



# CITY OF SANTA FE YOUTH PROGRAMS 2025



# AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM



- The City of Santa Fe Youth Program offers daily afterschool childcare to elementary aged children throughout our community.
- The Afterschool Program at GCCC offers a comprehensive package for students, including transportation from participating schools to the center. Students can enjoy an hour of daily recreational activities, carefully designed to be engaging and fun. From court sports and games to outdoor recreation, ice skating, swimming, arts and crafts, field trips, special guest presentations, and hands-on projects – the program ensures a diverse range of activities to cater to different interests. Additionally, students are provided with a healthy snack and homework help as needed, ensuring a well-rounded and enriching experience that promotes both physical and mental well-being.
- When fully staffed, we serve up to 90 child participants, ages 6-12. Staff to child ratio is 15:1
  - Program times are Monday-Thursday 3pm-6pm, Fridays 1:00pm-6pm
- Program fee is designed to be affordable and accessible for families. The fee is \$50 per month, per child, due at time of registration.



# SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY CAMPS

•The City of Santa Fe Youth Program is committed to supporting families by offering school closure day camps. These camps provide essential childcare services during school closure dates, such as parent/teacher conferences, Spring Break, and Winter Break. Parents can rely on the program to ensure their children are well taken care of and engaged in fun and educational activities during these breaks. By providing this valuable service, the City of Santa Fe Youth Program helps alleviate some of the stress and challenges that families may face when schools are closed. It also gives children the opportunity to socialize, learn, and have a memorable experience outside of the regular school environment.

•Programming is consistent with other Youth Program offerings, providing participants with structured outdoor and indoor recreational activities, arts and crafts, board games, ice skating, and swimming.

•Programs run from 7:30am-5:30pm, and are dependent on SFPS in-services and school closure dates.

•Fee is determined on an income based sliding scale, and range from \$15-\$40 per day, per child.



# SUMMER PROGRAMS

•The City of Santa Fe Summer Youth Program offers recreation focused programming designed to keep children engaged, active, social, and having fun during their summer break.

Program hours are Mon-Fri 7:30am-5:30pm.

•Our partnership with the SFPS has been crucial in facilitating our summer programs across five schools in Santa Fe. This placement ensures that families from all areas of the city can easily access our programs, designed for children ages 6 to 12. In addition to hosting our programs, SFPS also provides breakfast and lunch for all participating children.

•Summer Programming is consistent throughout each site, offering participants a schedule that includes outdoor recreational time, indoor court sports and games, arts and crafts projects, as well as fun themed activities and a talent show for participants.

• Additionally, in-town swimming and ice-skating trips are provided once per week, as well as out of town field trips to a variety of educational, fun locations in Albuquerque. Field trips include Rio Grande Zoo, Explora, Top Golf, Main Event and more.

• We utilize an online appointment platform for families to secure registration appointments for the summer programs. This system eliminates the need for long lines and early arrivals, streamlining the process. By providing a convenient way for parents to schedule appointments online, we help them better plan around their busy schedules and ensure they have all the required documents ready. With the support and recommendation of Director Sanchez-Tucker, we implemented early registration for City employees this year.

•Programs are affordable and accessible. The fee is due at time of registration and is determined on an income-based sliding scale.



# SUMMER PROGRAMS



Safety and well-being are our top priority. We strictly follow guidelines to provide a secure environment for all children. With a staff to child ratio of 15:1, our dedicated team ensures attentiveness and meaningful engagement with each participant. children will be grouped together based on age (6-7, 8-9, and 10-12). Age-appropriate grouping fosters social development and peer relationships, that supports a positive experience for every child in our program.



Our summer activities are designed to be Fun, Educational, and Safe, with a strong focus on recreation and keeping the youth active. Thanks to our partnership with the Community Educators Network (C.E.N.), we are able to incorporate Art and Educational activities into our program. Partner programs visit one site per week and rotate through all the schools, offering variety and supporting educational retention over the summer. This summer's partners are: We Grow. Eco, Site Santa Fe, Audubon Center, SF Water Shed, Wise Fool, and Lensic Performing Arts. This collaboration allows us to provide specialized programming that may not always be accessible to all families.

Each site has an end of summer field day with fun games, obstacles, face painting and more! Pizza party, popsicles, and splash down by the Santa Fe Fire Department!



# FEEDBACK FROM PARENTS

Dear Melissa, Adrianna, Kylie, Ms. Kat and the entire Youth Program Staff, Sheena and I would like to thank you for all of the work, time, love, and care that has gone into the program this school year. Aris has loved his time, made good friends, learned new things (he now loves to skate) and found a new home of trusted adults who nurture and guide him. What a gift for us as working parents to know that he is in good hands every day after school and on day camps also.

Our deepest gratitude, Chris and Sheena

Thank you so much for putting on the summer program. I discovered it last year and it is all my daughter talks about since the weather got warmer. The amount of coordination and effort really shines through. Rikki-Lee Chavez



# FEEDBACK FROM PARENTS

It is with heartfelt appreciation that I write in support of the City of Santa Fe's After School, Day Camp, and Summer Camp programs. These programs have had an incredible and lasting impact on my daughter, Nikki, and I am deeply grateful for the service they provide to families in our community. The transformation I've witnessed in Nikki over the past few years is nothing short of remarkable. From the moment she joined the programs, I could see how the environment nurtured her confidence, independence, and sense of belonging. What began as simple participation in recreational activities quickly grew into a meaningful experience that helped shape who she is today. I still remember taking Nikki ice skating for the first time. She was terrified and wouldn't let go of my arm. Now, thanks to the encouragement and supportive environment provided by the City's youth program team, she skates freely, even backwards, and talks about wanting to pursue it more seriously. This is the kind of growth that comes when young people are given the space to explore, try, and thrive. These programs do so much more than fill time after school or during summer breaks. They foster social development, teamwork, creativity, and leadership. Nikki has grown more outgoing, collaborative, and expressive, especially through music. She once struggled with stage fright, but now sings with joy and confidence alongside her camp friends. That kind of self-expression is powerful, and it has been cultivated through consistent, compassionate guidance. The staff, from counselors to program leaders, approach their work with genuine care and understanding. They do not just organize activities. They build relationships and create a safe, encouraging atmosphere where children feel valued and empowered. What makes this even more meaningful is the affordability of these programs. The City has made it possible for families from all backgrounds to access high-quality, enriching recreational experiences without financial hardship. That kind of accessibility is rare and invaluable. It ensures that more children can benefit from the development, joy, and sense of community these camps provide. Programs like these are not just nice to have. They are essential. They give back to the youth of Santa Fe by investing in their development, offering them joyful experiences, and teaching them life skills in ways that are fun, accessible, and rooted in community values. The impact extends beyond individual families; it strengthens the fabric of our city. I am endlessly grateful to Melissa Bustos and the entire GCCC Youth Program team for their commitment and heart. Nikki is just one of many children whose life has been changed by their work, and I cannot recommend these programs more highly. With sincere appreciation, Erika Lujan



THANK YOU