



Maricopa Council on Youth Sports and Physical Activity

"A dynamic coalition of community partners formed to respond to the crisis of childhood obesity and physical inactivity in Maricopa County."

To our community service providers,

The Maricopa Council on Youth Sports and Physical Activity (MCYSPA) is a dynamic coalition of community partners formed to respond to the crisis of childhood obesity and physical inactivity in Maricopa County.

MCYSPA's role in the community is to coordinate resources and provide research to support community service providers. The council also assists administration of the Arizona Sports and Tourism Authority (AZSTA) Grant Program.

1. Coordinate resources: The council intends to streamline the valley's various organizations that hold similar missions of increasing physical activity and promoting healthy lifestyles. Two primary endeavors are: hosting an Annual Exposition and developing a formal web-site. Both may affect policy and help direct outside resources to targeted communities.
 - The Annual Exposition on Youth Sports and Wellness will cater to participants in youth sports and also service providers who promote healthy lifestyles and physical activity.
 - The web-site will serve as a hub to encourage networking and collaboration among fellow organizations. This site will also display results of on-going research.
2. Provide research to support service providers: An example of such research is the Needs Assessment Survey conducted through Arizona State University (ASU). Through identification of area service providers, we can better assess where our community lacks physical activity opportunities for our youth. This information will be merged into an in-depth GIS system and posted on the web-site.
3. Administration of the AZSTA Grant Program: Providing biennial formal grants with supplemental quick-grants throughout the year. For details, please visit www.az-sta.com

ASU School of Community Resources and Development and Center for Nonprofit Leadership & Management is diligently gathering information from all area service providers in hopes of describing the current level of youth sports and physical activity programs offered in Maricopa County. Ultimately, the data of your organization will be integrated with a GIS map of sports/recreation facilities and posted on line for public use.

In order to maximize the potential of this endeavor, we ask that you supply the ASU team information regarding your program on-line at <http://www.zoomerang.com/survey.zgi?p=WEB2245KACYFLK>

We are very excited about this project and believe it will benefit our community on many levels. We thank you for your participation and encourage you to relay this information to fellow programs geared towards increasing physical activity and combating obesity.

Best Regards,

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