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June 20, 2008

**ARCHS
Monitoring Summary**

Scope and Methodology

The Department of Social Services (DSS), Children's Division, Early Childhood and Prevention Services section conducted a monitoring of ARCHS (the Partnership) on March 10, 11, 12, 2008. The Start Up and Expansion (SUE), Early/RE Accreditation Facilitation (E/RA), Out of School Time (OST) and the Stay At Home Parent (SAHP) programs were reviewed for the first half of fiscal year 2008. The monitoring was held primarily at the Partnership office. Alicia Jenkins led the monitoring for the state. Bryan Evans (OST) and Laura Lambrix (SUE, SAHP, and E/RA) were the primary interviewees regarding programming during the monitoring. All available documentation was reviewed and onsite and offsite interviews were conducted.

Out of School Time Observation

The reviewer was provided an opportunity to tour several of the Out of School Time sites. The visits provided an opportunity for the reviewer to see the programs first hand. The children at both the programs were friendly and seemed to be actively engaged. Program staff appeared to be proud to show off their programs to visitors and gladly shared information about program operations. Staff turnover was reported as limited. Parents were observed signing their children in and out. Parents and staff appeared to engage in conversation about the children and the program. Site managers meet regularly and team meetings are held to ensure that contractual requirements are met. All sites are licensed. ARCHS appears to have a strong presence in the statewide Afterschool community. ARCHS is a key stakeholder in the St. Louis community in supporting and building coordinated efforts to provide afterschool for all children. All files provided for review contained all the appropriate documentation. The OST program provides an opportunity for children and families to engage in enriching activities in a safe and enjoyable environment. The OST program appears to have checks and balances to maintain program integrity. ARCHS should be proud of its OST program. The commitment to the OST programs by the Partnership, subcontractors, and program staff was clearly evident. The OST contractual requirements are being met.

Recommendation: None