

ASES and Critical Hours After School Programs

2007-08 Additional Programs:

- **DDR**-“We Got the Beat!” program is designed as a modern kid-friendly strategy to combat childhood obesity epidemic and lack of physical fitness. Aligned with the California State Physical Education Content Standards, the program promotes the foundations of a healthy life style by focusing on health and physical activity education. The highlight of the program involves the weekly implementation of the interactive Dance Dance Revolution video game. The DDR equipment can be checked out for a 12 week time span. An activity packet including pre/post surveys, planning template, nutrition/PA logs, and snack recipes will be provided.
- **Parenting Workshops**- *Make Parenting A Pleasure* is a nationally recognized, group-based positive parenting education curriculum based on best practice principles for use with all parents. The program was designed to address the stress, isolation, and lack of adequate parenting information and social support that many parents experience. The curriculum focuses first on the need for self-care and personal empowerment, and moves from an adult/adult focus to a parent/child/family emphasis.
- **Science Link**- Created by The Children's Initiative, Science Link is a science and math academic enrichment program, designed to engage after school students for higher learning and to broaden their academic portfolio in math and science. Science Link integrates diverse learning methods of science and math through visual, auditory and hands-on activities. After school students experience intellectually stimulating math and science fields trips, scientifically based research projects and guest speakers.
- **Art Link**- The Children's Initiative collaborates with numerous donors to provide quality art paper, canvases, frames, pastels, paints, and other art supplies that after school staff can use to foster visual arts and the creative expression of students. After school programs can participate in “commissioned” projects of CI; artwork created by these special projects are displayed at future events and exhibits. Program sites also submit art pieces created from regular programming days which CI matted, frames, and displays in nearby libraries, cafes and government buildings. This program also coordinates with the Annual International Art Exchange, provides guest speakers, conducts art trainings for programming staff, and provides fieldtrips to art galleries and museums.
- **Union Tribune Shoe Fund**- Starting in November 2007, The Children's Initiative and the Union Tribune Shoe Fund developed a partnership to bring free shoes to students in San Diego After School programs throughout the county. The Union Tribune purchases \$25.00 and \$35.00 Payless Shoe Store gift cards; The Children's Initiative selects and

distributes the cards to students in After School Programs. Since November, the partnership has provided 482 pairs of shoes to children in San Diego County totaling \$12,400.00.

- **Tickets-** The Children's Initiative has distributed over 4,000 tickets during the 2007-08 school year to after school programs. Students have attended events such as San Diego Padres' games, museums, ballets, musicals, and other theatrical productions during the 2007-08 school year. Longstanding partnerships include the Padres Foundation, Balboa Park Museums, California Ballet, Junior Theater, East County Performing Arts Center, La Jolla Music Society, San Diego Academy of Ballet and many more!
- **Xtra Weekly-** XTRA Weekly is an online educational curriculum that publishes 32 weeks of current event activities during the school year. The hands on activities develop critical thinking skills and promote literacy for elementary and middle school students. The Children's Initiative secured 290 online subscriptions for after school programs in 27 school districts during the 2007-08 school year.
- **Music-** *Guitar Loan Program "After School Unplugged"* and *Piano Distribution Program* After School Unplugged is geared toward older elementary, middle, and high school-aged youth. Many families cannot afford private guitar lessons for students and most students do not have access to acoustic and electric guitars in school day music courses. Through The Children's Initiative, a program site can participate in the 12 week guitar loan program to offer daily or weekly lessons in a small group setting. The Piano Distribution Program is in direct collaboration with Piano SD, a San Diego-based business. Piano SD donates used upright and baby grand pianos to after school programs throughout the county to promote music education. To date, more than 50 pianos have been delivered to elementary, middle and high school after school programs in San Diego County.