

From a Time of Risk to a Time of Opportunity

This is Afterschool



The hours after the last school bell rings and before parents typically return home from work is a time of endless opportunities and potential for young people. It can be a time of learning and growth, when kids explore new topics in fields like science, technology, engineering, and math; discover new interests; and develop their communication, teamwork, and leadership skills alongside supportive mentors. It can also be a time of risk, as an October 2019 report by Fight Crime: Invest in Kids, a membership organization of more than 5,000 police chiefs, sheriffs, prosecutors, and other law enforcement leaders, found.



9 in 10 adults agree that afterschool programs are important to their community

Although juvenile crime has dramatically decreased in the past decade, *From Risk to Opportunity: Afterschool Programs Keep Kids Safe When Juvenile Crime Peaks* determined that nationally, the hours between 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. are the peak time for juvenile crime.¹

In the U.S., for every 1 young person in an afterschool program that inspires learning, provides enriching activities, and keeps them safe, there are 2 more who are waiting to get in. Public support for afterschool is high, with 9 in 10 adults agreeing that afterschool programs are important to their community, but there are not enough programs today to meet the needs of all children and families. The new Fight Crime: Invest in Kids data is further evidence of the need to do more to help ensure that all youth are able to take advantage of the benefits and supports that afterschool programs provide.

Juvenile Crime in Kansas

Analyzing data obtained from the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Uniform Crime Reporting database, Fight Crime: Invest in Kids' report, *From Risk to Opportunity: Afterschool Programs Keep Kids Safe When Juvenile Crime Peaks*, determined that 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. is the peak time for juvenile crime in Kansas during school days, with 20% of crimes occurring during this time period. However, it is worthwhile to note that the 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. window has the second highest peak, with close to 1 in 5 juvenile crimes occurring during this time (18%). It is also important to note that in some instances, law enforcement agencies may code a criminal activity as noon or midnight if the exact time of the offense is unknown or unclear. Looking at the hourly crime rate breakdown in Kansas, noon has the highest recorded offenses at 6%.

In Kansas, 65% of parents agree that afterschool programs help to give parents peace of mind about their children when they are at work and 58% agree that afterschool programs help to keep kids safe and out of trouble. Yet, for every student in an afterschool program, 2 more would participate if a program were available.

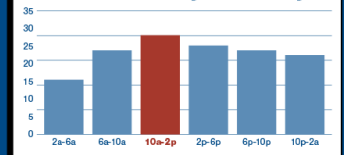
With 132,731 students in Kansas waiting to get into an afterschool program, increased investment in afterschool programs is needed.

The Prime Time for Juvenile Crime in Kansas

Quality Afterschool Programs:

- 🔍 Reduce Crime
- 📖 Boost Academics
- 👍 Improve Behavior
- ❤️ Lead to Healthier Habits
- 💰 Save Money

Juvenile Crime by Time of Day



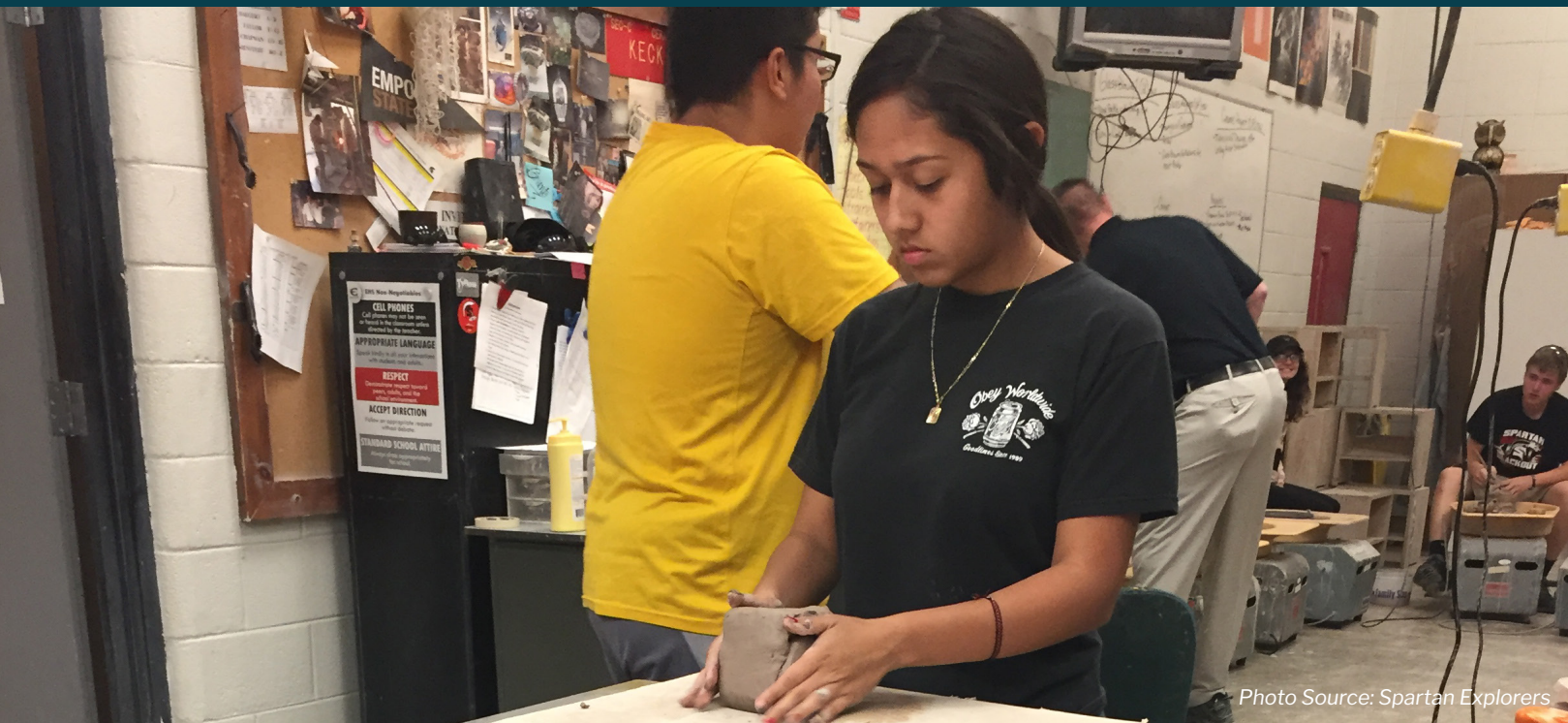
#AfterschoolFightsCrime

FightCrime

FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS
COUNCIL FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT

Program Spotlight

Spartan Explorers | Emporia, KS



In Emporia, Kansas, the Fifth Judicial District Community Corrections and Emporia High School partnered to create an afterschool program aimed at at-risk high school youth, those involved with the judicial system, truant, or on probation. In the Spartan Explorers afterschool program, high schoolers have the opportunity to take part in engaging and hands-on activities that are unavailable during the school day, such as cooking, pottery, glass blowing, and automotive mechanics. Leadership development is also a central aspect of the program, with program staff working with students to both see themselves as leaders and practice the skills to be a leaders, such as relationship building, goal setting, responsible

decision-making, and self-management.

Students who attend 85 percent of the program earn half an elective credit and \$250 toward court fines. All Spartan Explorers participants received a passing grade in their classes and saw improvements in their school day attendance. Steve Willis, Director of the Fifth Judicial District Community Corrections said, “The more I learned about afterschool, the more I saw how it connected with juvenile justice. Our office knew it was exactly what was needed, a safe place where youth can hang out, try some new things and reconnect with school.”