

What Does A School Community Partnership Look Like?

Here are some examples...

Business Supporting Afterschool Programs

Brush Ceramic Products allows their employees to leave the job site to volunteer for an hour each week at an afterschool program coordinated by Child and Family Resources, Inc. at Chaparral Middle School. Brush Ceramic employees lead activities in the program aligned with their own passions and talents. These Brush volunteers lead woodworking, sports and computer skill development activities. Not only are these volunteers providing youth with a safe place to be during out-of-school time, they also serve as caring supportive adult mentors to youth facing difficult life challenges.

The Green Valley Library partners with The Sahuarita Dance Center to provide dance classes in their afterschool program. This local business owner teaches a series of hip hop classes to youth. The Friends of the Green Valley library pay a small fee per student to cover some of the cost, but the cost to the participants is zero. The library provides the class and performance space.



School Supporting Afterschool Programs

VOICES, Inc. has collaborated with downtown charter school and non-profit, City High School, since 2004. The two organizations share similar values and vision and have partnered in programming and fundraising in addition to sharing space and resources. VOICES holds its programs in City High classrooms in the afternoon and subleases part of the building for its administrative offices. VOICES and City High share maintenance, utilities and resources, including copier/printer and laptop computers.



Government and Community Agencies Supporting Afterschool Program

The Metropolitan Education Commission's Youth Advisory Council/Tucson Teen Congress partners with both Pima County and the City of Tucson so that middle and high school students from across Pima County can learn more about their governments, focus on leadership training and participate in community programs. Both the City of Tucson and Pima County government provide funding for the group. YAC/TTC members participate in numerous governmental activities including the Tucson Police Advisory Committee, Pima County Public Library committees and League of Cities youth conferences. They also meet annually with City and County elected officials to discuss teen issues.

The Town of Sahuarita and United Way of Tucson and Southern Arizona traveled together to the United Way of America/National League of Cities Leadership Training Conference in June 2008 for a two-day conference to learn effective ways to create a town-community partnership that improves community conditions for families and children. As a result, the Town of Sahuarita has prepared to host its first annual Children's Celebration collaborating with United Way of Tucson and Southern Arizona to launch a public awareness campaign about the importance of keeping youth in safe, high quality learning environments.