

Oregon Schools Get Federal Grant for Safer Schools

EUGENE, Ore. (AP) - Nearly \$6.4 million in federal funds will be pumped into Oregon schools to combat school violence as well as drug and alcohol abuse.

President Clinton announced the grants in his weekly radio address Saturday. Nationwide, 54 communities will receive grants totaling more than \$100 million to promote grassroots approaches toward better school safety.

In Oregon, Portland Public Schools will receive \$2.7 million, and a group of Central Oregon districts - Bend/La Pine, Redmond and Sisters - will get nearly \$930,000. The Eugene, Springfield and Bethel school districts will share \$2.8 million.

The districts will use the money to work with police departments, men-

tal health care providers and juvenile justice officials to draw up plans for youth violence prevention.

A key aspect of the districts' proposal, however, is to expand a program developed by the University of Oregon's Institute on Violence and Destructive Behavior.

The program, which emphasizes teaching students proper behavior - not just punishing bad behavior - has attracted national attention and has been credited with turning around severe discipline problems at several schools.

School security is another aspect of the proposal. The districts plan to buy more video cameras and to evaluate the safety structure of schools, including fences and number of exits, Kistner said.

The grants are part of the Safe

School Board Needs New Member

(PORTLAND) — The search is on for a new member of the Portland School Board. Lucious Hicks has resigned because his wife is in poor health. He's been on the board since 1975... longer than anyone else. The board is planning to appoint someone to serve out the remainder of Hick's term, which runs through the end of the school year.

Schools/Healthy Schools Initiative, a joint project of the U.S. departments of Education, Justice and Health and Human Services to develop methods to identify troubled youths and prevent violence.

2000 Neighborhood Business District Grant Applications

The Board of Directors of the Alliance of Portland Neighborhood Business Association is pleased to announce the availability of the 2000 grant applications for business district improvements.

The program, which has operated since 1995, has granted \$122,551 and has created \$237,517 in local match for a total investment of \$360,068 into the community. Many of the colorful banners, gateway signs, benches, public

trash cans, street trees, flower baskets and bowls, and several murals that can be seen from Parkrose to Multnomah and business districts in-between are the result of this grant program. APNBA administers the funding, which comes through the Portland Development Commission from the City of Portland General Fund.

An additional \$25,000 is available for the 2000 Funding Year. Completed applications are due by

October 29, 1999 and the funding committee will make their decisions by mid December 1999. Grant awards are made on January 24, 2000 at the APNBA Quarterly meeting. The maximum funding available to an organization or group interested in sprucing up its business district is \$5000, which requires a one-to-one cash, in-kind or volunteer match.

To obtain an application, call 503-774-2832.



Looking For A Better Chance?

New York, (August 26, 1999) — As President of A Better Chance, Inc., the preeminent national resource for identifying, recruiting and developing leaders among minority youth, Judith Berry Griffin inspires students of all ages who must overcome overwhelming obstacles to achieve academic success. She offers this advice: Aim high, dream big, and don't be deterred by people or circumstances that may point you away from your goal.

"Your dreams can become reality," says Griffin. She should know.

Better Chance has placed more than 10,000 academically talented students of color into some of the nation's most prestigious private

and public college preparatory schools. Many A Better Chance Scholars face significant obstacles: they are from some of the country's most impoverished communities, live at or below Federal income poverty levels, and are raised by single mothers. A Better Chance mission captured the attention of Oprah Winfrey, who believes that Better Chance contributes to better choices academically and professionally.

"The chance to compete in a prep school like Choate or Phillips Exeter Academy appears remote to many of the students I meet," says Griffin. "But, when placed in a nurturing and rigorous environment, they ex-

cel academically and assume positions of leadership in their school and communities."

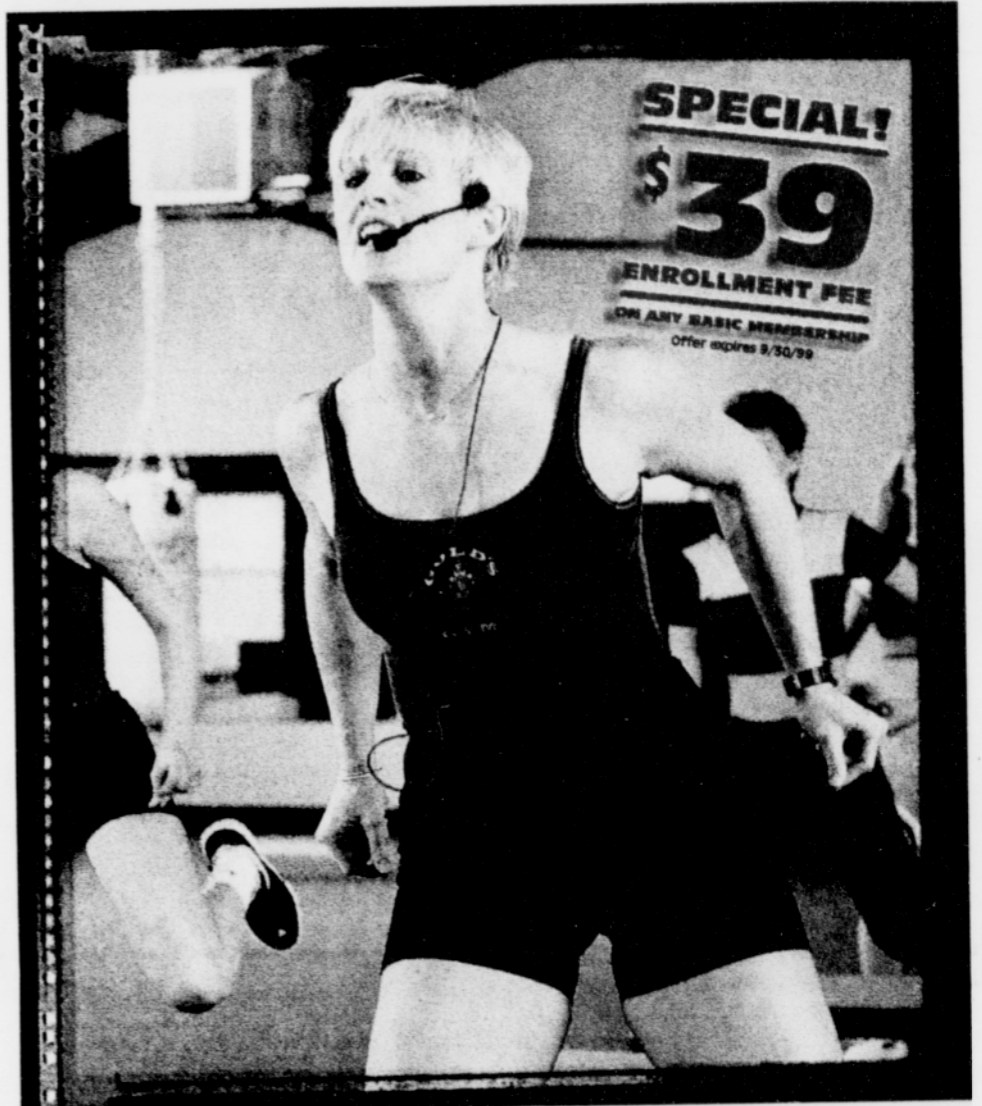
Some notable A Better Chance Scholars include: Grammy-award winning singer and songwriter Tracy Chapman; former US Department of Justice Civil Rights Assistant Attorney General Deval Patrick; and Time South Bureau Chief Sylvester Monroe. "They all had the intelligence and determination to make it happen."

Griffin encourages all students who aspire to achieve academically to keep from getting overwhelmed. She says, "Break tasks into small ones and accomplish them one step at a time.

Keep your focus on where you are going, not where you are."

She adds that it's important to set aside some moments to savor your successes. "Remember to celebrate where you are, on the way to where you're going!"

For information about A Better Chance call 1-800-562-7865 or check out www.abetterchance.org



Summer's over and the kids are going back to class. (Shouldn't you?)



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14 LOCATIONS IN THE PORTLAND METRO AREA

1999 Samaritan Counseling Center Salute To Community Service Goes To Charles Jordan

The Samaritan Counseling Center of Portland, Oregon will give its Salute to Community Service Award to Charles Jordan, Director of Portland Parks and Recreation, at its annual dinner October 1, 1999. Charles Jordan has initiated and implemented successful

programs in the areas of parks and recreation, human resources, public safety, neighborhood organizations, and the environment. He is a staunch proponent of public private agencies and businesses forming partnerships and sharing resources for mutual benefit in

youth and adult recreational programming. The award is given annually to a person who is committed to serving the Portland community from a strong spiritual motivation. Previous recipients include former Senator Mark Hatfield, Margaret Carter, and

Robert Farrell. The Samaritan Counseling Center has provided highly competent counseling and education toward psychological and spiritual health and wholeness for 15 years, to persons of varied financial means. A non-profit organization, it is licensed by Oregon as a provider of outpatient mental health treatment services. Thirteen psychotherapists serve eight sites in the Portland metropolitan area. A SCC counselor can be reached through (503) 281-3318.

Get Homework Help

At your Neighborhood Multnomah County Library

Now that school is in session, the Homework help program will return to all Multnomah County libraries on Tuesday, Oct. 5. Specially trained, volunteer "Homework Helpers" will once again be available each Tuesday from 4-6 p.m. and each Saturday from 2-4 p.m. Homework helpers provide

one-on-one assistance to students completing homework assignments. Homework assistance is also available at Multnomah County Library's Homework Center Web site (www.multnomah.lib.or.us/lib/homework/index.htm). Based on curriculum from Multnomah County Schools, the Homework

Center provides thousands of links to kid-friendly, librarian-reviewed Web Sites. The Homework Help Program is made possible in part by a grant from The Library Foundation. Individuals interested in volunteering to be a homework Helper may call 503.248.5461 for application.

Sound Off on Off-Leash Areas in Portland's Parks

The Portland Parks & Recreation Off-Leash Area (OLA) Citizen Task Force is holding Public hearings in September to hear from the community on the issue of dogs in parks. Are off-leash areas a legitimate use of park's space? Should the City provide OLAs? If so, how should OLAs be managed? A taskforce was formed by PP&R Director Charles Jordan and Commissioner Jim Francesconi

Has explored since it began meeting in May. In order to prepare a policy recommendation, the Task Force has reviewed the following topics: enforcement, health and safety, natural area impacts, maintenance, management, and education. The Task Force is eager to hear community in order to gather more information and to listen to concerns. The hearing are a crucial part of the process Community members are also encouraged to submit letters and email to the OLA Task Force in care of Portland Parks & Recreation, 1120 SW FIFTH Ave, Suite 1302, Portland, OR 97204/ www.portlandparks.org.

LOCATED AT THE FOLLOWING NATURE'S NORTHWEST STORES

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Selfcare at Nature's is about helping people live well by making healthy lifestyle choices to prevent illness and integrating the best of conventional & alternative medicine in treating illness

IT'S A WAY OF LIFE