

The Positive Impact of Recreational and Educational Activities

For Youth and Children

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Crime Costs

- Each at-risk kid prevented from adopting a life of crime will save the country between \$1.7 million and \$2.3 million.

Early Education

- Head Start narrows the literacy skills gap by nearly half between children in poverty and all U.S. children.
- Eight out of 10 kindergarten teachers polled say that poorly prepared kids that didn't attend pre-k negatively impact well-prepared kids.
- Kids who didn't attend high-quality pre-kindergarten were (5) five times more likely to become a chronic offender by age 27 than kids who did attend pre-kindergarten.
- Head Start serves only half of eligible kids nationwide and only one in seven kids receive child care support through the Child Care and Development Block Grant.
- High/Scope Perry Preschool study found that high-quality pre-kindergarten saves \$17 for every \$1 invested with \$11 of the savings from crime costs.
- Chicago Child-Parent Centers found that high-quality pre-kindergarten cuts child abuse and neglect rates in half.
- High-quality pre-kindergarten costs roughly \$7,500 per child per year.

Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention

- Approximately 900,000 children are victims of abuse and neglect every year.
- Estimates are that the number of abused and neglected is three times higher than official confirmed cases.
- Research shows that kids are nearly one-quarter more likely to be arrested for violent crimes later in life due to the abuse they endured.
- In-home parent coaching programs have been shown to cut child abuse and neglect in half.
- Poor mothers who had been abused or neglected as a child were 13 times more likely to abuse or neglect their children than mothers who were not abused.
- Children of mothers not in an in-home parent coaching program had more than twice as many arrests as the children of mothers who received services.
- In-home parent coaching programs save as much as \$4 for every \$1 dollar invested.

After-School

- The hours from 3:00 to 6:00 PM on school days are the "prime time for juvenile crime."
- More than 14 million school age children (25 percent) are on their own after school. Among them are more than 40,000 kindergartners.

- Studies show that the after school hours are the peak hours for teens to commit crime, be a victim of crime, be in or cause a car crash and smoke drink or use drugs.
- One high-quality program found that boys left out averaged six times more crimes than teens in the program.
- A study of Boys and Girls clubs showed that housing projects without the clubs had 50 percent more vandalism and 37 percent worse drug activity.
- Teens with prior histories of arrest who were not participating in one California after-school program were twice as likely to be rearrested as similar teens in the program.
- The single most likely hour for a teen to commit a violent crime-homicide, rape, robbery, or assault-is between 3:00 PM and 4:00 PM on school days.

Troubled Kids

- More than 2 million teens are arrested each year.
- Forty percent of suburban counties and 12 percent of rural counties report gang activity.
- Police-community "carrot and stick" collaboration in Boston resulted in a two-thirds cut in youth homicides.
- Structure, support and discipline programs, such as Functional Family Therapy, cut repeat arrests by as much as half.
- Interventions with teen offenders save the public an estimated \$9,000 to \$24,000 in future crime costs.
- For children in sixth through tenth grade, nearly one in six - 3.2 million kids - are victims of bullying each year. An additional 3.7 million kids bully other children.
- Four of every 10 boys who bullied others as kids had three or more convictions by the time they turned 24.
- A program developed in Norway produced a 50 percent reduction of bullying there, large reductions in other countries, and a 20 percent reduction when it was first replicated in South Carolina.

Supporting information and facts:

[California School - Age Consortium](#)

[Concept to Classroom](#)

[Oklahoma Afterschool Network](#)

[Reading is Fundamental](#)

[Afterschool Alliance](#)

[Children's Alliance](#)

[Afterschool All Stars](#)

The City of Manhattan Beach Parks and Recreation Department Vision Statement is:

We Create Community and Quality of Life Through People, Parks, and Programs.

We are committed to accomplishing the goals of our department listed in our Mission Statement:

- Strengthen Community Image and Sense of Place
- Support Economic Development

- Strengthen Safety and Security
- Promote Health and Wellness
- Foster Human Development
- Increase Cultural Unity
- Protect Environmental Resources
- Facilitate Community Problem Solving
- Provide Recreational Experiences

We are committed to accomplishing these goals in a professional, courteous and cost-efficient manner, with a dedication to ethical standards and responsiveness to changing community needs and priorities.