



Arizona Center for **Afterschool** Excellence



Working together to increase the availability
and quality of afterschool opportunities statewide

@afterschool advisor

September 16, 2009

A Message from the Executive Director

Afterschool Heroes in Our Midst

These are tough times for city funded afterschool programs so I was thrilled to learn of two afterschool heroes that stepped up recently to assist two Phoenix Afterschool Center (PAC) programs in Ahwatukee that were in danger of being closed for lack of enrollment.

The Center congratulates **Councilman Sal DiCiccio** for his concern and leadership in keeping the Kyrene de los Lagos Elementary School and the Monte Vista programs open and available for children and families in Ahwatukee that depend on them.

Short of the required number of children needed to keep the programs open and knowing there were families who could not afford to enroll their children this year, DiCiccio approached **Camelback Volkswagen General Manager Mark Esposito** for help. Camelback Volkswagen generously agreed to contribute \$2,200 to cover the cost of eight slots in the two programs.

It is encouraging to know that DiCiccio, a city official and Esposito, a business leader so value the importance of quality, affordable afterschool programs that they personally intervened to keep these programs open and provide access to eight families that needed help in ensuring their children benefit from a quality afterschool experience.

The future growth and affordability of quality afterschool programs depends on the collaboration of **more** policymakers and business leaders like DiCiccio and Esposito. We salute their initiative in this specific instance and look forward to working with them both in impacting the lives of more children and families relying on afterschool programs. Funding quality afterschool programs for all Arizona's youth requires continued and expanded collaboration between policy makers and the business community statewide.

If you know of other afterschool heroes that also deserve to be thanked and recognized, please do not hesitate to share their stories with us. I'm convinced by telling their stories we will create additional visibility and momentum for the afterschool movement.

News & Events

NAA Radio Focuses on H1N1 Virus

As you know, the H1N1 Virus - also known as 'Swine Flu' - continues to spread and may be more intense this fall than it was last spring. At NAA, we want our members to have the latest information on the virus in order to keep the children, youth and staff in afterschool programs as healthy as possible. For this reason, we have dedicated our monthly NAA Radio program to this topic and consulted an expert in the field for the most up to date information.

Getting AfterSchool programs prepared for H1N1.

Sandy Delack, President of National Association of School Nurses, talked with us about the basics afterschool programs need to know to be ready for what may be an extraordinary flu season. Please go to <https://naaweb.yourmembership.com/?page=NAARadio> for the interview.

Sonoran Alliance for Youth Meeting Date Change

The October meeting of the Sonoran Alliance for Youth will be at 2101 E. River Road at the Catalina Foothill District Office on October 12 from 9 a.m.-11 a.m. SAY meetings are typically held the first Monday of each month. Watch for future meeting dates and locations at <http://www.azafterschool.org/Regional-Coalitions/Sonoran-Alliance.aspx>.

Afterschool in the News

Nickelback joins the list of arts in support of Ear Candy charity

<http://www.evliving.com/2009/09/03/nickelback-artists-support-ear-candy/>

Lagos, M.V., after-school program saved by last-minute donation

<http://www.ahwatukee.com/articles/program-7476-school-diciccio.html>

Stimulus funds fall short of saving teaching positions in some states

Federal stimulus funds have not been enough to save teachers' jobs in some states with extreme budget deficits. Arizona, Georgia and California, for example, had significant teacher layoffs that have led to teacher reassignments and larger class sizes. "I've been in public education north of three decades, and these are the most sweeping cutbacks I've seen," said one expert. "But it would have been worse without the stimulus." (Source: The New York Times) [Read more.](#)

Program extends learning to after-school hours

An after-school program for students at a Utah elementary school is drawing praise from educators, parents and students. Students in the program, paid for with Title I stimulus funds, attend two 30-minute sessions Monday through Thursday at the year-round school, receiving instruction in one core subject and one elective. "It's giving students more learning time and giving English-language learners more time with programs in the computer lab. I think all this will have a great impact on their progress," the school's principal said. (Source: The Salt Lake Tribune) [Read more.](#)

Gates Foundation to use television for anti-dropout message

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation hopes to curb the dropout rate with an education campaign on television channels that are popular with students. The foundation is partnering with Viacom on the five-year "Get Schooled" campaign, which began this week with a documentary and will integrate a message against dropping out into popular programming on channels such as Nickelodeon, MTV and Comedy Central. (Source: Houston Chronicle/The Associated Press) [Read more.](#)

State & National Legislation

How Your Senators Vote on Bills Important to Children and Families

Vote Kids released a mid-term score card showing how United States Senators voted on bills important to children and families. While many have favorable records, several were terrible.

In order to make the document more accessible to you, and easier to forward to your friends and colleagues, three quick summary documents are now available. You can download these files by clicking the links below:

[»Comprehensive list of Senators and their scores \(.pdf\)](#)

[» Legislation checklist by state AL-NV \(.pdf\)](#)

[» Legislation checklist by state NH-WY \(.pdf\)](#)

The first shows the grade given to each Senator, the second is a checklist for Senators from Alabama through Nevada, and the third is a checklist for Senators from New Hampshire to Wyoming.

[Click here](#) to see the full scorecard and to send an email to your own Senators.

From Ed Week: Sen. Tom Harkin to Chair the Education Committee

It's official! Sen. Tom Harkin of Iowa [is going to be](#) the chairman of the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee. As we've said before, this puts Harkin, who already has control of the Senate subcommittee that oversees education spending, in a very powerful position.

He's now the go-to guy in the Senate on both money and policy for K-12 schools, just as the reauthorizations of No Child Left Behind and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act are likely to get going.

So what will this mean? Mandatory full funding of special education may actually become a reality, for one. And Harkin will almost certainly push for a federal school facilities program.

And he may give the administration some push back on K-12 issues.

Earlier today, Michele spoke with Frederick Hess, the director of education policy studies at the American Enterprise Institute, a Washington think tank. Hess said he sees Harkin as "more of a traditional Democrat on education issues" than Rep. George Miller, D-Calif., the chairman of the House Education and Labor Committee and an author of the NCLB law.

"Assuming that the administration is interested in promoting Race to the Top-style priorities through the [NCLB] reauthorization, Harkin could be trickier for them," Mr. Hess said.

As chairman, Harkin may provide a needed check on the administration's agenda, Hess said. "We need more speed bumps, and Harkin is certainly more likely to be a speed bump than Dodd" would have been. Much more to come on, so check back at Edweek.org often. (Source: Fair Test)

Best Practices

Raising the Bar: Quality Improvement Systems for Youth Programs

Out-of-school programs can help children improve their academic and social skills, but only if managers improve staff "point of service" interactions with children and youth. This Forum for Youth Investment commentary draws lessons from successful programs in Michigan and Chicago. [Read more.](#)

Making the Case for Out-of-School Programs

You need good talking points and research when you try to persuade your schools, mayors or politicians to invest in good after-school programs. This 2009 summary gives you what you need. [Read more.](#)

Professional Development Opportunities

The Whole Child, The Whole World

November 14, 2009

Mesa Convention Center

ONLINE REGISTRATION! Register at www.azafterschool.org, then mail your check or purchase order, or simply pay online. Save \$15 per person by registering by the early bird deadline--Friday, October 16.

Enjoy a powerful keynote, then choose from 36 outstanding workshops such as those listing below:

We're following the leader, the leader, the leader...

Who me, in charge of who? What do I do now? What if they don't follow? I don't know how to lead. We will explore how leaders build teams and how to help children form a functioning team.

Engaging Cultural Artists in Residency Programs

Want to learn how to successfully plan and implement a cultural artist in residence program? Join the Arizona Commission on the Arts and artists from our Teaching Artist Roster for a hands-on, experiential workshop. Participants will leave with tools for creating and implementing cultural artist in residence programs and engage in a cultural arts experience.

So this is STEM?

Is it science, technology, engineering and math or just creative fun? Build a marble roller coaster and a popsicle stick bridge, race aluminum cans and make salt fly using balloons.

A Day with Lilian Katz!

Tuesday, September 29

Desert Foothills Community Education is hosting **A Day with Lilian Katz**. Katz, former president of the National Association for the Education of Young children, is co-founder of the Project Approach. The Project Approach refers to a set of teaching strategies which enable teachers to guide children through in-depth studies of real world topics. This workshop will take place on Tuesday, September 29! The fee is \$69 per person. For more information and **to register call 480-575-2440**. Hurry, space is limited!

Funding Opportunities

Build-A-Bear Workshop Bear Hugs Foundation Literacy and Education Grants

Deadline: September 30

Literacy and education grants to help children are awarded throughout the year for specific programs with measurable outcomes. We desire to provide support for children in literacy and education programs such as summer reading programs, early childhood education programs and literacy programs for children with special needs. The grant request deadlines are at the end of February, May, and September.

<http://www.buildabear.com/aboutus/community/bearhugs.aspx>.

Great American Bake Sale

Deadline: September 30

To support efforts to increase participation among low-income children in summer and after-school meal programs and is specifically interested in increasing participation in meal programs that utilize USDA reimbursement through the Summer Food Service Program, National School Lunch Program, or Child and Adult Care Food Program. Share Our Strength will award grants of \$1,000-\$10,000 to nonprofits, schools or local governments. [Click Here](#) for more information.

Service-Learning Grants Now Available

Deadline: Friday, October 2, 2009

The State Farm Youth Advisory board is a group of 30 diverse youth who administer a unique grant program that empowers you to take an active role in their education through service-learning. By administering service-learning grants ranging from \$25,000-\$100,000, the board empowers you to create sustainable change in local communities across the United States and Canada. [Apply for a grant](#).

KaBOOM! Play Day Grants for Playground Projects

Deadline: October 23

You could be eligible to receive a KaBOOM! grant for a playspace enhancement just by hosting a Play Day! Complete the step-by-step Play Day Planner and then celebrate your Play Day by posting your stories, photos and videos. Sign up to host a KaBOOM! Play Day in your community from September 19-27, and you'll receive a free Play Day kit full of games, activities, and improvement projects. To support the cause, NFL PLAY 60 is offering Play Day communities \$25,000 in grants to come together to improve

their local parks and playspaces with clean-ups and simple enhancement and construction projects.
<http://kaboom.org/tabid/882/Default.aspx>

Youth Leaders for Literacy Available to Young Volunteers Who Inspire and Encourage Reading

Deadline: October 30, 2009

Youth Service America is partnering with the National Education Association to once again offer Youth Leaders for Literacy grants to children and youth, ages 5-25, who offer innovative ways to increase literacy skills and appreciation for reading among their peers. Youth can submit their applications through October 30, 2009.



Youth Leaders for Literacy will award 30 young people from across the U.S. each with \$500 grants and \$500 in books from the Pearson Foundation. Successful projects will be youth-led and address an established literacy need in the applicant's school or community. The projects will follow the framework of YSA's Semester of Service initiative, launching on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service in January and culminating on Global Youth Service Day, April 23-25. An activity should also occur during the NEA's Read Across America Day on March 2. Access the application

at: <http://tinyurl.com/neaysayll>

Hidden Valley Love Your Veggies Grant

Deadline: November 7

The makers of Hidden Valley Salad Dressings created the Love Your Veggies campaign and grant program as a way to help parents and educators get children eating and enjoying their vegetables.

The Love Your Veggies grant program will award grants of \$10,000 each to ten elementary schools across the United States. Grant awards will be based on proposals that demonstrate need, sustainability, innovation, and potential for community involvement. Funding can be spent on fresh produce (vegetables and fruits), a vegetable station (such as a dedicated salad bar), kitchen equipment (primary usage must relate to proposed program), program staffing (cafeteria personnel, lunchroom staff, etc.) nutrition education supplies, and food safety training.

In addition to the ten grants, the program will also award a \$10,000 grant to an elementary school through a Twitter contest to run September 14-26, 2009. Visit the [Love Your Veggies](#) campaign Web site for complete grant program information.

United Nations Alliance of Civilizations Youth Solidarity Fund

Deadline: September 30

The United Nations Alliance of Civilizations is launching the second edition of its Youth Solidarity Fund. This program provides seed funding to outstanding youth projects demonstrating innovative approaches to building cross-cultural understanding. The 2009 edition of the Youth Solidarity Fund offers a total envelope of up to US\$300,000. There are two levels of funding available: small grants for community or local-level projects needing funding of up to US\$20,000 each and large grants for national or regional-level projects needing funding of up to US\$30,000 each. A Youth Selection Committee will identify the best projects under each level of funding. Youth organizations from all over the world are invited to submit project proposals by September 30, 2009, 1:00 PM, New York time. The application guidelines and form are available at www.unaoc.org.

Do Something Save Our Music Contest

Deadline: October 23

VH1 and Do Something are calling on you to lead the fight for music education in schools. From now until October 16th, take action - tell everyone to "Save Our Music!" Organize an instrument drive. Create viral videos on what music means to you. Run an awareness campaign in your school. For more project ideas

check out the "action ideas" section. The top five advocates will receive \$1,000 for their school music program and Rock Band Video game packages. One grand prize winner gets \$2500 in music funding and a Beatles Rock Band game system! Check your email and back here for mini -contests and giveaways throughout the campaign! Submit your projects by 10/23 for a chance to win! Upload photos and videos and you could win even more great prizes! Get started at www.SaveOurMusic.org.

2010 State Farm® Service-Learning Champion Award

Deadline: December 1

State Farm supports service-learning as a teaching method that enhances the academic achievement of students while engaging in service to the community. Teachers and parents are usually the primary individuals guiding a young person's education. Other adults often play a key role in broadening a youth's formal education through community service-learning activities. State Farm created the Service-Learning Champion Award to acknowledge this non-traditional advocate of service-learning. The State Farm Service-Learning Champion Award recognizes a business leader, community member or public official who has a passion for engaging youth in service-learning. This annual award will be presented to the recipient at the 21st Annual National Service-Learning Conference in March 2010, in San Jose, Calif. Transportation, lodging, and conference registration costs for the award recipient will be provided by [State Farm](#).

Awards

Community Extension Programs Awarded Five Accreditations

Congratulations to Community Extension Program's Inc. in Tucson for achieving accreditation from the National AfterSchool Association for five before and afterschool programs—Coronado, Donaldson, Harelson, Painted Sky and Rio Vista .

Note: Future accreditation of afterschool programs will be done by the [Council on Accreditation](#).

Afterschool Resources/Research/Reports

September is Go Healthy Month!

Each September the Alliance for a Healthier Generation's empowerME Movement engages, educates and activates kids across the nation to motivate themselves, their families, and friends to eat better and move more. Activities include media promotions, Youth-Hosted Forums, community celebrations and Recess ROCKS! - our signature field-day, community event for family fun. Learn more about joining the empowerME Movement and Go Healthy Month activities at empowerme2b.org

Go Healthy Month: 10 Simple Ways for Youth to Get Involved

JOIN the Movement!

1. Visit empowerme2b.org and sign up for news, events and exclusive empowerME opportunities.
2. Change your Facebook status to "Your Name joined the empowerME Movement: empowerme2b.org." Encourage your Facebook friends to do the same.
3. Friend empowerME on MySpace and Facebook.
4. Send a tweet to invite your friends to "Join the Movement at empowerme2b.org."

INSPIRE with Your Story!

5. [Share UR Story](#) (written, photo or video) and inspire others at empowerme2b.org.
6. Take pictures and videos of how you're making your school or community a healthier place and send them to empowerme@healthiergeneration.org
7. Send a [letter to the editor](#) of your local paper-raise your voice and let your community know how passionate you are about wiping out childhood obesity.

ORGANIZE or ATTEND a Go Healthy Month Event!

8. Attend or volunteer at a [Go Healthy Month event](#). Check out the events calendar.

9. Organize a Youth-Hosted Forum and raise your voice. [Download the Playbook](#).
10. Host an empowerME t-shirt day at your school or organization. Visit the [Clinton Foundation Store](#) to purchase t-shirts.

Go Healthy Month: 5 Simple Ways Adult Allies Can Encourage Youth to Get Involved

JOIN the Movement!

1. Put an [empowerME web banner](#) on your site, blog or social networking page. If your organization has a Facebook group page, newsletter or website, send your network [a message about Go Healthy Month](#).

INSPIRE with Your Story

2. Encourage youth to [share their own story](#) at [empowerme2b.org](#).

ORGANIZE or ATTEND a Go Healthy Month Event in Your Community

3. Work in partnership with youth to organize a Youth-Hosted Forum or Recess ROCKS! Event - [download Playbooks for ideas and support](#).
4. Distribute [empowerME materials](#) at schools, community centers or events. Download empowerME Flyers - distribute empowerME flyers to your family, friends and community. Give away empowerME Postcards - empower kids to make a commitment to their health. In addition, a limited number of hard copy materials are available at no cost on a first come, first served basis-send your request to empowerme@healthiergeneration.org.
5. Add your local Go Healthy Month event to the [empowerme2b.org](#) event list so we can spread the news - contact us at empowerme@healthiergeneration.org to tell us about the details. (Source: Youth Service America)

School-Age NOTES Article touts the Importance of Parent Engagement

We all know the importance of parent engagement in schools. It is no different in afterschool—quality out-of-school time programs involve parents to ensure the successful afterschool experiences of their children. Read what School-Age NOTES pointed out in a recent article:

Strong, positive, cooperative relationships with parents and families are at the heart of quality programs for school-age children and youth," according to Roberta L. Newman, author of *Building Relationships with Parents and Families*. Creating a family bulletin board in a visible spot is one of many suggestions that Newman includes in her book. Sample ideas for bulletin boards suggested by Newman include:

What's Happening Bulletin Board: Samples of program brochures; copy of current newsletter; announcements of schedule changes; monthly or weekly activity calendar; news about club activities; photographs of children engaged in program activities; "quotable quotes" from the children; announcements of upcoming special events; and requests for assistance or ideas.

Community Activities/Resources Bulletin Board: Information about professional resources and community agencies related to family living, health, consumer assistance, family finances, etc.; community recreational opportunities for children and families; local happenings of interest, and community sponsored workshop opportunities on topics of interest to families.

People-to-People News Bulletin Board: Photos of staff members with brief bios, hobbies and leisure interests; photos of families in the program with information provided by children and families; photos of people who provide support and assistance to the program (volunteers, special visitors, etc.) with a quote about why they feel the program is important in the community or how they feel about their experience at the program, and news about activities and accomplishments of families in the program. To order *Building Relationships* and other proven and practical resources, [click here](#).

PCM Fall 1 Session Starts the Week of September 21!

The Fall session of the Phoenix Conservatory of Music (PCM) begins September 21. All classes will be held at the PCM Facility. [Online Registration](#) is available for your convenience. If you would like to register for a class that has already scheduled to start, they take new students up to week two. If a class has been canceled that you wanted to register for, please put yourself on a waiting list by calling 602.353.9900, and as soon as three people have signed up, classes will start the next week!