



Region VII After School Programs Technical Assistance Newsletter

Trainings and Events of the Month

<u>Event</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
• Rural Conference	11/01/2005	TBA	San Jose Wyndam Hotel
• CalSAC After School Conference Harvesting Success	10/22/2005	TBA	Fresno
• 21st CCLC Orientation	10/25 & 10/26/2005	TBA	Sacramento
• SSFS Meeting	9/27 & 9/28/2005	TBA	TBA



Regional Lead Office Begins Conducting Site Visits

Greetings Everyone!

By now, most of you have started your after school program or getting ready to start! The Regional Lead Office for After School Programs is in the process of scheduling site visits to your programs to provide you with ongoing, specific and timely technical assistance.

Sallie Arndt, Technical Assistance Consultant, and I will be visiting your programs in the 2004-05 school year. Sallie will be contacting each of you to set up a time for us to visit each of your programs. In the meantime, if you have any specific needs or areas of concerns please feel free to contact me.

In addition, as you are all aware, having an effective collaborative is imperative for the success of your after school programs. It is also a component of your grant application award that states how you continually plan your program through a collaborative process that includes parents, youth, representatives of participating schools or LEAs, governmental agencies, community organizations, and the private sector. Therefore, Sandra Little, Regional Community Liaison, will be contacting all of your programs to coordinate our attendance at one your collaborative meetings this year. Our goal is to assist you in effectively working with your collaborative partners to build lasting relationships that will assist you in long-term sustainability of your programs.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. Look forward to working with all of your programs this year!

Damian Maldonado

Damian Maldonado, M.P.A., Regional Lead
Region VII Lead Office for After School Programs

Tulare County Office of Education

Jim Vidak, County Superintendent of Schools

Current News

Children Now just released its new report, *The Financing of California's After School Programs: Preparing for Implementation of Proposition 49*. The report is available on the Children Now website at:

<http://www.childrennow.org/assets/pdf/after-school-report-final.pdf>.

The report offers recommendations for strengthening California's publicly-funded after school programs before the implementation of Proposition 49. It is based largely on the Internet-based survey of after school program administrators that we conducted earlier this year, as well as interviews with after school programs about the barriers to public funds they experience.

We will be sending copies of the report to legislators on the education and budgets committees, Senators Kehoe and Ashburn, select staff in the Governor's Office, several staff members at the California Department of Education, the Regional Leads, all of the program administrators who completed our survey and a few others interested in after school policy. Please feel free to share the report with your colleagues and other interested individuals/organizations. We hope you and these other recipients find the information useful.

Thank you to all of you who helped us in this effort, from spreading the word to the after school field about our survey to contributing to our analysis of current challenges.

Please let me know if you have any questions or comments on the report.

Thanks again for your support,

Sandra Naughton
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CalSAC Trainer Institute

Regional Leads,

The California School-Age Consortium's is currently recruiting professionals in afterschool programs to attend the CalSAC Trainer Institute in Burlingame CA, November 2-5 2005. This is a great opportunity for afterschool program staff in your community to receive low-cost professional development while simultaneously expanding training opportunities for others. Participants who attend the "training of the trainers" Institute go on to join a network of skilled facilitators, capable of leading effective staff development for program staff throughout their community, covering a range of afterschool topics. CalSAC Trainers are eligible for stipends of \$50 an hour for their work and with each training as they help improve local capacity to provide high quality afterschool programs for kids.

The CalSAC Trainer Network currently consists of over 200 Trainers statewide who provide hundreds of training sessions each year to help staff in afterschool programs work more effectively with children, plan activities, manage programs, and much more. The Trainer Network represents the full spectrum of afterschool program experience, including line staff and administrators from a variety of program types, such as 21st Century Community Learning Centers, school-based programs, Boys and Girls Clubs, YMCAs, 4H Clubs, and many more. This year we are targeting recruitment for candidates working in 21st Century and ASES programs and especially those working in rural areas.

Please help us spread the word about this important opportunity to build capacity in your community by encouraging afterschool professionals to submit an application **by September 16, 2005**. Applicants should have at least three years of experience working with K-8 students in an afterschool setting, as well as experience in a leadership position. There is a \$50 registration fee (fully refunded to applicants who are not accepted). Made possible with funding from the California Department of Education, **CalSAC Trainer Institute accommodations, meals and training are free!**

Interested candidates may download an application from our website:

http://calsac.org/events_page.asp?eventID=365

If you have any questions, or would like hard copies of the application, please feel free to call (415-957-9775) or email Jennifer Riggs (jriggs@calsac.org).

The Cesar Chavez Memorial Service-Learning March

Summary: March 2006 marks the fortieth anniversary of Cesar Chavez' historic march from Delano to Sacramento. To honor this anniversary and to educate and energize state and national leaders to the power of service-learning, the Cesar E. Chavez Foundation, in coordination with the Alameda and San Joaquin County Offices of Education proposes a series of commemorative events along the original route of the march. The Cesar Chavez Memorial Service-Learning March will begin in Delano on March 17th 2006 and culminate in Sacramento on March 31st, the Cesar Chavez birthday and holiday.

Cesar Chavez Service-Learning Cesar Chavez service-learning combines classroom content and quality service with teaching about the values, life and legacy of Cesar Estrada Chavez. Cesar Chavez service-learning provides an extraordinary role model for students, and is powerful because of the ten universal values it promotes. *After three of years of successful implementation, Assembly Bill 1756 suspended all of Cesar Chavez Day of Service and Learning grant funding from July 1, 2003 through June 30, 2006, countering SB 984 which originally established the funding.*

Key Goals include:

- Engaging in Cesar Chavez Service-Learning projects in the Central Valley communities, to improve local conditions and empower students.

- Connecting partners across the state to the Chavez Service-Learning March, to unite students, teachers, and schools together in pursuit of a better California.
- Celebrating the 40th anniversary of Cesar Chavez' march by engaging past and present leaders who will educate school children to the history and legacy of Cesar Chavez and the farm workers movement.
- Educating California Assembly and State Senate leaders to the power of service-learning and Cesar Chavez Service-Learning.

In General: The Chavez Memorial March will begin Friday, March 17th, 2006 in Delano. During the following two weeks (March 20-24, March 27-31) the March will move through the communities that historically supported the original 1966 march and the farm worker's movement. The March will culminate on Cesar Chavez' birthday, March 31st when participants convene in Sacramento to meet with state leaders.

The March: The full length of the march cannot be duplicated. Each day, students will march a short, symbolic distance. When possible, the march will take place at points of historical and social significance.

The Service: Service-learning projects will be based upon authentic community needs. The service projects will involve local students working in their own communities.

The Learning: Veterans of the original march and contemporary leaders will educate youth and community participants on the life and legacy of Cesar E. Chavez; the Farm worker's movement; or other important contemporary issues. Whenever possible, connections will be made to the 1966 march.

The Sacramento Event: On March 31st, Cesar Chavez' birthday, as many participants as possible will march through California's capitol to educate state leaders to the power of service-learning and Cesar Chavez service-learning. A celebration event will culminate the march.

Coordinating Partners: The Cesar Chavez Foundation, and the Alameda and San Joaquin County Offices of Education will serve as "Coordinating Partners." Coordinating Partners will take primary responsibility for organizing the Cesar Chavez Memorial Service-Learning March.

Local Partners: Eleven communities ranging from Delano in the south to Sacramento in the north will be enlisted as "Local Partners." Local Partners will develop daily service-learning events for the Cesar Chavez Memorial Service-Learning March.

Statewide Partners: Partners throughout California and beyond will participate by engaging in their own Cesar Chavez Service-Learning projects during the time of the March and connecting with the March through technology. Statewide partners will also be encouraged to join the March 31st march day, in Sacramento, on the official Cesar Chavez holiday.

Lights On is Coming!!!!

Join Us in a Nationwide Celebration of Afterschool Programs

6th Annual Lights On Afterschool - October 20, 2005

Lights On Afterschool, the nation's celebration of afterschool programs, is coming soon. Be part of the afterschool movement, and sign up today to host an event in your community! Use the event to show your community the benefits of afterschool, and to build support for your program.

Once you sign up, we'll send you Event Planner Emails with tips, tools and artwork, plus 10 Lights On Afterschool posters - but you must register!!

Go to http://www.afterschoolalliance.org/lights_on/get_involved.cfm to register and learn more.

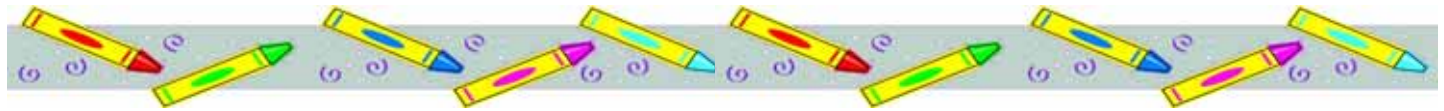
To register multiple events/programs go to: http://www.afterschoolalliance.org/lights_on/get_involved_pri.cfm

Last year, 7,500 programs took part in *Lights On Afterschool!* This year, let's invite 1 million Americans to see the lights shine after school!

Visit www.afterschoolalliance.org/lights_on/index.cfm regularly to get ideas for your event. Check out [artwork](#), [case studies](#) of past events, and [tools](#) for every phase of your planning.

Event Planning Timeline: August (click http://www.afterschoolalliance.org/lights_on/checklist.cfm for a complete timeline):

- Form your event committee.
- Ask partner organizations or other afterschool providers about working together on a joint event so you can maximize resources.
- Brainstorm activities, themes, guests. What would you like to come out of your event? Media coverage? A new or better relationship with your mayor? More parent involvement? Impressed funders or potential funders? Think about how you can best demonstrate the value of your program to the community, parents, funders, students, local businesses.
- Begin compiling a list of community and business leaders, elected officials, media, and parents that you plan to invite to the event.



[Policy Updates](#)

State Budget Passes with Changes for 21st Century Afterschool Programs

The state Legislature Thursday came to a compromise and voted to approve a new state budget with bipartisan support, and Governor Schwarzenegger signed the budget into law Monday. Included in the budget trailer bill language were changes to the 21st Century Community Learning Center program. The changes were implemented in order to help the state better utilize an estimated \$73 million in currently "unearned funding" for elementary and middle school afterschool programs receiving 21st Century federal funding. Among the changes were:

- increasing the reimbursement rate for programs from \$5 per student per day to \$7.50
- increasing per-site caps and district grant levels, and
- guaranteeing programs the 15% of funding reserved for administrative costs, irrespective of student attendance.

Compromise Language Adopted for 11- and 12-year-olds

The Child Care Law Center reported that the budget also included compromise language to preserve access to subsidized child care for 11- and 12-year-olds. Moving forward, parents must specify that afterschool programs do not meet their needs. (A new form will be coming soon from the California Department of Education.) Children who leave the subsidized system for an afterschool program will receive priority if they need to return to subsidized care, and families will be allowed to combine afterschool programming with subsidized care. Children with special needs are allowed to continue in subsidized care without the parental certification. While the new presumption will favor placement in afterschool rather than child care programs, this will not be a cut because any child care funding saved by shifting children to afterschool programs can be used to offer their place to other children in need of child care.

Increase in Funding for Education

The Legislature sent Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger the state budget the earliest it had in five years, according to an article in the *San Francisco Chronicle*. The main budget bill was approved 65-13 in the Assembly and 34-4 in the Senate, with all of the "no" votes cast by Republicans. The spending plan provides \$3 billion more for education and doesn't contain new borrowing or raise taxes. To learn more about the budget, [click here](#).

The Afterschool Policy Update is a collaborative project of the California School-Age Consortium, the After School Policy Forum, the Foundation Consortium for California's Children & Youth, Fight Crime: Invest in Kids California, and the Bay Area Partnership for Children and Youth. If you are not already a subscriber and would like to receive the Afterschool Policy Update and/or CalSAC Connection Online, sign up today. It's free! Go to:

https://www53.sslsdomain.com/calsac/ssl/public/news_sign

[up.asp](#)

Contact CalSAC:

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Fax: 415-957-9776

info@calsac.org

<http://www.calsac.org/>

[Funding](#)

Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy

\$650,000 to develop family literacy efforts

Grant Title: 2006 National Grant Program

Organization: Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy

Eligibility: Nonprofit or public organizations

Value: \$650,000 total for 10+ awards

Deadline: September 9, 2005

The goal of the Barbara Bush Foundation's National Grant Program is to develop or expand family literacy efforts nationwide and to support the development of literacy programs that build families of readers. Funded programs must include reading instruction for parents or primary caregivers; literacy or preliteracy instruction for children; and intergenerational activities in which the parents or primary caregivers and children come together to learn and read. Programs also can include additional components, such as parent support groups, parent involvement, home visits, job training, etc. Approximately \$650,000 is awarded each year; no grant request should exceed \$65,000.

Contact: Crystal Hurd, churd@cfncr.org

<http://www.barbarabushfoundation.com>

Balance Bar Community Grants

Balance Bar Community Grants to Support Physical Activity. The Balance Bar Food Corporation is accepting applications for the Balance Bar Community Grants program. The program supports communities in their efforts to pursue physical activities that enrich lives while enhancing physical health.

<http://www.healthinschools.org/grants/ops377.asp>

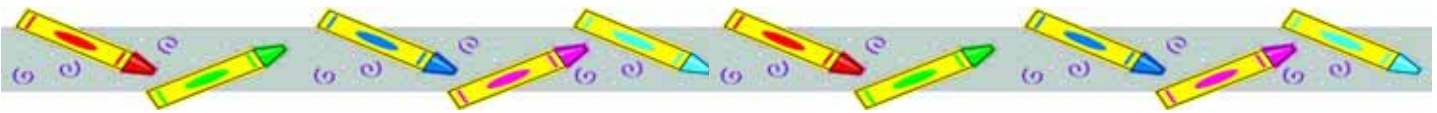
Other grants are available:

<http://www.healthinschools.org/grants/alerts.asp>

FUNDING: The WHO Foundation Provides Grants to Support Programs for Women and Children

The WHO Foundation: Women Helping Others nationally supports grass-roots charities serving the overlooked needs of women and children. Grants are provided to organizations serving women and/or children in the United States and Puerto Rico.

http://whofoundation.org/WHO_FundingCriteria.htm



FUNDING: Ruddle Memorial Youth Foundation

Funds to Evaluate and Disseminate Innovative Youth Programs:

The Ruddle Memorial Youth Foundation aims to identify and disseminate innovative and effective practices for helping underprivileged youth

reach their full potential. The Foundation accomplishes its mission by offering three types of grants: evaluation grants, replication grants, and dissemination grants.

http://www.rmyf.org/grants_evaluation.cfm

Education Report Exposes Problems in After School Funding

As early as 2008, California will significantly increase funding for after school programs under the guidelines of Proposition 49, the 2002 after school initiative. In anticipation of this milestone, Children Now has released a report that offers ways to strengthen California's publicly-funded after school programs before Prop. 49 is implemented. It also highlights results from our survey of after school programs about the barriers they encountered while trying to secure funding. Download a copy of this report at:

- http://www.childrenow.org/assets/pdf/issues_education_afterschool_report_2005.pdf

Starbucks Foundation Offers Funding for Youth Literacy Programs

Deadline: September 1 and March 1, annually (Letters of Inquiry)

Through its Giving Voice program, the Starbucks Foundation (<http://www.starbucks.com/foundation/>), a philanthropic vehicle of the Starbucks Coffee Company, will fund programs for youth, ages 6-18, that integrate literacy with personal and civic action in the communities where they live.

The Starbucks Foundation invites Letters of Inquiry from qualifying organizations that work with underserved youth in one of two areas: 1) Arts & Literacy -- programs that innovatively address literacy and learning for the 21st century, provide high standards of excellence in mastering basic skills, and promote youth voices through a variety of venues; and 2) Environmental Literacy -- programs that offer place-based approaches to addressing environmental literacy and empower youth to be heroes for a sustainable environment in their own communities.

The foundation supports registered, nonprofit, tax-exempt 501(c)(3) charitable organizations in the United States, as well as Registered Charities in Canada, that deliver services to youth and address at least one of the program's action areas.

Grants range from \$5,000 to \$20,000.

Visit the Starbucks Foundation Web site for program information, application procedures, and eligibility questions.

Great Valley Center

DATE: August 2, 2005

TO: Great Valley Center Friends

FROM: Carol Whiteside

RE: \$60,000 in grants available. Apply by August 30th.

Do you know a teacher, or are you a teacher who has special project you would like to do for your students? Need extra funds to get it accomplished? This could be your answer!

The Citigroup Success Fund is a grant program for teachers in the Valley. This program is being introduced on the west coast this year and is being administered by the Great Valley Center's LEGACI program and is sponsored by Citigroup Foundation. \$60,000 will be given to K-12 teachers in the region. The deadline for applications to the Success Fund is August 30th at 5:00 PM.

Grants awards range from \$500 to \$1,500 and projects must be completed between October 2005 and June 2006. Creative proposals from a wide range of disciplines and topics will be considered as you can see from the Program Focus Report at the link provided <http://www.educationfund.org/pdf/csf2004.pdf>.

The application is very simple and easy to complete and can be submitted on-line. We encourage you to electronically share and distribute the application to all the principals and teachers in your district so they will have the opportunity to take advantage of this special opportunity.

The application with grant specific parameters may be downloaded from the Great Valley Center:

www.greatvalley.org/legaci/docs/application_gvc.doc

For more information contact: Manuel Alvarado or Ellen Herod at 209-522-5103, or email:

manuel@greatvalley.org.

7/27/05 CA's HS & AS - Potential Funding

Source:

The Center for Health and Health Care in Schools

<http://www.healthinschools.org>

Pacific Life Foundation Offers Grants in Greater Orange County, California

The Pacific Life Foundation is seeking proposals for grants in the areas of health and human services, education, and civic and community development.

<http://www.healthinschools.org/grants/ops376.asp>

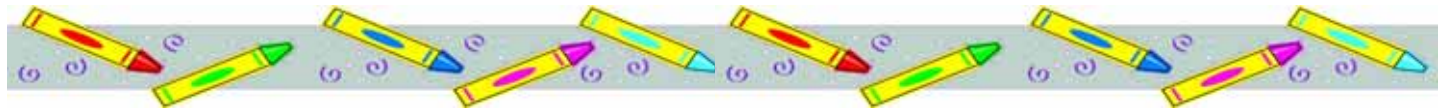
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The program supports communities in their efforts to pursue physical activities that enrich lives while enhancing physical health.

<http://www.healthinschools.org/grants/ops377.asp>

Other grants are available:

<http://www.healthinschools.org/grants/alerts.asp>



"Siemens Westinghouse Competition"

The Siemens Westinghouse Competition in Math, Science & Technology recognizes remarkable talent early on, fostering individual growth for high school students who are willing to challenge themselves through science research. Through this competition, students have an opportunity to achieve national recognition for science research projects that they complete in high school. Students may submit research reports either individually or in teams of two or three members. Students whose projects are selected for further competition are invited to give an oral and poster presentation at one of the six regional events hosted by partner universities. At each of these regional competitions an individual and a team are selected as Regional Winners. These students receive scholarships of \$1,000 each as a regional finalist (including team members) and \$3,000 each as an individual regional winner. The winning team will receive \$6,000 to be divided among team members. Regional winners then receive an invitation to advance to the National Competition in New York City. In the national competition, students' presentations are judged by research scientists recruited for their specific expertise in the area of research for each project. The top individual and team winners receive additional scholarships of \$100,000. Runners up receive scholarships ranging from \$10,000 to \$50,000. Deadline: October 3, 2005.

<http://www.siemens-foundation.org/competition>

"Lorrie Otto Seeds for Education Grant Program"

The Lorrie Otto Seeds for Education Grant Program gives small monetary grants to schools, nature centers, or other non-profit educational organizations for the purpose of establishing outdoor learning centers.

Maximum Award: Funds will be provided only for the purchase of native plants and seed. Eligibility: Schools, nature centers and other non-profit and not-for-profit places of learning including houses of worship.

Deadline: November 15, 2005.

<http://www.for-wild.org/seedmony.htm>

"SeaWorld/Busch Gardens/Fujifilm Environmental Excellence Awards"

2006 SeaWorld/Busch Gardens/Fujifilm Environmental Excellence Awards recognize the outstanding efforts of students and teachers across the country who are working at the grassroots level to protect and preserve the environment. Maximum Award: \$10,000. Eligibility: All schools (grades K-12). Deadline: Wednesday, November 30, 2005.

<http://www.seaworld.org/conservation-matters/eea/about.htm>

"Do Something BRICK Awards"

The Do Something BRICK Awards honors 6 out-

standing youth leaders who develop projects to improve their community. Maximum Award: \$5,000 scholarship and a \$5,000 grant. Eligibility: Students age 18 and under.

Deadline: November 1, 2005

<http://www.dosomething.org/awards/brick/index.php>

"Mini-Grant Program for Service-Learning"

Constitutional Rights Foundation's Robinson Mini-Grant Program for service-learning projects designed to address serious community issues.

Maximum Award: \$500. Eligibility: K-12. Deadline: October 14, 2005.

http://www.crf-usa.org/network/crf_robin.html

CA's HS & AS-Potential Funding

Staples Foundation for Learning

Funding for Educational Programs: The mission of Staples Foundation for Learning is to provide funding to programs that support or provide job skills and/or education for individuals with a special emphasis on disadvantaged youth.

<http://www.staplesfoundation.org/foundapplication.html>

Resources

CELEBRATE YOUR STARS!

IntegriTeach Training Sponsorship Award

Receive one year of training for up to 50 members of your after-school program staff!

The annual **Celebrate Your Stars!** Integriteach Training Sponsorship Award (a \$10,000+ value) is our way of recognizing the impact your talented staff makes in your community—one child at a time.

Application Question:

Can you describe a situation where the integrity of a staff member(s) profoundly impacted a child, family or the community?

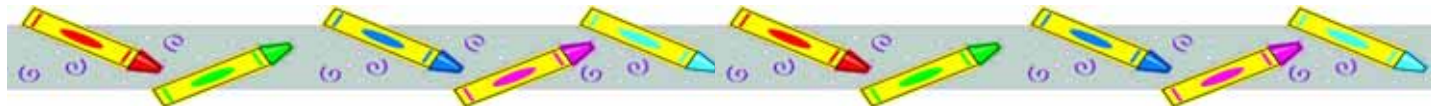
Your application will be judged on the following criteria:

1. The challenge of the situation
2. The nature of staff involvement
3. The resulting positive outcome

Go to www.integriteach.com/celebrate/apply.html for contest rules, registration and application forms.

IntegriTeach is a mission-driven company that believes strongly in raising the standard of care for our nation's youth by building integrity into their environment. For more information please contact:

Anita Linton toll free at 1-866-968-3224 or anita@integriteach.com www.integriteach.com



New To Region VII After School Website!!

Free On Line Training Courses:

http://www.tcoe.org/AfterSchool_TechnicalAssistanceServices.htm

ONLINE Courses

Afterschool Programs - From Vision to Reality Launched by Disney/WNET, this workshop includes model programs and a step-by-step planning guide for anyone seeking to develop or operate a successful afterschool program. Aimed at K-12 pre-service and in-service educators, this workshop is one of the "Concept to Classroom" series and may be used for professional development credit purposes.

Vision, Management and Evaluation

Designed as a supplement to the NCCE training workshops. Consisting of three multimedia modules to engage community school leaders in an interactive learn-by-doing approach.

Program Management and Academics & Enrichment Section:

<http://www.tcoe.org/AfterSchool/Resources.htm> The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's Model Programs Guide (MPG) is a user-friendly online gateway to evidence-based (scientifically tested and proven) programs that address a range of issues across the juvenile justice continuum. The MPG contains summary information (program description, evaluation design, research findings, references, and contact information) on evidence-based delinquency prevention and intervention programs. Programs are categorized into exemplary, effective, and promising, based on a set of methodological criteria and the strength of the findings.

http://www.dsgonline.com/mpg_non_flash/search.htm

8/3/05 CA's HS & AS - Resource Update

The HHS Child Care Bureau is pleased to announce the launch of Fit Source—an interactive Web site for child care and afterschool providers looking for resources to help address the nation's childhood obesity epidemic.

The site allows providers to easily search for a variety of physical activity and nutrition resources by age, topic, and keywords. Providers will find: games and activities, lesson plans, healthy recipes, information for parents, fitness campaigns, funding strategies, informational resources, and Spanish language Web sites. The site links to existing federal resources, and was developed after receiving input from over 100 child care providers about their needs.

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Fit Source is found on the National Child Care Information Center's Web site at:

<http://nccic.org/fitsource>

Mentor/National Mentoring Partnership

MENTOR/National Mentoring Partnership has just released a comprehensive tool kit that shows organizations How to Build a Successful Mentoring Program Using the Elements of Effective Practice. The new tool kit offers step-by-step instructions that programs can follow to implement and adhere to the four components of the Elements—Program Design and Planning, Program Management, Program Operations and Program Evaluation. It also contains a CD with more

than 160 tools and templates that mentoring programs can customize to suit their individual program needs. And the best part is that organizations can download the tool kit and tools for free at www.mentoring.org/eepoolkit.

In addition to step-by-step instructions, the kit offers nearly 100 references to additional resources and includes a "Checklist of Program Progress" for each of the four main components of the Elements. Programs can use these checklists to see how well they are progressing in implementing the components. Funding for the tool kit was provided by the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation. If you have any questions contact:

Kristi Zappie-Ferradino

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Alexandria, VA 22314

Phone: 703-224-2234 Fax: 703-226-2581

E-mail: KZFerradino@mentoring.org

www.mentoring.org

RESOURCE: Build a Successful Mentoring Program Using the Elements of Effective Practice

Build a Successful Mentoring Program Using the Elements of Effective Practice, the latest and perhaps most important work in years to advance quality mentoring. This comprehensive tool kit includes tools, templates and advice for implementing and adhering to the second edition of the Elements of Effective Practice <http://www.mentoring.org/elements> --rigorous guidelines that, when followed, will help to ensure quality mentoring.

After School Math website is LIVE!!

The Region 9 Technical Assistance Center- After School Programs is pleased to announce that our **MATH WEBSITE** has finally gone live!

This is a great resource for before and after school programs. Check it out...

- Free curriculum that is aligned with content standards
- Easy to use step-by-step curriculum and free downloadable activities
- Video clips of students at play (more to come soon!)
- Created by an awesome team of after school staff and middle school math teachers in collaboration with SDCOE's Learning Resources and Educational Technology department.

www.afterschoolmath.org

Please pass this on to your before and after school programs. We hope you enjoy this website and would appreciate some feedback from you on how it's working in your programs.

If you have any questions please contact:

Tia Quinn

Region 9 Technical Assistance Center (RTAC)

After School Programs, Safe Schools Unit

San Diego County Office of Education

5404 Napa Street

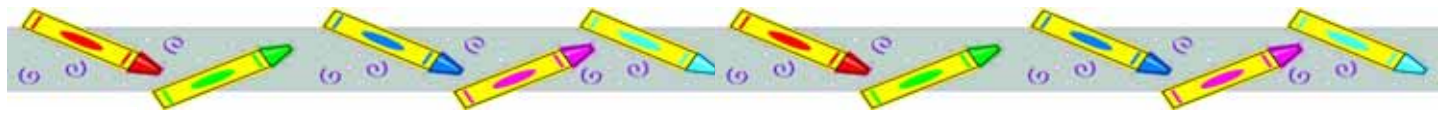
San Diego, CA 92110

P: 619.682.5260

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tiaquinn@sdcoe.net

www.sdcoe.net/rtac



Welcome to July's Strategy of the Month!

We're thrilled to welcome the following organizations to the America Learns Network!

The University of Michigan America Reads Tutoring



Corps has begun to strengthen its tutor support efforts with the America Learns Network. Two hundred tutors will use the Network this school year to ensure that they provide superior support to their students.

KOREH L.A., the non-sectarian volunteer literacy program created by the Jewish Federation's Jewish Community Relations Committee, has also joined the Network! Every year, KOREH sends more than 700 volunteers into Los Angeles elementary and pre-schools to provide academic reading support to students. KOREH, which participated in earlier pilots of the Network, will



be using the Network to accelerate its reporting and volunteer support efforts.

It's taken fewer than 12 months for America Learns to reach more than 10,000 students nationwide.

This accomplishment is a testament to the wonderful ideas and feedback we have received during our development and implementation processes from our 300+ co-innovators -- tutors, mentors, program managers, parent advocates, teachers, foundation officers, government representatives and other tutoring and mentoring stakeholders.

Foundations and funding entities clearly see the Network's value for tutoring and mentoring programs. So far, every organization that has applied for outside funding to use the Network has received those dollars.

On September 1st, America Learns will unveil the Fall '05 version of the Network. It will contain more than 30 new features and upgrades.

One of the most exciting new features is the **Enhanced Strategy Recommendation System**. Based on more than 2,000 surveys submitted by tutors and mentors, the System is the first to be completely aligned with the specific ways tutors and mentors describe their experiences, goals and challenges. It even accounts for common misspellings, jargon and colloquialisms. The System further ensures that tutors and mentors receive the highest quality instant support that's aligned with their students' specific needs

August's "HOT" Strategy: The power of a card

We're big believers in celebrating more than students' work products. It's important to recognize their effort, especially when they feel stuck inside a classroom during the summertime -- a classroom that may not even be air conditioned.

We've heard stories from tutors and mentors about their intentions to create certificates, awards, and cards that celebrate their students' effort and accomplishments, only to find that they just didn't have time to put something together. In response, we've created a growing library of those items for our Network members. Tutors and mentors we serve can simply download, print out and personalize awards, bookmarks, cards and other items for their students, whether they want to celebrate the beginning of the school year, a student's strong interpersonal skills, or his reading comprehension achievements. The list goes on.

Tutors and mentors tell us that these small tokens have led to beaming smiles and increased effort from their students.

Below is a card that you can download and customize. We hope that it is something your own tutors or mentors can use to recognize their students.

The America Learns Team
Gary, Neill, Grace & Thieu*

*Thieu is our super summer intern

Download

Card Title: It's hot, but you're cool!

Front Message: It's hot, but you're cool!

Inside Message: I'm so proud of the effort you're putting in towards becoming a better reader.

You should be proud of yourself too!

Back Message: Made especially for you by:



It's hot, but you're cool!

[Download](#)

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