

The Latest in OST with BOOST



The December BOOST quarterly meeting brings our 2023 year to a close. At the meeting, our members had the chance to undergo training from the [El Paso County Juvenile Probation Department](#) on working with youth. The session focused on preventive measures to redirect youth from involvement in the justice system.

We would like to thank all the members who participated during the networking session where they shared with us about their programs and services, such as [Hight School Equivalency Program from UTEP](#), [Paso del Norte Center of Hope](#), [Friends of the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks](#), [Illumina Public Library](#), [Project Vida](#), [La Rodadora](#), [We Are One Education](#), [Ccompaz AC](#), [Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest](#), and [Yucca Council, Boy Scouts of America](#).

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of you, acknowledging the dedication of all our members throughout the year 2023. We take pride in the ongoing efforts of our members, who consistently contribute to the well-being of families and youth in our region. Furthermore, we express our gratitude for your generous donation of blankets, ensuring that families experience a warmer winter. Thank you for your unwavering support.

We wish you a happy holiday season and look forward to seeing you all again at our next BOOST Network meeting on [March 5, 2024](#).

boost
network



Healthy Kids Program Quality Improvement Self Assessment Tool is already open to measure the impact of OST activities that occurred throughout the last school year cycle (including summer).

Attention Members!

Did you know that the quality improvement self-assessment tool is now available for use?

To optimize your utilization of the tool, you must have:

- Implemented an after-school program for the entire school year, including summer activities, approximately between August 2022 and August 2023.
- Number of children served during this period in the following age ranges 5-10, 11-13, 14-17; and the number of children served during the summer term in the same age ranges.
- That the person conducting the evaluation is an active participant in the program.
- A person conducting the assessment who provides honest feedback and is willing to receive recommendations and modify the program.

The tool is open to all afterschool programs and service providers until [December 31, 2023](#).

[Survey](#)

Member Highlights & Activities

Un Día Mágico en el Museo - La Rodadora



[La Rodadora](#) invites the community to participate in a day full of magic and activities for the whole family at the museum on **December 9, 10, 16, and 17 from 12:00 to 8:00 pm.**

Space is limited, and there is a fee of \$180 pesos.

For more information, and to purchase tickets, [click here.](#)

Reading to Catz at the ZOO - El Paso Public Library



Do you love reading and kittens? The [El Paso Public Library](#) invites the community to join the Clardy Fox Library to expand their reading skills and receive free kitty snuggles at the [El Paso Zoo](#) on **December 15 from 10:00 am to 11:00 am.**

For more information, [click here.](#)

Holiday Lights Bike Ride - Friends of the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks

[Friends of the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks](#) will host a Holiday Lights Bike Ride on **Friday, December 15**, starting at Las Cruces Plaza downtown and is inviting the entire community to join in by wearing holiday attire, as well as bringing bike lights, helmets, and decorations.

For more information, [click here.](#)



Professional Development & Funding Opportunities

CDC Parent & Child Mental Health Survey - Action for Healthy Kids



The [CDC Foundation](#) in partnership with [Action for Healthy Kids](#) wants to learn about parents' views about youth mental health and safety. You are invited to participate in an online survey to share your concerns about your child's mental health and what resources you would want schools to provide for your child's mental health.

All parents/ caregivers of school-aged children attending public school in the U.S. are eligible to participate.

The survey will take about 20 - 30 minutes, and you will receive a \$15 Amazon Gift Card for submitting a completed survey.

To fill out the survey, [click here](#).

Child Maltreatment: A Guide for Child Care Professionals - Texas A&M Agrilife

[Texas A&M Agrilife](#) invites you to this free 2-hour online course designed to provide child care professionals, including caregivers and administrators,



with the tools to prevent, identify and report child abuse and neglect among the children in their care.

Nearly one million cases of child maltreatment, which includes both abuse and neglect, are confirmed each year, and many more likely go unreported. Maltreatment has a long-term impact on the affected child, and also carries great costs to families, communities, and society as a whole.

[Click here](#) to register and learn more.

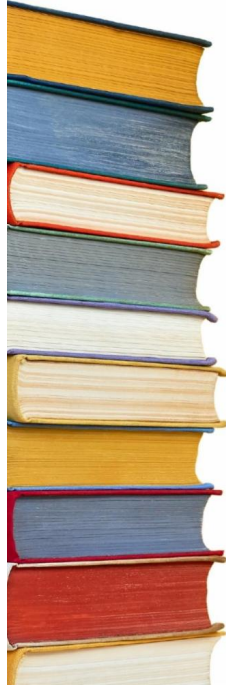
Sustaining the Transformative Power of the OST Workforce - Afterschool Alliance



Youth work is a sacred opportunity to make a significant difference children's and youth's lives. Join [Afterschool Alliance](#) for an exciting webinar featuring authors from the recent volume *The Heartbeat of the Youth Development Field: Professional Journeys of Growth, Connection, and Transformation*, in which curated personal narratives written by youth workers shine a light on the intricate connections between research and practice, touching upon both the vulnerability and triumph of youth development work.

In this webinar, we will hear from youth development professionals and researchers about how youth workers' lived experiences inspire the ability to build relationships that are the foundation of positive and healthy youth development.

[Click here](#) to watch the webinar.



Check out our



New resources have been added such as:

- Solving the Workforce Puzzle: The OST Profession and Job Quality
- Youth Fields Workforce Perspectives

Find this and more here



Connect with Us!



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