



Missouri AfterSchool Network

Partnerships. Policy. Quality.

Missouri Afterschool Ambassadors

2015-2016



Tonya Crompton

Location: Raytown, MO

Years in the field: 4 officially, and 10+ years working with youth

Current Title: Director

Organization: Great Expectations

Why I am an Ambassador for Afterschool:

I am an Ambassador for afterschool because children are the ambassadors of our community and our future. It is our responsibility to give our children the proper footing that allows them to be the architects of their paths. We must advocate to support and maintain consistent, well-developed out of school time programming that equips our children to build and creatively explore the world that exists in front of them and beyond them.



Dr. Joy Vann-Hamilton

Location: Lee's Summit, MO

Years in the field of afterschool: 7.5

Current title: CEO, Seeing Yourself in Science

Organization: Cum Laude Educational Consultants, LLC

Why I am an ambassador for afterschool:

I am an ambassador for afterschool, because I know from first-hand experience as a program provider that high-quality programming works! This programming provides youth with additional opportunities to explore interests, demonstrate learning in different ways, and have experiences that promote intellectual, physical, and social emotional growth. Families have peace-of-mind as children have a safe environment in which to further develop 21st Century knowledge and skills. Communities benefit as unsupervised youth are regularly and meaningfully engaged.



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Tyler Kearns

Location: Clayton, MO

Years in the field of afterschool: 6

Current title: Program Coordinator

Organization: Clayton Kid Zone

Why I am an ambassador for afterschool:

I believe that all students should have a safe, fun, and enriched environment to attend before and after school. As an afterschool professional, it is my passion to provide the children this environment and make long lasting relationships and family connections with the students and families I work with. As an ambassador I can share this excitement, knowledge, and overall importance of afterschool programming with those who think the learning day ends at 3PM.



Megan Kuhnert

Location: Independence, MO

Years in the field of afterschool: 6

Current title: Youth Specialist

Organization: Independence School District

Why I am an ambassador for afterschool:

Afterschool is such an important part of having well-rounded kids. In a society where we have more dual-working households, single family households, and a push for common core, our programs can have a greater impact on kids. We get to use our time to engage students in hands-on activities based on their interests, and get to extend the school day by reinforcing lesson learned.



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Connie Oldsen

Location: Kennett, MO

Years in the field of afterschool: 4

Current title: Site Director

Organization: Kennett Middle School

Why I am an ambassador for afterschool:

I am an ambassador for afterschool because I have seen firsthand the importance of keeping students involved for extended hours. The afterschool program allows the students to have mentors that not only help with homework, but help with everyday struggles that the students may face. Afterschool programs also allow students to make friends that they would not make during the regular school day. These friendships will continue throughout the school year as well as in the future.



Sarah Pipes

Location: St. Charles

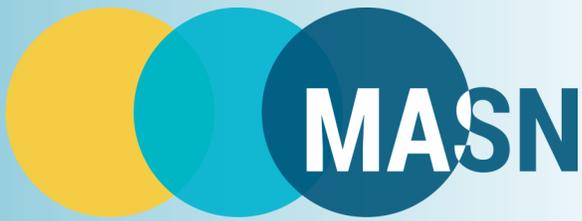
Years in the field of afterschool: 17

Current title: Program Coordinator

Organization: Becky-David Elementary-Vacation Station Program
(Francis Howell School District)

Why I am an ambassador for afterschool:

Being a part of the Afterschool Ambassadors Program is a wonderful opportunity and an exciting journey that I am ready to take part in. Afterschool programs are my passion. I truly enjoy what I do, and have been doing it for the last 17 years. I believe afterschool is the bridge between school and home, and I would like to be a part of building the bridge. The main reason I wanted to be a part of the Afterschool Ambassadors program boils down to the fact that I wanted the opportunity to make a difference in afterschool.



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Paige Beck

Location: St. Charles, MO

Years in the field of afterschool: 13

Current title: Program Coordinator

Organization: Francis Howell Vacation Station Program

Why I am an ambassador for afterschool:

I have a passion for afterschool programs and a strong desire to advocate for the youth and families in our program. I believe in the advantages and enrichment provided to children by afterschool programs. I enjoy the life-long relationships formed with our families and understand how important quality programming is in the lives of children and parents who utilize afterschool programs. It is my hope and desire that one day every child who has a need for afterschool programs would be afforded the opportunity to participate in quality programming.