

Project Title: Fall 2005 Promising Practices Announcement

The AED Center for Youth Development and Policy Research (the Center) investigates and shares with you innovative AfterSchool programs and practices through our **Promising Practices in AfterSchool** (PPAS) work on the PPAS Listserv and on www.afterschool.org.

<p>The Center investigates Promising Practices to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • learn about youth development outcomes, opportunities and supports • highlight the efforts, direction and capabilities AfterSchool programs can play in the lives of young people and communities • share and potentially replicate Promising Practices that create engaging learning environments for young people 	<p>Definitions</p> <p>A practice is the underlying rationale for a program activity, the “why”, whereas an Activity is simply the “how”. Promising Practices underlie the activities in AfterSchool programs, have indicators/evidence of positive results and lead to positive outcomes youth.</p>
<p>Each Call for Promising Practices, Afterschool programs submit a practice in one of the 7 Components of AfterSchool, and this year, within one of three themes: Transportation Sustainability or School Connectedness</p>	<p>7 Components of AfterSchool</p>

During the Fall 2005 Call for Promising Practices, over 30 submissions were received. Trained PPAS Reviewers selected 15 as Promising Practices and 6 as Aha! Practices. (An Aha! is a great idea to be shared with other AfterSchool programs and has the potential to become a Promising Practice.) Specific details about the practices, activities and outcomes from each of the sites below will be on the www.afterschool.org shortly.

Promising Practices

Site	Component	Theme	Promising Practice
AfterSchool Excellence Program managed by Tenacity Brighton, MA	Community and Family Involvement	School Connectedness	Facilitate communications among families, AfterSchool staff, teachers and school staff to give consistent messages and supports to youth
AfterSchool Excellence Program managed by Tenacity Brighton, MA	Programming	School Connectedness	Aligning literacy practices in AfterSchool programs with those in the Schools
AfterSchool Excellence Program managed by Tenacity Brighton, MA	Staffing and Training	Sustainability	Create and maintain partnerships with local universities to generate a core group of tutors

Homework Zone managed by Foundations, Inc. Moorestown, NJ	Programming	School Connectedness	Developing positive relationships and ongoing communication with school staff and community stakeholders to support schoolwork and develop independent learning skills
Imagine managed by Imagine Project Inc. Brooklyn, NY	Programming	School Connectedness	Allowing and nurturing the discovery of innate creativity, imagination and artistry in youth
LA's Best AfterSchool Enrichment Program managed by LA's Best Los Angeles, CA	Management and Administration	Sustainability	Managing the AfterSchool operations and relationships between city government, school districts and community agencies
OSSU REACH! Project managed by Orleans Southwest Supervisory Union Hardwick, VT	Programming	School Connectedness	Treating afternoons as Adventures to develop developmental assets and protective factors
Project EXTRA! Managed by the Laconia School District Laconia, NH	Management and Administration	School Connectedness	AfterSchool staff work inside the school building during the school day and attend school activities to maintain communication with school admin and staff
Queens Cultural Partnership Program for Youth managed by Bank Street College New York, NY	Programming	School Connectedness	Improving academic performance by providing high quality theme-based arts activities
Sprouts managed by Logan-Hocking Schools Logan, OH	Staffing and Training	School Connectedness	Creating collaboration among (early morning, evening, summer, etc.) AfterSchool site supervisors
Travis County AfterSchool Network managed by Travis County Austin, TX	Evaluation	Sustainability	Establishing Standards of Quality AfterSchool programs across the country
Travis County AfterSchool Network managed by Travis County Austin, TX	Research	Sustainability	Generating research across all AfterSchool sites to achieve funding
Travis County AfterSchool Network managed by Travis County	Staffing and Training	Sustainability	Promoting and regularly delivery Front Line Staff development to retain and improve staff capacity

We Count Pedometer Wellness Program managed by Peaceful Playgrounds Los Angeles, CA	Community and Family Involvement	School Connectedness	Involving parents and community members to improve the health of local school-children
We Count Pedometer Wellness Program managed by Peaceful Playgrounds Los Angeles, CA	Programming	School Connectedness	Teaching health education in school and using a pedometer counting AfterSchool activities to increase physical activity and decrease obesity

Aha! Practices

Site	Component	Theme	Aha! Practice
Adventure Central managed by the OSU Extension and Five Rivers MetroParks Dayton, OH	Community and Family Involvement	Sustainability	Closing the gap between school, home and AfterSchool
The EdGE managed by Maine Sea Coast Mission Cherryfield, ME	Staffing and Training	School Connectedness	Hiring teachers to perform academic support in AfterSchool programs to build links between the school and AfterSchool
Family Technology Resource Center managed by DeKalb County School System Decatur, GA	Community and Family Involvement	School Connectedness	Involving the community and expanding learning opportunities beyond the traditional school day with innovative science and math (eg trout hatchery)
Kid-Fit managed by Aerobic Fitness Consultants, Inc.	Programming	School Connectedness	Using innovative physical education programs to curb health issues
Pathway to Life and Learning managed by the Ferguson Family Day Care Bridgeton, NJ	Management and Administration	School Connectedness	Using a Positive Actions curriculum taught by a Preventions Specialist
Reach! At Craftsbury Academy managed by the 21st Century Community Learning Center Craftsbury, VT	Programming	School Connectedness	Coupling Afterschool efforts with School athletic schedules to increase participation by rural youth

Website: www.afterschool.org

For Further Information: Please contact 202.884.8513

To Post to the PPAS Listserv: Please visit http://www.afterschool.org/ppas_listserv.cfm.

Disclaimer: The AED Center for Youth Development and Policy Research (the Center) PPAS Listserv is intended to promote informed discussions around afterschool issues for afterschool program staff, youth workers, school-age care providers, educators, researchers, policymakers and others with an interest in keeping up-to-date and who subscribe to the PPAS Listserv. Although the Center tries to ensure the information distributed is accurate, we encourage you to confirm the information through the source referenced.

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