Evaluating Youth Programs - 
Parent/Guardian Notification Letter

Dear Parent/Legal Guardian:

Your young person's youth program has been selected to participate in an evaluation of these programs and others. The purpose of the evaluation project is to document the effectiveness of youth programs.

The goal of this project has been to enhance developmental opportunities for youth. Targeted opportunities have included safe and inviting out-of-school youth activities and opportunities to build important life skills.

Your child will be asked to participate in an evaluation study on the effectiveness of the program. Our study will collect information to see how well the program works in addressing such issues as safety, communication between young people and adults and other key program qualities. Participation is completely voluntary.

- Whether or not you allow your young person to participate in this evaluation is your decision.
- Your young person can decide if he/she wants to participate. Young people will also be given the option to refuse to answer any of the questions or withdraw at any time.
- If you allow your young person to participate, he/she will take part in a 30-minute survey to provide us with an understanding of his or her experiences with this program.
- The survey questions ask about how the program worked (e.g., did adults listen to the young people, were young people allowed to make decisions within the program, did they feel safe?).
- No names or identifying information will be collected on these surveys nor will there be any identifying information in the report. We want to protect your young person's privacy.
- The survey responses will be entered into a computer either by your child or by a researcher at the University of Arizona where analyses will be done.
- There are no known risks or direct benefits to those who participate in this evaluation project.
- There is no compensation for participation.

If you do not wish for your young person to participate in this evaluation study, please notify youth worker (Name for each will be inserted) at (Telephone number and address will be inserted).

If you want to learn more about this project, please call Lynne M. Borden at (520) 621-1063. Or write to her at the University of Arizona, Family Studies and Human Development, P.O. Box 210033, Tucson, AZ, 85721-0033.

Also, if you have any questions about your rights as a research participant, you can contact the Human Subjects Protection Program office at 520-626-0433.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Lynne M. Borden, Ph.D.
Evaluation Director
Division of Family Studies & Human Development
The University of Arizona