

# *Working Together to Increase the Availability and Quality of Afterschool Opportunities Statewide*

**June 2009 E-News** - to access this and previous e-news please visit [www.mtafterschool.org/afterschool\\_archives.htm](http://www.mtafterschool.org/afterschool_archives.htm)

**“Watermelon – it’s a good fruit. You eat, you drink, you wash your face.” – Enrico Caruso**  
Hot afternoons are perfect for fun, healthy after-school snacks made with watermelon, a nutrient dense, fat-free food that is a natural hydrator and an excellent source of vitamins A, B6 and C. **Make watermelon sno-cones with the children in your program. To find the sno-cone recipe and many more kid friendly recipes, go to: [http://www.watermelon.org/watermelon\\_recipes-kids.asp](http://www.watermelon.org/watermelon_recipes-kids.asp)**

## **Afterschool Coalition**

The schedule of the next conference call will be announced at a later date via email. If you are interested in receiving information and/or becoming part of the coalition, please contact Riann via email at [rgillespie@montanachildcare.org](mailto:rgillespie@montanachildcare.org).

## **SAVE-THE-DATE for the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Afterschool Training Conference**

The 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Afterschool Training Conference has been scheduled for April 8-9, 2010 at the Red Lion Colonial Hotel in Helena, MT.

## **Helena Area Transportation**

Youth ages 7-19 can ride the HATS buses for free from June 10<sup>th</sup> to August 26<sup>th</sup>. The buses provide transportation to and from East Valley and East Helena and many Helena activity locations. Schedules can be found at <http://www.ci.helena.mt.us/index.php?id=393>. This was made possible by a partnership with the City of Helena Transportation Department and HEY-Net, a committee of Youth Connections.

## **FUNDING**

### **Montana Board of Crime Control**

The Montana Board of Crime Control offers Safe & Drug Free Schools & Communities Grants. To read more information on qualification and how to apply, go to: <http://mbcc.mt.gov/grants/schedule/schedule.asp>

### **The Great American Bake Sale Grants**

The Great American Bake Sale grants program will support efforts to increase participation among low-income children in summer and after-school meal programs. Grants will only be provided to nonprofit 501(c)(3) organizations, schools with a valid NCES code, or local government entities that work to ensure children have access to after-school and summer meal programs. Grant applications will be accepted from June 1, 2009 to September 30, 2009. To find more information, visit: [http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/rfp/rfp\\_item.jhtml?id=250300010](http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/rfp/rfp_item.jhtml?id=250300010)

## **RESEARCH**

The National Institute of Out-of-School Time advocates that “Every program needs a mission statement – a philosophy or rationale explaining the purpose of the program.” The authors advise that your mission statement should explain why children should spend time at your program, what they should be doing there and what they should be learning there. Sample mission statements include: -To offer many ways for young adolescents to feel competent, to achieve and to develop their individual potential. –To provide a warm and enriching environment for students. Our philosophy is one of providing structure with room for individual choice. Information provided from the authors of “Links to Learning: A Curriculum Planning Guide for After-School Programs.”

## **TRAINING**

### **At-Risk Conference: Autism**

**August 3-4, Billings, MT**

This year's conference will focus on older children with autism and will cover a variety of topics including Asperger's Syndrome, anger management, supporting children with autism in regular classrooms, estate planning for children with autism, life skills education for transition years, sensory integration, social skills and social behavior, medications, the Hanen program, video modeling and social behavior modeling, the stress model, co-treat and social groups, the PLAY project and much more. You will also hear startling statistics on adolescents and adults with autism from the National Longitudinal Transition Survey.

For more information or to register, call 896-5890

### **Discover the Answer to Dyslexia**

**Sunday, August 16<sup>th</sup> from 1:30-3:30 – Bozeman, Museum of the Rockies**

Join international best-selling author and dyslexia expert, Ronald D. Davis, for an informative, informational, and in-depth look at the GIFT of dyslexia. Pre-Registration fee: \$8.00, Admission at door: \$10.00. For more information or to register, call Learning Options at 406-282-7416. Proceeds from this event go to Museum of the Rockies and Learning Options Scholarship Fund.

## **RESOURCES**

### **Community Afterschool Forums**

**Helena Region:** Helena Empowering Youth Network (HEY!NET) meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of every month at the Front Street Learning Center Conference Room. Contact Sandi Smith with OPI or Drenda Carlson with Youth Connections for more information.

**Billings Region:** Contact Kristin Lundgren at 406-252-3839 ext 13 or [Kristin.lundgren@unitedway.org](mailto:Kristin.lundgren@unitedway.org) for information on BOOST and their meetings and events.

**Havre Region:** Contact Tim Brurud at the Boys & Girls Club of the Hi-Line for information about the next afterschool meeting.

**Kalispell Region:** Mission Valley Regional AfterSchool Program Network has had monthly meetings in Polson. For more information contact Jenaya Webster.

**Missoula Region:** For the next scheduled meeting for The Youth Development Network, contact Nina Cramer at 406-721-3000 ext 1023. Students, educators, and community members are encouraged to get involved!

**Other meetings or training dates to share? Email Riann at [rgillespie@montanachildcare.org](mailto:rgillespie@montanachildcare.org) with details.**

### **Fun, Free and Academically Enriching Activities/Resources**

#### **Child Trends**

Child Trends has developed short, easy-to-read briefs that provide research-based guidance for out-of-school time program providers. They cover topics ranging from staff development and cultural competence to implementing evidence-based practices and evaluating program outcomes for youth. All OST publications are available for free download at [www.childtrends.org/youthdevelopment](http://www.childtrends.org/youthdevelopment).

#### **Stop the Brain Drain**

Studies have shown that children's knowledge base in reading and math can decline in the summer months. Create opportunities in your program that promote reading and math. Consider a few activities that tie into reading from "Summer Program Tips, Strategies & Activities" by the late Rich Scofield. Have each child make a poster a poster of a book he/she recently read that would entice other students to read the book. Adapt a book into a drama. The students can write a script based on the dialogue of the book. For more ideas, go to [www.schoolagenotes.com](http://www.schoolagenotes.com).