

SAN DIEGO'S "6 TO 6" EXTENDED SCHOOL DAY ANNUAL REPORT – Fiscal Year 2000/01

OCTOBER, 2001

This is the third annual report of San Diego's "6 to 6" Extended School Day program, which was initiated in September of 1998. The City of San Diego, in partnership with San Diego City Schools, has become the first major city in the nation to offer before and after school programs at every public elementary and middle school within its jurisdiction. The program now operates in 202 schools, serving 170 elementary schools and 32 middle schools. Over 25,000 students are currently receiving services that offer academic support and enrichment activities every school day, one hour before school begins, and after school until 6:00 p.m. It is estimated that another 20,000 students are waiting, while the program develops the capacity to serve them. San Diego's "6 to 6" has been the subject of national attention, and the City has been recognized as a leader in the movement to maximize the potential of "out of school" time, recently named by the After School Alliance as an "After School Ambassador" program, one of the top 25 in the nation.

SAN DIEGO'S "6 TO 6" PROGRAM MISSION

It is the mission of San Diego's "6 to 6" Extended School Day to open community elementary and middle schools before and after school to provide a safe place where children can have fun, learn new skills, and receive academic enrichment, creative and performing arts, health, sports and recreational activities, during the hours that most parents work.

PROGRAM FUNDING

The City of San Diego allocated \$6.1 million dollars, \$4.1 million in General and \$2 million in Tobacco Settlement funds, to San Diego's "6 to 6" in FY01. These funds provide "6 to 6" Extended School Day programs and other scholarship subsidies to 100 of the 202 schools served throughout the City. In addition to the local funds, the City has garnered \$8.5 million in State Department of Education "After School Learning and Safe Neighborhoods Partnerships" Program (ASLSNPP) funds, in partnership with the San Diego Regional After School Consortium. This funding provides San Diego's "6 to 6" to another 91 schools (67 elementary and 24 middle schools). ASLSNPP funds are granted for three years, and are renewable.

On May 15, 2000, the City learned that its proposal to the U.S. Department of Education's "21st Century Community Learning Centers (CCLC)" Program to fund "6 to 6" programs at six (6) elementary schools in San Ysidro was granted, adding \$750,000 in Federal funds to the FY01 budget. 21st CCLC funds are granted for three years, non-renewable. The final five (5) schools located in the City receive ASLSNPP funds through the San Diego County Office of Education (SDCOE) to operate their "6 to 6" programs.

| Funding Source | FY 01 City Budget Amount | Number of Schools Served |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| City General Fund | \$4.1 million | 59 |
| Tobacco Settlement funds | \$2.0 million | 41* |
| ASLSNPP Elementary funds | \$5.2 million | 67 |
| ASLSNPP Middle/Jr. High funds | \$3.3 million | 24 |
| 21 st CCLC funds | \$0.75 million | 6 |
| SDCOE ASLSNPP funds | | 5 |
| Totals | \$15.35 million | 202 |

* - Includes 19 schools receiving scholarship subsidies only

FUTURE EXPANSION

On June 11, 2001, it was announced that a second 21st CCLC proposal, submitted by the City of San Diego in collaboration with San Diego City Schools, was selected for funding. This grant will provide an additional \$1.6 million to enhance mathematics instruction and expand “6 to 6” program capacity at 10 schools located in San Diego’s Enterprise Community, raising the FY02 program budget to nearly \$17 million. This grant will allow 750 students currently on waiting lists at these schools to participate in “6 to 6.”

Also in June, 2001, the FY02 State budget was approved, containing a \$29.7 million expansion of ASLSNPP funds for the upcoming year. These funds are tied to **Assembly Bill 6 (Cardenas)**, which provides \$14.85 million for before-school reimbursement at \$3.33 per student/per day, and another \$14.85 million for the expansion of existing sites, up to 25% of their current capacity. Based on current before-school participation levels, and documented waiting lists, San Diego’s “6 to 6” qualifies for over \$5 million in additional funding, which has been solicited through an October, 2001 request for applications process, conducted by the California Department of Education. These grant awards will be announced in mid-November, 2001.

STUDENT POPULATION

San Diego’s “6 to 6” provides services to all of San Diego’s communities, and while all families are eligible for enrollment, the program tends to serve a population of students that is more socio-economically impacted than the general public school population. While 58% of the entire San Diego Unified School District student body qualifies for free or reduced cost lunch, nearly 75% of “6 to 6” participants meet this criteria. Program participants are gender-balanced, with 51% male and 49% female. San Diego’s “6 to 6” also has a greater ethnic representation than the general school population, as illustrated by the table below:

| Ethnic Category | San Diego’s “6 to 6” | San Diego City Schools |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Hispanic | 41% | 39% |
| African-American | 21% | 16% |
| Asian and Other Ethnicities | 15% | 18% |
| White | 23% | 27% |

PROGRAM COMPONENTS

San Diego’s “6 to 6” is designed to be an extension of the regular school day, with structured and well-supervised activities that promote enthusiasm for learning and build skills in the areas of

reading, writing, speech, math and science. Program activities also focus on subjects that expand upon the core curriculum, including visual and performing arts, social skills, substance abuse prevention, nutrition, and community service. The staff to student ratio is 1:15 at elementary school sites and 1:20 at middle schools. All program services are offered at no cost to participating families. Each San Diego's "6 to 6" site provides activities in the following areas:

- **Academic Enrichment:** Homework assistance, literacy tutoring, science experiments, math games, computer skills, and academic mentoring.
- **Extra-Curricular Activities:** Visual arts, crafts, performing arts, music, dance, recreation, sports, group games and field trips.
- **Youth Development:** Leadership training, team-building, conflict resolution skills, health education, nutrition, ATOD (alcohol, tobacco and other drug) prevention, social skills enhancement, and violence prevention.
- **Community Involvement:** Community service projects, parent involvement and education, community volunteers, mentoring, and community-based organization partnerships.

COLLABORATIONS WITH SCHOOL DISTRICTS

In the fall of 2000, the City of San Diego executed Memoranda of Understanding (MOU's) with all eight school districts serving students within the City, including the renewal of its MOU with San Diego Unified School District, which was originated in August of 1999.

Five (5) of the MOU's, with Chula Vista Elementary, San Ysidro, South Bay Union, Sweetwater Union High and San Diego Unified School District, identify the City of San Diego as the Fiscal Lead Agency and the school district as the Facility Lead Agency. The City takes responsibility for managing, monitoring and evaluating the programs, as well as collecting monthly reports from providers and preparing semi-annual reports for the State and Federal Departments of Education. The districts are responsible for ensuring that adequate facility space is made available for the program, that academic evaluation data is shared, that daily snacks are delivered, and that custodial service and security are provided. The MOU's stipulate that, to the greatest extent legally permissible, decision-making and policy formulation related to San Diego's "6 to 6" will be jointly shared by the City and its partner district. To facilitate this process, each district has identified a staff member who acts as a liaison between the City and district administrators.

Three (3) of the MOU's are based on a scholarship model that has been designed to provide "6 to 6" services to the higher income communities of the City. Del Mar Union, Solana Beach Union, and Poway Unified School Districts serve populations in which less than 10% of students qualify for free or reduced cost lunch. These districts operate twenty (20) elementary schools within the City of San Diego, each of which currently offers a high quality, fee-based, before and after school child care program. Rather than initiate the traditional "6 to 6" model at these schools, it was more reasonable to offer these districts scholarship subsidies to provide child care to the small percentage of students for whom the existing programs are cost-prohibitive.

There is one exception to this model at Poway Unified’s Los Penasquitos Elementary School, in which 48% of the students qualify for free or reduced cost lunch. This school offers a traditional, free “6 to 6” Program, while the remaining nineteen (19) higher income community schools receive subsidies only.

The City has recently completed negotiations with a ninth school district, San Pasqual Union, to operate a “6 to 6” program at the district’s single school, based on the scholarship model. San Diego’s “6 to 6” has also expanded the number of private schools operating programs, from one to seven (7), in response to council office requests. The following table illustrates the number of schools served in each of the collaborating districts.

| District | Elementary Schools | Middle/Jr. High Schools | Total Schools |
|--------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| Chula Vista Elem. | 4 | 0 | 4 |
| Del Mar Union | 4 | 0 | 4 |
| Poway Unified | 14 | 3 | 17 |
| San Diego Unified | 126 | 24 | 150 |
| San Pasqual Union | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| San Ysidro | 6 | 1 | 7 |
| Solana Beach Union | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| South Bay Union | 7 | 0 | 7 |
| Sweetwater Union | 0 | 3 | 3 |
| Private Schools | 6 | 1 | 7 |
| Totals | 170 | 32 | 202 |

TRAINING, STAFF DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

San Diego’s “6 to 6” is designed and operated by experts in the fields of child development, recreation, education and community engagement. Each site is staffed by a site supervisor, credentialed teachers, instructional aides and program leaders, all of whom coordinate closely with school faculties and administrators. Each site is contracted to community-based organizations (CBO’s) with experience delivering youth development programs. Three primary providers, Harmonium Children’s Services, Social Advocates for Youth, and the YMCA of San Diego County, operate programs at the majority of the City’s schools. Thirteen (13) additional CBO’s provide programs at selected, single sites. These service providers collaborate with other non-profit agencies, private businesses, learning institutions and community volunteers to provide a broad spectrum of activities and educational opportunities for “6 to 6” participants and their families. All staff working in the program have obtained fingerprint clearance and have been trained in CPR and First Aid.

Training and staff development has been a major focus during this year, and San Diego’s “6 to 6” administrative staff have delivered nine (9) in-service trainings during the school year, and have collaborated on two (2) county-wide, and one (1) state-wide regional trainings. San Diego’s “6 to 6” Site Supervisors and support staff have received instruction on a wide variety of youth service topics. City staff have delivered these training sessions in partnership with a

number of regional experts, and program staff are given regular opportunities to share “best practices” through monthly provider meetings.

The following table outlines the training opportunities that have been offered by San Diego’s “6 to 6” during the past school year.

San Diego’s “6 to 6” Training Schedule, 2000/01 School Year

| Date | Topics | Presenters |
|---------------------|---|--|
| August 22, 2000 | School-Age Care Environment Rating Scale Data Collection and Reporting Marketing and Promotion | Deb Ferrin Steven Amick Gary Moody |
| September 29, 2000 | Behavior Management Creating Program Environments Outdoor Games | Barbara Hammonds Deb Ferrin Kathy Kuhn |
| October 20, 2000 | Motivating Staff Science Experiments | Betsy Haas Lakeshore Learning |
| October 27, 2000 | File Folder Math and Literacy Enrichment Games | Paula Cook |
| December 2, 2000 | Touching Minds, Shaping Futures Conference* | Multiple Workshops |
| January 12-13, 2001 | California School-Age Consortium Middle School Conference+ | Multiple Workshops |
| January 26, 2001 | Inclusion Techniques for Special Needs Youth Diversity Appreciation Developmental Disability Sensitivity Training | ElizaBeth Phillips Steven Amick Lisa Jones |
| February 24, 2001 | Carousel Conference* | Multiple Workshops |
| March 29, 2001 | Homework Help and “Edutainment” Indoor Games Learning Styles – the Seven Intelligences | Pam Brasher Kathy Kuhn Steven Amick |
| April 27, 2001 | Creative Book Making Literacy Enrichment Activities Integrating Academics and Enrichment | Diane Weintraub Kristie Sheen Kristen Gonzalez |
| May 25, 2001 | Drama Activities for Youth Multi-Cultural Games Bio-Colors Art Training | Lamb’s Players Pam Brasher Jerry Heitzman |
| June 22, 2001 | Summer School Activity Ideas | Selected Site Supervisors |

* - County-wide conferences

+ - State-wide conference

RELATED LEGISLATIVE ITEMS

State **Assembly Bill 181** (Zettel, 1999), which allows San Diego’s “6 to 6” to operate exempt from Community Care Licensing regulations, on a two-year pilot basis, is scheduled to sunset on December 31, 2001. City staff have worked with Assemblymembers Christine Kehoe and Charlene Zettel to introduce **AB 297**, which allows the program to continue its license-exempt status for three additional years, and removes the current prohibition against charging any fees for the program. AB 297 provides an opportunity for the City to implement a sliding fee scale at selected, moderate to high income neighborhood schools, beginning in the 2002/03 school year.

PROGRAM EVALUATION/ SATISFACTION SURVEY

In addition to semi-annual, on-site evaluations, conducted by San Diego's "6 to 6" Program Monitors, the City conducts an annual Satisfaction Survey among its key stakeholders, including school principals, provider agency staff, parents of participants, and the students themselves. This year's survey was developed and analyzed in consultation with Hoffman, Clark and Associates, a local evaluation firm with previous experience in the field of youth service evaluation. During the month of February, 2001, a total of 157 principals, 571 staff members, 3,567 parents and 7,232 student participants were surveyed. A thorough analysis of the data collected resulted in several important observations.

Principal Feedback

Principals of the schools operating San Diego's "6 to 6" programs expressed overwhelmingly favorable opinions of the program and those responsible for delivering the services.

- 91% of principals rate the program as "good" to "outstanding."
- 95% of principals rate the Site Supervisor as "good" to "outstanding."
- 94% of principals rate their working relationship with the provider agency as "good" to "outstanding."

Staff Feedback

Staff are very satisfied with their positions in San Diego's "6 to 6," and feel supported by parents, supervisors, and the administrators of their partner organizations – school districts and the City of San Diego.

- 98.5% of staff rated their job satisfaction level as "good" to "outstanding."
- 94% of Site Supervisors rated their communication with school administrators as "good" to "outstanding."
- 95% of staff rated their interaction with parents of students as "good" to "outstanding."
- 94% of staff rated support from their agency administration as "good" to "outstanding."
- 89% of staff rated training and technical assistance from the City of San Diego as "good" to "outstanding."

Parent Feedback

Parents are unanimously supportive of San Diego's "6 to 6," including staff performance and achievement of program goals.

- 99% of parents rate the program as "good" to "outstanding."
- 98% of parents rate the communication with "6 to 6" staff as "good" to "outstanding."
- 99% of parents rate the positive interaction of their children and "6 to 6" staff as "good" to "outstanding."
- 92% of parents rate the program's success in helping students complete their homework as "good" to "outstanding."
- 97% of parents rate the program's success in promoting their children's positive behavior as "good" to "outstanding."
- 65% of parents reported noticing an improvement in their children's academic performance

Student Feedback

The vast majority of 3rd through 9th grade students indicated that they enjoy San Diego's "6 to 6" and use it productively. Kindergarteners through 2nd grade students overwhelmingly approve the program and staff members.

- 88% of students, grades 3-9, indicated that liked coming to the program.
- 88% of students, grades 3-9, indicated that they liked working with "6 to 6" staff.
- 88% of students, grades 3-9, indicated that they completed their homework at the program.
- 88% of students, grades 3-9, indicated that they liked the recreational activities provided.
- 67% of students, grades 3-9, indicated that they would recommend the program to their friends.
- 52% of students, grades 3-9, felt that they were doing better in school since joining "6 to 6."
- 95% of students, grades K-2, felt positively about the program.
- 97% of students, grades K-2, felt positively about the "6 to 6" staff.
- 96% of students, grades K-2, felt positively about doing their homework at "6 to 6."

In addition to this evaluation effort, Hoffman, Clark and Associates was retained to work with San Diego Unified School District's Accountability and Research Office to collect 2000/01 SAT-9 scores for a sample group of students who participated in San Diego's "6 to 6" last year, in order to compare them to baseline data collected for 1999/2000. This study indicated that 57% of students sampled improved their reading scores, and 44% improved their math scores.

In compliance with the legislation required by AB 181 (Zettel, 1999), the City retained the services of WestEd to conduct an independent evaluation of San Diego's "6 to 6" policies and procedures, related to the health and safety of its student participants. The first draft of the interim report has been completed, and the evaluators have concluded that there is no significant difference in the health and safety standards of the license-exempt "6 to 6" programs and those of school-based, licensed child care programs.

CONCLUSION

Upon its inception in September, 1998, the vision for San Diego's "6 to 6" Extended School Day was to provide before and after school services to every public elementary and middle school in the City of San Diego. Remarkably, by September, 2000, that vision had been realized. Now, the focus has shifted to providing the service to every child who needs it, year-round. While the program serves 25,000 students, over 20,000 others are currently on waiting lists to be served. While San Diego's "6 to 6" offers service on each of the 180 regular school days, there are another 75 workdays when services are not offered. While the program has secured \$17 million in funding, another \$25 million in combined funding would be required to truly make "latchkey" children a thing of the past in San Diego.

San Diego's "6 to 6" Extended School Day has made historical strides, bolstered by strong community support and steadfast political will. The new challenge lies in recognizing that the full promise of this goal is within reach, through combined local, State, Federal and private funding sources.