

## After School Programs

1. More than 500 municipal leaders surveyed by the National League of Cities ranked after-school programs among the most pressing needs for children in their communities.<sup>iv</sup> More households have working mothers, with the resulting need for a safe, wholesome place for children after school,<sup>v</sup> and families are increasingly looking to after-school providers for academic help or to compensate for cutbacks in arts, sports or other enrichment activities at public schools.

2. After-school hours are the peak time for juvenile crimes and risky behaviors, including **alcohol and drug use**. NYVPRC found that children who do not spend any time in after-school activities are 49 percent more likely to have used drugs and 37 percent more likely to become a **teen parent**. Kids are also at the highest risk of becoming a victim of violence after school, particularly between the hours of 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. The highest amount of juvenile crime occurs between 3 p.m. and 4 p.m., the hour after most children are dismissed from school.

3. A report by the U.S. Department of Education and the U.S. Department of Justice shows that students in after-school programs have fewer behavioral problems and more self-confidence, and can handle conflicts better than students who are not involved with these programs. In addition, according to the Harvard Family Research Project, after-school programs help students from low-income families overcome the inequities they face in the school system.

4. According to the National Center for Education Statistics the following are the five main risk factors that directly impact a young persons failure to graduate from high school:

- A. low economic status
- B. single parent
- C. a sibling who has dropped out
- D. home alone for three hours or more each day
- E. English as a second language

5. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d0ev6RuCDLM>

6. Why the need for after school Programs

- A. Social skills...new friends
- B. Relation of child to another positive adult
- C. Keep out of trouble..boredom can lead to risky behaviors
- D. Academic time to catch up
- E. Build on skills and talents
- F. Fighting the fat
- G. Turning away from becoming computer junkies
- H. Meets many of the 40 developmental task needed by young people go grow up healthy, caring and responsible.

7. Erin's presentation.

8. The counselor connection:

- A. referral source for students with social needs
- B. referral source for students with academic needs
- C. extra-curricular activity for students unable to participate in sports.
- D. after school provider can refer troubling behaviors to school counselor.
- E. therapy work with students especially in small groups.
- E. training of after school staff.