



Metropolitan Family Service

[www .metfamily.org](http://www.metfamily.org)

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Metropolitan Family Service Expands After School Programs Four North Clackamas Elementary Schools and Four Gresham Barlow Elementary Schools Provide After School Programs Through 21st Century Grant Funding

Metropolitan Family Service (MFS) has received two Oregon Department of Education 21st Century Grants to provide after school programs in the North Clackamas and Gresham/Barlow School Districts. The grants target schools in high poverty areas.

In particular, East County school districts have seen a significant increase in students qualifying for free or reduced cost school lunches, a key indicator of poverty. An analysis of the increase was presented by MFS to district school boards to raise awareness of the rapidly changing demographics in the area.

See chart below.

	2000-01	2005-06	Percent of Population	Percent Increase
Portland Public Schools	10,188	21,199	48%	108%
East County School Districts	4,243	22,771	52%	437%

The programs – Child & Family Enrichment (CAFE) - are modeled after successful MFS after school programs at Lot Whitcomb Elementary and Rowe Middle School in North Clackamas. Each new CAFE site will serve 100 students per year. An increase of nearly 400 students from last year.

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The CAFE program has been particularly successful in assisting students that are performing below benchmarks and face barriers to achievement. To address these needs, CAFE curriculums are designed to enhance school day learning. They include a broad range of engaging enrichment activities and provide older adult



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mentors and daily homework assistance. For parents, there are family literacy and adult education classes. “The Metropolitan Family Service CAFE program has been a wonderful benefit for our students and families,” said Ron Naso Superintendent North Clackamas School District. “The coordinators work closely with our staff to support and reinforce the curriculum in the after school classes and activities, creating more learning opportunities for students.”

Metropolitan Family Service after school programs have been shown to yield measurable results in academic achievement, increased parental involvement, and development of positive life skills among participating students. According to Superintendent Naso, “The schools are seeing the benefits in improved test scores and classroom participation.” The goal of CAFE is to have 100% of participating students meet standards in reading, writing, and math.

Background Information

About **Metropolitan Family Service** (MFS): For more than half a century, Metropolitan Family Service has played a vital role in the lives of children, families, and older adults. We provide services at more than 160 sites, including more than 80 schools. Metropolitan Family Service makes connections that strengthen the lives of 30,000 individuals and families each year.

For more information contact Pat Kaczmarek, Marketing and Communications Manager at 503.232.0007 ext.170. You can visit our website at www.metfamily.org.

CAFE – Children and Family Enrichment – provides after school classes and activities to promote student success by engaging children and their families. CAFE features reading, writing, drama, art and math in a after school literacy program.. The schools to receive the grant funding include: Clackamas, Lewelling, Linwood and Oak Grove Elementary Schools in the North Clackamas School District and Highland, Hall, East Gresham, and North Gresham elementary schools in the Gresham/Barlow district. Financial support for Metropolitan Family Service CAFE schools includes funding through the 21st Century Learning Centers, local school districts and the generous support of corporate, private and individual supporters. For more information, contact Brooke Tuveson, program manager at 503.704.7591.

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