



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

The Montana Afterschool Network is coordinated by the Montana Child Care Resource & Referral Network and includes these partners:

Big Brothers Big Sisters  
of Montana

Girl Scouts Clubs of Montana

Homer A. & Mildred S. Scott  
Foundation

Junior Achievement  
Programs of Montana

Montana Alliance of  
Boys & Girls Clubs

Montana Board of  
Crime Control

Montana Child Care  
Resource & Referral Network

Montana Council  
Boy Scouts of America

Montana Department  
of Public Health and  
Human Services: ECSB

MEA-MFT

Montana 4-H Center for  
Youth Development

Montana Office of Public  
Instruction: 21st Century  
Community Learning Centers

Montana Parent Teacher  
Association

Montana Parks and  
Recreation Association

Montana School Boards  
Association

Montana State University  
Early Childhood Project

Prevention Resource Center

School Administrators  
of Montana

The Flagship Program

During the 2005-2006 school year, there were no daily afterschool programs for 82% of Montana's elementary-aged children from working families. (Montana Afterschool Network, 2006)

### **Afterschool Programs Keep Kids Safe**

- The chances a child will become a victim of a violent crime more than triple between 3 p.m. and 6 p.m. (Fight Crime: Invest in Kids, 2006)
- Children are most likely to engage in high risk behaviors such as drug use, sexual activity and crime during the afterschool hours of 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. (National Center for Juvenile Justice, 1999)

### **Afterschool Programs Help Working Families**

- 66% of Montana's elementary school students live in working parent households. (KIDS COUNT, 2006)
- 60% of parents say they missed less work when their child was in an afterschool program. (Policy Studies Associates, 2001)

### **Afterschool Programs Inspire Learning**

- Participation in afterschool programs is positively associated with better school attendance, improved grades and a reduced dropout rate. (Harvard Family Research Project, 2003)
- Afterschool programs can serve as an entry point for children to develop 21<sup>st</sup> century skills and expand their exposure and ability to navigate new forms of technology. (Hall, G. & Israel, L., 2001)

### **Afterschool Programs Promote Community Involvement**

- More than 80% of parents said their child would benefit from an afterschool program that offered community service or volunteering. (Afterschool Alliance, 2004)
- 95% of teens said it is important to be involved in the community through volunteering time to community efforts. (Afterschool Alliance 2004)

### **Afterschool Programs Meet Children's Social & Emotional Needs**

- Afterschool programs improve children's social skills, including the ability to maintain self-control, make constructive choices about their behavior and avoid fights. (The Afterschool Corporation, 2004)
- When children are happy with their afterschool programs, they describe them as a family. Children develop a trusting relationship with the program staff members and feel they care about them. (McLaughlin, 2000)

Learn more at [www.mtafterschool.org](http://www.mtafterschool.org).