer pressure can be increasingly difficult to overcome.

The program is a safe place for boys, where positive mentors demonstrate and embody positive but still “cool” paths to success, where their perspectives and interests are kept at the forefront at all times and where skills are developed and enriched giving the boys a new sense of success and accomplishment. Sticks and Stars is a place where many organizations work together with little recognition and a lot of heart and commitment.

Sticks and Stars has given the boys skills, experience and exposure that has, in many, resulted in the creation of clear new education and career goals.

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