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Schools Out St. Louis

October, 2010



ASAP Gets National Notice

The Afterschool for All Partnership (ASAP), has been identified by the National League of City's Institute for Youth, Education and Families and the Wallace Foundation as one of a cohort of 20-25 cities that are considered to be the most advanced in their out-of-school time systems building efforts. ASAP is a collaboration between St. Louis for Kids, Area Resources for Community and Human Services (ARCHS), Mayor Francis Slay's Office, and the St. Louis Public Schools. It is funded by the state of Missouri, the St. Louis Mental Health Board, the St. Louis Public Schools and a number of local foundations and corporations. The goal of ASAP is to make high quality afterschool programs available to all children in the city who need them. Since the beginning in 2007, ASAP has increased the number of children/youth who have access to high quality afterschool programs by 3,200 including children in non public schools.

ASAP St. Louis was selected to participate because it has made significant progress on many of the Wallace Foundation's elements of system building: Mayoral leadership and city investment; coordination among OST leadership and key stakeholders; delivery of high quality programming; use of data to inform planning and development; communications strategy; sustainability planning and accountability. As a

result of participating in this information collection process, St. Louis will be included in a new NLC publication on city wide afterschool system building.

"It is an honor to be recognized by the NLC and the Wallace Foundation for our efforts over the last five years to develop a high quality and sustainable system of afterschool programs", said St. Louis for Kids Executive Director, Ronald Jackson. "ASAP has moved forward because of the Mayor and Superintendent's support, ARCH's good work, the commitment of the providers who deliver the programs, the investments of our funders, the support of the school principals, the families, and the children who participate in the programs," according to Jackson.

2010 "Lights On Afterschool" Symposium and Awards Luncheon



Nearly 130 guest attended St. Louis for Kids **"Lights On Afterschool"** Symposium and Awards Luncheon Wednesday, October 20 at the St. Louis Science Center. **"Lights On Afterschool"** is a project of the Afterschool Alliance, an organization dedicated to ensuring that all children have access to quality, affordable afterschool programs. Each year, St. Louis for Kids recognizes those organizations and individuals who strive to positively impact the lives of children and youth in the St. Louis area. Our partners included the Youth Development Provider Network (YDPN) Advisory Committee and the St. Louis Science Center.

Special guest speakers included: Bob Burns from Senator Claire McCaskill office and Robbyn Wahby from the office of St. Louis City Mayor Francis Slay.

The Symposium **"Building Systems for School Age Professional Development and Quality Improvement"** featured four speakers from Missouri and Illinois who highlighted major initiatives in each state that are giving youth workers greater skills and improving the quality of programs. The aim is better outcomes for children/youth. The symposium speakers were:

Leanne Cantu - Rockwood School District Adventure Club
Terri Foulkes - Missouri OPEN
Jan Maruna - Illinois Network Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies
Curtis Peace - Illinois Afterschool Network

The 2010 "*Lights On Afterschool*" honorees received the following awards;

Omni Light: Griffin Center
New Light: Aim High St. Louis (Julie Angelica)
Spot Light: Emerson (Brad Beuc)
Radiant Light: Toyanna Hearon, New City School
Neon Light: Leondrey Milton, Blossom Wood Day School
Torch Light: Dr. Kelvin Adams, Superintendent, St. Louis Public Schools
Rose Jackson-Beavers, Family Enhancement Center

Sponsors for this event included: BJC Health Systems, Mental Health Board of St. Louis, Healthcare USA and Mortland Golf Classic.

Mortland Golf Class Supports St. Louis for Kids



St. Louis for Kids was the not-for-profit beneficiary of proceeds from the 15th Anniversary Mortland Golf Classic held on September 10th at the Whitmoor Country Club. Each year for the past 15 years Mortland & Co., CPA firm has sponsored this golf tournament and donated the proceeds to a deserving charity. St. Louis for Kids Board members Jim Campbell, Glen Slay and Patrick Banger played as did teams from

Moving in Afterschool!



St. Louis for Kids' takes to heart the nationwide challenge of decreasing childhood obesity through the campaign "Let's move" initiated by First Lady Michelle Obama. The "Let's Move" campaign promotes healthy eating, fitness and health education among our youth with the goal of raising a healthier generation of young people. St. Louis for Kids is excited about this effort to help our youth become healthy and fit

Peabody, Ameren and Slay Industries. St. Louis for Kids greatly appreciates the generosity of Mortland & Co.

St. Louis for Kids Training

Supervising Youth Development Practices is a three-day workshop for people who supervise youth workers in a youth-serving program. The focus is on applying a youth development philosophy and practice when your job is to oversee the work of others who work with youth. Workshop content will include: Youth Development Key Concepts, Youth Worker Core Competencies, Facilitative Supervision, Opportunities and Supports for Youth Development, Cultural Assumptions About Youth, Youth Participation, Outcome Indicators, and Supervisor Core Competencies. In addition, special attention will be given to the skills of a supervisor, including managing time, project management, and using assessment data for program development. This workshop is based on the *Advancing Youth Development* curriculum, with added content to focus on the unique job requirements of a supervisor.

January 22, 2011 8am - 5 pm

February 5, 2011 8 am - 5 pm

February 19, 2011 8 am - 5 pm

and have been working with programs for the past two years to incorporate health and fitness principles into scheduled programming. We have been able to move this effort forward through our collaboration with BJC School Outreach and Youth Development and our implementation of the *Fit-4-Fun Project*. Fit-4-Fun is funded by Missouri Foundation for Health this year we are working with 12 sites to implement this 16-lesson elementary level curriculum designed specifically for the afterschool setting. It teaches sound nutrition and fitness principles through games and activities. Topics include *How Food Helps the Body, Portion Size, Alternatives to TV and Making Healthy Choices about Fast Food* and are based on BJC's proven school day curriculum. Fit-4-Fun seeks to work with programs around St. Louis city that have a commitment to improving the health and well-being of their students. We are establishing a waiting list for next year; interested programs should contact **Gloria Hampton** at (314) 531-0011 ext. 108 or hamptong@stlouis4kids.org, the Fit-4-Fun Program Coordinator at St. Louis for Kids. Continue to check our website periodically for opportunities to get involved in the local efforts to get America's youth up and moving.

Organizational Capacity Building (St. Louis for Kids helps youth serving faith based and community based

organizations improve their efficiency and effectiveness)



As the Federal Compassion Capital funding draws to a close it is with a heavy heart that we reflect. The Reaching Our Youth Institute known fondly as (ROYI) is a capacity building initiative that began in 2007 at a feverous pace! The award notice was given September 2007. We worked long hours to launch the project in February 2008 developing systems as we went along! "Evaluate Learning" was our motto as we tweaked the model to be more effective and efficient and one we could be proud of. Every training required an evaluation that we looked at seriously to make sure we were offering a high quality product and positively impacting organizations for the better. The ROYI Advisory Council was critical in helping inform our work in partnership with LS Associates, who served as the external evaluator on our project, data was compiled at each phase and for each training. From 2008-2010 we provided over 300 hours of no-cost capacity building training and technical assistance to over 300 youth serving faith based and community based organizations! Our second phase involved more targeted technical assistance to conduct an organizational assessment, engage board members, support executive directors, and develop a Capacity Improvement Work Plan of which 52 organizations benefitted. We've awarded over \$500,000 in sub award funding to help organizations achieve their capacity building goals. The federal funding has ended but our commitment to helping organizations improve their capacity hasn't! Here are just a few reflections from organizations that have benefitted.

2008

"Participating in ROYI has taken a lot of work, but it has been well worth every minute. ROYI has truly expanded our ability to meet our mission". -Mission St. Louis

"Our leadership is stronger, financial accountability is in place, organizationally we are growing and our mission has been strengthened. We feel that ROYI sowed seeds into our flower and we have now begun to bloom." -SistaKeeper

2009

"Our staff and board members received numerous hours of free seminars sponsored by ROYI. Those sessions alone would have cost hundreds of dollars." -Northside Community Center

"The organizational assessment helped identify our weaknesses and strengths, and your suggested

points on how to improve those areas. We are yet using the capacity building best practices/logic building template methodology and have experienced positive outcomes." -Daybreak Corporation, Inc.

2010

"Learning the importance of a logic model and how to develop one has been so enlightening! Walking through our input and outputs, our objectives, the impact and the outcome of our desired goals has helped us to bring structure to our organization". -JRO Ministries

"This was one of the most organized and fruitful training/grant programs I have ever experienced. I wish that the ROYI model could be replicated throughout the region with other funders because it was a truly innovative and effective way to build organizational and financial capacity." -The Diversity Awareness Partnership

Supervisors and Youth Development



Many of the people I work with have two things in common: they love working with youth, and they want to contribute to their community. These people are passionate about their work and want what is best for young people. Fortunately, the passion and hard work usually pays off with high-quality programs or even a promotion. For those who become supervisors, the passion and work ethics are still there, but the training and development for supervising adults and managing an organization are often lacking. Many in the youth work field get promoted to a position where they have little support, and often no training in the skills that are needed to be successful. I hope St. Louis for Kids can address this problem with one of the best workshops we have to offer: *Supervising Youth Development Practices* (see St. Louis for Kids

Training).

Supervisors need training and coaching in skills relating to management. Supervising Youth Development Practices will focus on the key resources that need management: people, time, and information. Over the three-day workshop, we will explore the skills for effective supervision of the direct-line staff working with youth; the techniques for effectively managing your time and energy; and gathering the data you need for quality improvement, funding reports, and good decision making. If you are a supervisor in a youth program, whether an executive director or site-level coordinator, this workshop was designed with you in mind. Register today at www.stlouis4kids.org/ourtrainings.html.

Timothy Fowler

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