



Afterschool is
OK!

All you need is Loveworks!

Summer 2011

Loveworks

Buried in the heart of sooner territory lies a campus heavily populated by some of Norman's brightest youth! Loveworks is an organization that caters to more than 30 students twice a week providing positive guidance and comprehensive learning!



Who?

A welcoming atmosphere!

The vision for Loveworks Inc. was introduced by Founder, Clark Mitchell who was passionate about inspiring the youth of Norman. Operating as an initiative under Loveworks Inc. the Loveworks Afterschool Initiative has been impacting the Norman community for nearly two years. Utilizing the help of organizations like the Oklahoma Regional Foodbank and Journey Church, Loveworks is able to provide a hearty dinner once a month to students in an ornately decorated facility. Loveworks Director, Michael Hirsch comments that the students enjoy the dinners "they especially love the presentation of dinner" each student has the opportunity to take turns serving. Hirsch also adds, "because of their support from Journey Church, Loveworks is able to provide a safe and conveniently located facility ideal for fun and creative activities."

What?

The Loveworks Afterschool Initiative serves Norman students between the ages of 11 and 15, by providing a safe environment where students can be creative and realize their true potential. Loveworks students meet twice a week to engage in activities such as music production, personal finance, athletic talents, and culinary arts. Deviating from a typical school day, students often begin their day being transported from school to the Loveworks campus and ushered into the auditorium to discuss the daily objective and a daily energizer! Students are then separated into their tutoring groups and end their day with dinner and a daily project!

FOCUS:

The Loveworks Afterschool Initiative strives to create a welcoming environment where students can discover their true potential.

How?

Character development- In hopes to support the anti-bullying stance taken in the Oklahoma Public Schools, Loveworks has taken a leadership role in the Norman Public Schools by introducing the Peer to Peer Mentoring program. Students who participate are given the opportunity to participate in peer leadership trainings to prepare them to be active leaders in their schools. While in the leadership role students will plan and implement speak out forums for students.

Leadership development- Loveworks hosts a week long leadership camp during the summer that equips the young leaders for another school year! During this year's Leadership Camp students were able to choose from an assortment of activities such as culinary arts, music/hip hop, commercial production and athletics!

Artistic development- Loveworks supports artistic expression and growth for all students. Hirsch commented, "We especially love to expose students to new things."

Win!

Keeping with the vision to *develop leaders one child at a time*, Loveworks aims to empower each student with the skills needed to flourish!



Thinking of a master plan!



3909 N. Classen Blvd., Suite 101
OKC, OK 73118
Phone: 405.236.5437 xt.121
Fax: 405.236.5439
email: okafterschool@oica.org
www.okafterschool.org

OKAN is a statewide initiative coordinated by the Oklahoma Institute for Child Advocacy.



**Brought to you by Marissa Lightsey,
Americorps Member serving with
the Oklahoma Afterschool Network**

The Million Dollar Question...

Although Loveworks is a small initiative it operates with a large vision, Hirsch comments "I like to think of Loveworks in the future tense not the present tense." Loveworks would eventually like to expand their reach to more neighborhoods in Oklahoma, however operating with a limited number of staff members can pose a problem Hirsch comments "I love my volunteers, but I would love to have more staff members." The Loveworks staff will be gearing up for the 2011 - 2012 semester and will be invading sooner country in august!

To find out more about the Loveworks Program contact:
Program Director, Michael Hirsch
Phone: (405)-397-9576