



# Building Block Council

Of The Year  
McKinney Hall



# Construction in Progress

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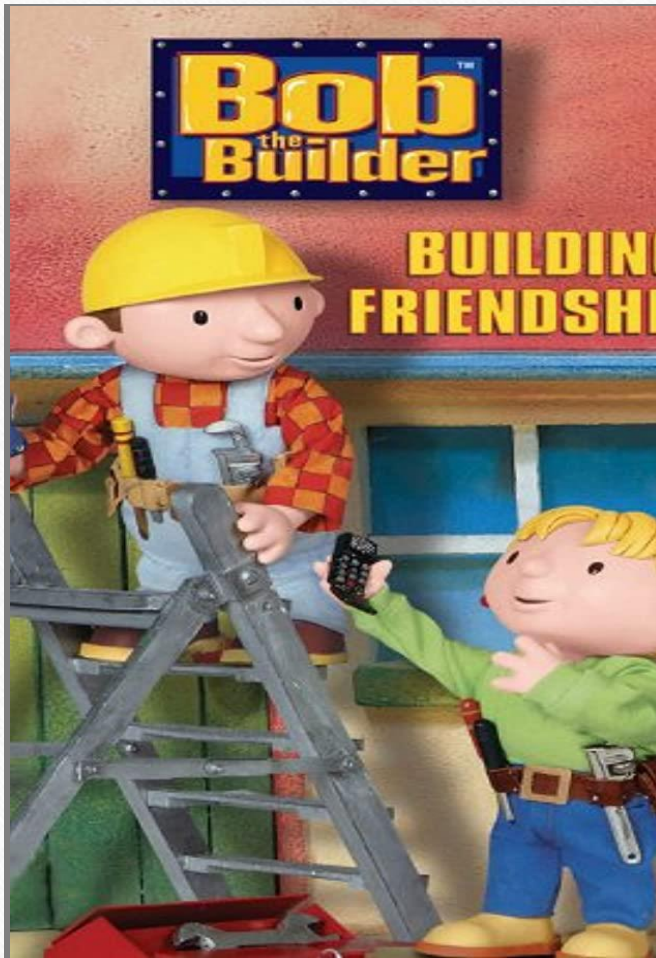




# Goals

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- Improve quality of living!
- Create a more inclusive environment!
- Form new friendships!
- Create fun programs!



# Highlight Programs

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Our council was intentional to create programs to allow McKinney residents to build concrete communities:

- Get Out and Wings
- Ice Cream Social
- Valentine's Day Cookie Decorating
- Let's Taco Bout It
- Family Feud Game Night



## Budget

Our council focused on building concrete relationships through programming. Good portion of the budget focused on the "build" of McKinney to provide the structure of relationships. The rest of our budget will go to lanyards for next year's new residents!



# Strengths

# Weaknesses

Everyone in  
our hall  
cares deeply  
about the  
success of  
McKinney

We are  
always  
looking for  
new ways  
to improve  
students'  
experience

Our  
number  
priority is  
for students  
to be safe  
and happy

We are small in  
number and WE  
CARE TOO MUCH



# Improvements

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- Revisions to the constitution
- Creating a "concrete" executive board
  - Team bonding
  - Listening to our hall
- Creating a more social atmosphere





# Academic Initiatives

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We laid the foundation of supporting the RA's academic initiative:

- Reminded residents to get involved through programs



# Attendance Pt. 1

Mattie is one of our 2 social media representatives. She does a fantastic job helping anytime she's needed and makes sure to spread the word about our amazing hall council!



Emily is the second half of our social media rep. duo. She is always down to help anyone who asks and is a super fun person to be around.



Our RHA representative is Ari. She keeps us in touch with the RHA and the things that they are doing. With her help, we work with RHA to better our halls.



## Attendance Pt. 2

The president of our hall council is Aries. He is almost always there at every event and meeting for hall council to show his loyalty and love for McKinney!



Reine is our hall council's vice president. She does a great job of being ready for anything the hall needs and loves being part of it.

Adriana is our hall council secretary. She not only keeps us all organized, but she also provides us with tons of fun ideas for our programs.





# Recognition



This is Jacqueline! She deserves to be recognized for being a great leader and for keeping us all organized. She may be our Hall's ARD, but she's also a huge contributor to our Hall Council. In fact, she is the ringleader of our success. She deserves a huge thanks for helping improve the environment of our hall's residents.



April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020  
Letter of Support for McKinney Hall Council  
Building Block Council Of The Year Review Committee,

It is my privilege and honor to write this recommendation letter on the behalf of the McKinney Hall Council to be the recipient of the 2019 Building Block Council Of The Year award. This year, the McKinney Hall Council has given many talented residents the opportunity to embrace their leadership potential and leave their personal mark on the Eastern Illinois University campus. Through their involvement in the residence hall, McKinney Hall Council has been able to support and celebrate their values of Academic Success, Global Citizenship, Personal Development, and Cultural Competence in order to provide a maximum-quality living experience to the students living in our residence hall.

I am pleased to have had the opportunity to advise McKinney Hall Council over the past two years. This year in particular, I have watched the McKinney Hall Council develop new goals to make an impact on their community. They have always focused on improving the community where the council has placed a tremendous amount of effort to get the residents engaged in the residence hall. Their drive has never stopped when it came to goals, follow new ideas, and recruit residents to events. All of their programs have been designed to connect them socially, support them academically, challenge them, and develop them holistically.

The McKinney Hall Council has overcome various challenges with transitions in the executive board and various leaders have stepped up to help the council. The start of the Fall 2019 semester, our President was the only member of our council and arrived to campus early to welcome students to their home away from home, decorate the building, and provide a friendly face that could serve as a resource. Soon after the start of the semester, our President left our council to focus on other priorities and we had a new President step up. After our executive board was established, our council knew that it was important to start the year off strong and create intentional programs to allow residents to create strong relationships in the building. When the Spring semester began, our President has to step down to focus on academics where our Publicity Rep stepped up to the President role. From that change, our council was eager to recruit a new Vice President and RHA rep where we were able to fill those positions. Once we had a full executive board we were able to create intentional programs and initiatives to get residents involved within the community. Our hall council had some growing pains along the way but we were able to come together.

McKinney Hall Council has worked hard to make it a dynamic place to live. During each assembly, students are able to join and have their voices heard about concerns in the community and experiences they would like Hall Council to provide. Our new President had an agenda to update our constitution and have the resident's vote with the proposed changes. In addition, our President collaborated with other student leaders to provide a pool table and looked at other resources to get the residents engaged in the lobby. When it came to programming, McKinney Hall Council has worked extremely hard with providing the best for their community and how they would benefit. Our council has collaborated with RAs in McKinney, such as Charleston Chews and movie nights, which we had great turn outs. Even with multiple changes with the executive board, the council has developed a dynamic team in the spring that continues to show their passion through their work.

The McKinney Hall Council is not only filled with passionate student representatives, but also serves as a meeting ground for healthy discussion, leadership education, and celebration of residents. Although I believe McKinney Hall Council had some struggles along the way, our council has succeeded through the challenges and I know our council have spent countless hours, lost sleep, and were challenged as leaders, deserve to be recognized for the spectacular job they have done. It has been amazing to see their growth and I am excited to see their journey continue.

Thank you for your time.

Warmest regards,

Jacqueline Garcia  
Associate Resident Director / McKinney Hall Council Advisor

# Letter of Support

