



Prime Time Afterschool Advocate

The Voice of Prime Time Palm Beach County

May 2009



About Prime Time

Prime Time Palm Beach County, Inc. is a non-profit, intermediary organization dedicated to quality school-age afterschool programs. Since its inception, Prime Time has gathered support and momentum among key stakeholders in our county by reaching out into the community, convening meetings and forums among providers, parents, educators and donors, and determinedly broadcasting the need for accessible, affordable, quality afterschool programs.

Our Mission

Prime Time's mission is to be the leader in strengthening community capacity to provide a range of quality afterschool programs to all children and youth in Palm Beach County through an integrated system of standards and supports.

Our Funders

Prime Time Palm Beach County, Inc. is funded by the Children's Services Council of Palm Beach County, the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, The Picower Foundation and The Sun-Sentinel Children's Fund.

Message from the Director

It is often said that time flies when you're having fun and it seems that the same holds equally true for the 2008-09 Afterschool Program year. While the busy summer program months are almost upon us, it seems hard to believe that nearly nine months of afterschool programming have already passed. To celebrate the outstanding efforts of Palm Beach County's afterschool programs this year, we'll be rolling out the red carpet at an entertaining Hollywood Awards theme program for the upcoming Afterschool Consortium End-of-Year Celebration. As the shining stars of this year's celebration, we hope you will join us!

Suzette L. Harvey
Executive Director

Afterschool Q&S

What is Quality?

Youth Voice in Organizational Matters

Including youth in all aspects of your organization is not as daunting a task as it seems. Engaging youth as resources in your program can take many different forms. It greatly depends on the age of the youth served. For instance, it is possible to include youth in the hiring process of program staff. To include elementary-aged youth, a director could ask potential new hires to assist with or run an activity with the children. After the activity, the director could ask the children some basic questions about the job candidate to determine if he/she was interesting, nice, and/or listened to them. Site directors can engage middle school youth in the hiring process by having the students conduct a Q&A session where they question candidates about their background and what they could potentially contribute to the youth program. These are just a few strategies that allow youth to play a contributing role in your process as well as function as a resource to you.

Professional Development Opportunities

Did you know that Palm Beach County is the first in the state to develop and offer a Youth Development College Credit Certificate? This unique certificate has been approved by the state and coursework will be offered at Palm Beach Community College this summer. Not only does it include 30 college credits in coursework specific to the Youth Development (Afterschool) field but it gives practitioners enough credit hours to apply as substitute teachers in the school system. It also leads to an A.S. Degree in Human Services with an emphasis in Youth Development. For more information, please contact Katherine Gopie or Nicole Edwards at 561-732-8066.

T.E.A.C.H. scholarships are now available for afterschool practitioners! The T.E.A.C.H. Palm Beach Pilot - Youth Development Professional Scholarship program will provide scholarships for 25 afterschool practitioners to work toward earning an A.S. or B.A.S. degree in Human Services with an emphasis in Youth Development. Afterschool practitioners are eligible for these scholarships to cover General Education coursework leading toward the above degrees. The overarching goal of this pilot project is to increase the education, compensation and retention of Palm Beach County's afterschool/youth development workforce. The project involves a partnership for the sharing of expenses among the scholarship recipient, the recipient's sponsoring program and T.E.A.C.H. For more information, please contact Nicole Tarsia or Nicole Edwards at 561-732-8066.

Afterschool News

Developing Creativity in Children

A highlight of last month's National Afterschool Association Convention in New Orleans was the entertaining and inspirational keynote lunch address on the importance of afterschool's role in developing creativity in children by Sir Ken Robinson, a recognized leader in the development of creativity and a *New York Times* best-selling author.

His groundbreaking book, *Out of Our Minds: Learning to be Creative*, communicates his thoughts on creativity and education. Arguing that organizations everywhere are trying to fix a problem that originates in schools and universities, he believes that many people leave education with no idea as to what their real creative abilities are. In a powerful and original way, he offers his insights on this occurrence as well as what organizations and individuals can do immediately to recover their creative talents. He also advocates for radical changes in how we should think about our own intelligence and creativity - and how we should educate our children and each other to meet the extraordinary challenges of living and working in the 21st century.

Sir Ken's thoughts encourage us to consider how our local schools and afterschool programs are helping children learn to think for themselves and use their creativity. For more information, visit Sir Ken's website at www.sirkenrobinson.com.

Program Opportunities

2009 Summer Program Opportunities

The Historical Society of Palm Beach County is offering transportation grants (up to \$300) for afterschool programs that schedule summer field trips to The Richard and Pat Johnson Palm Beach County History Museum no later than June 30, 2009. Located in the restored 1916 Courthouse in downtown West Palm Beach, the countywide history museum enriches the lives of children and adults alike by making local history accessible, interesting and meaningful. To arrange a group tour, please contact Paula Marcus at 561-832-4164; x110 or e-mail: pmarcus@historicalsocietypb.org.

Grant Opportunities

Target offers store grants to support nonprofit programs that impact the arts, early childhood reading, and family violence prevention in the locations where the company does business.

Qualified applicants include 501(c)(3) organizations or schools, libraries or public agencies. Most grants average between \$1,000 and \$3,000.

Target will accept grant applications online until May 31, 2009 for programs taking place between October 1, 2009 and September 30, 2010. For more information, visit <http://sites.target.com/site/en/company/page.jsp?contentId=WCMP04-031767>.

Mark Your Calendars

Prime Time Afterschool Consortium Networking Events



A Red Carpet Affair 2009 Afterschool Consortium End-of-Year Celebration

Date: Tuesday, May 26, 2009
Time: 7 p.m.
Place: Kravis Center for the Performing Arts
Persson Hall
701 Okeechobee Boulevard
West Palm Beach, Florida
Dress: Cocktail or Semi-Formal Attire



Reservations are required for attendance at Prime Time's Consortium Networking Events. Reserve online at www.primetimepb.org or call Paola Cedeno at 561-732-8066

Enhancement Programs - Train-the-Trainer Sessions

SPARK Active Recreation Training

Date: Friday, May 29, 2009
Time: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Place: YMCA of Boynton Beach
9600 Military Trail
Boynton Beach, Florida

To Register: Call Sara Jones at 561-536-1432 or e-mail: sjones@ymcaspbc.org



We're Now on Facebook!

Find out what's going on at Prime Time by following us on Facebook. We invite you to follow us as a friend or fan to keep up-to-date on all of our latest developments.