

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ANNUAL AFTER-SCHOOL FAIR SET FOR AUGUST 17TH ON BELLE ISLE

Event hosted by The Youth Connection will feature free backpacks, school supplies, bike helmets, books and lunch for youth. The Fair will feature after-school programs, health information, entertainment, and free food basket giveaways.

August 8, 2013, Detroit, MI – The Youth Connection is hosting the 12th Annual After-School/Back-to-School/Off-to-College Fair on Saturday, August 17th, from noon until 4 pm at the Casino on Belle Isle. Approximately 2,500 parents and children along with elected officials, after-school programs and other non-profit youth-serving agencies are expected to attend the event which will kick-off the new school year. The Youth Connection will be giving out free backpacks, school supplies, books, and bike helmets for youth and free food baskets for families while supplies last. Youth ages 18 and under will also receive a free lunch as part of the event.

In addition to the fun and games, several organizations will be on hand to give parents one-stop shopping for all of their needs. The Kohl's Injury Prevention Program at Children's Hospital will be on hand to distribute free youth bike helmets and information about child safety. The Institute for Population Health will be providing child immunizations and other health-related information for families inside the casino. The Fair will also feature college admissions personnel on-site for older youth.

The event will be free to the public and will also feature enrollment options for after-school program providers and family entertainment. Love Detroit Youth II is hosting a 5K walk before the Fair begins at 11 am to raise awareness about substance abuse prevention in Detroit.

Studies show that after-school programs contribute significantly to overall development and education of our children. Yet, parents have indicated that they are unaware of the after-school programs available in their neighborhoods. The 12th Annual After-School Fair is one significant way to increase parental awareness of a wide variety of programs for children and youth.

The 12th Annual After-School/Back-to-School/Off-to-College Fair is hosted by The Youth Connection and presented by the Institute for Population Health Bureau of Substance Abuse Prevention, Treatment and Recovery. Sponsors of the event include the Wayne County Department of Human Services, DTE Energy, Love Detroit Youth II, City of Detroit, Molina Healthcare, St. John Providence Health System, Health Alliance Plan, DMC Children's Hospital, Michigan First Credit Union and the Detroit Field Office of the FBI.

For more information, please call 313-826-7099 or visit our website at www.afterschoolfair.com. All giveaways are available while supplies last.

The Youth Connection is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to connecting our youth to a brighter future through career exploration, job training, internships, after-school programs and academic assistance for metropolitan Detroit area youth. For more information about The Youth Connection, visit www.theyouthconnection.org. For more information about the Fair, please visit www.afterschoolfair.com.

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