



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
Friday, October 1, 2010

GOOD NEWS! FROM THE VALLEY OF THE SUN YMCA

Y Offers New Youth Development Programs *"Anytown" is now part of the Y*

PHOENIX, AZ: ---The Valley of the Sun YMCA, through their Community Initiatives YMCA, and the new Anytown at the Y, now offers area youth (ages 12 through college) year-round access to camps and programs which will provide opportunities to develop leadership skills, promote personal growth and self-awareness, embrace diversity, learn conflict resolution, and engage in meaningful relationships. Although new to the Y, Anytown youth development programs have a long and rich history in Arizona.

The Anytown at the Y programs include:

- Anytown Junior - a program for students who have completed seventh or eighth grade. The five-day summer camps and the school year Mini-towns both focus on social and emotional development.
- Anytown - a program for high school students. The seven-day summer camps and the school year Unitowns both focus on conflict resolution, leadership development, and diversity appreciation.
- Collegetown - a program for students enrolled in higher education. The six-day summer camps and additional school year camps focus on community activism as well as leadership and diversity.

The Valley of the Sun YMCA through their Community Initiatives YMCA believes these new Anytown at the Y programs will help build a community that develops strong leaders and appreciates diversity.

The Community Initiatives YMCA is a strategic priority for youth development from the Valley of the Sun YMCA. This "branch without walls" operates youth development programming in YMCA service areas throughout Maricopa County and the State of Arizona. The youth development programs offered concentrate in four primary domains of service: High School Dropout Intervention, Work or College Readiness, Youth Leadership, and Youth delinquency prevention and intervention.

About the YMCA:

Over 2600 YMCAs serve 21 million people each year, including nearly 10 million children under the age of 18. YMCAs respond to critical social needs by drawing on their collective strength as one of America's largest not-for-profit community service organizations. Through a variety of programs and services focused on the holistic development of children and youth, family strengthening, and health and well-being for all, YMCAs unite men, women and children of all ages, faiths, backgrounds, abilities, and income levels. From urban areas to small towns, YMCAs have proudly served America's communities for nearly 160 years by building healthy spirit, mind and body for all. Visit valleymca.org to find your local YMCA

**For more information about Anytown at the Y --
or to arrange for an interview with a
Valley of the Sun YMCA Community Initiatives Representative,
please contact: Manda Hurdelbrink • 513.324.8610 cell**



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