



## **Houston's Kids Empowers Youth**

Between the hours of 3:00 and 6:00 p.m., kids are most at risk of getting into trouble or becoming victims of a crime. United Way knows that positive out-of-school programs can help children avoid trouble and reach their full potential.

Houston's Kids was launched in 2006 to engage youth in safe, comprehensive and affordable out-of-school programs that meet their changing needs and enhance academic, social and personal development. At-risk students in the Alief Independent School District participate in recreational activities and math and science enrichment. They get help with their homework and explore music, art and drama. Houston's Kids offers an employment training program for high school students and social services support for children and their families.

When kids have a safe place to go, caring supervision and a nurturing and engaging environment to grow in, they have a better chance of becoming all they can be.

Now in its third year, Houston's Kids continues to make a positive impact on at-risk youth. Results show that students participating in Houston's Kids are better prepared to avoid drugs, alcohol and conflict. Approximately 75% of Houston's Kids report feeling good about themselves and approximately 81% report that they can plan ahead and make good choices for themselves. Houston's Kids participants in fourth through eighth grade had a lower level of absences as compared to a control group.

They are more likely to plan ahead and make smart choices. Focused on success, approximately 88 percent of students report "I feel good about the future."

Houston's Kids is committed to creating a better future for children, their families and our entire community. Of parents surveyed, 82% feel that their child/youth feels prepared to do better in school.

United Way of Greater Houston is proud to partner with Alief ISD, YMCA, Communities in Schools and the Children's Museum of Houston to make a lasting difference in the lives of at-risk children and their families through this unique collaborative. Together, we *do something about it*.

For more information about Houston's Kids, contact [Amy Corron](#) at (713) 685-2302.