



Press Release

For Immediate Release

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Contact: Thomas Azzarella

(907) 602-0569 tazzarella@alaskachildrenstrust.org

Sierra Moskios of Homer named Alaska Afterschool Superhero

Homer- Due to COVID-19, the challenges facing our students, families, and communities this year couldn't be greater, and once more afterschool professionals across Alaska rose to meet these challenges to ensure student success! Each year, the Alaska Afterschool Network recognizes 5 Afterschool superheroes that have gone above and beyond to change the lives of Alaska's children and ensure access to high-quality afterschool programming. Sierra Moskios, Homer R.E.C. Room Coordinator at Kachemak Bay Family Planning Clinic, exemplifies extraordinary dedication to the field of afterschool.

Sierra's efforts have led to a revival of the R.E.C room's (Youth Resource & Enrichment Co-op) online presence, which has not only helped to increase outreach and attendance, but also aided with the program's ability to keep in touch with participants during the decreased in-person time brought with COVID-19. Sierra also planned and executed the R.E.C. Room's first ever Virtual Artwalk, creating slides for each youth artist to be honored, securing a local youth artist to deliver a keynote, and applying for a received mini grant, used to provide participants with gift cards to the local art store and to compensate the local artist's time.

Sierra reaches out to parents when needed to build meaningful relationships with them and to understand how to best support their child. She reaches out to participants on a regular basis to offer resources and support, and to help them to feel included by encouraging them to join in and engage. "Sierra's practice of creating individual relationships with the youth that we serve and providing them with the resources, or connections to resources that they may need beyond our afterschool programs offerings, is essential to the health of our community", says a colleague of hers.

The full list of five Afterschool Superheroes for 2021 are:

MO DART | Teen Program Coordinator, Boys and Girls Club of Fairbanks (Fairbanks, AK)

PAM GINGUE | Program Coordinator of Gateway After-school Programs (GAP), Alaska Gateway School District (Tok, AK)

JAZZANNE GORDON-FRETWELL | Executive Director, North Star Youth Court (Fairbanks, AK)

SIERRA MOSKIOS | R.E.C. Room Coordinator, Kachemak Bay Family Planning Clinic R.E.C. Room, (Homer, Alaska)

JULIE JOHNSON | Environmental Educator, US Bureau of Land Management Campbell Creek Science Center (Anchorage, AK)

For more information on the Alaska Afterschool Network, visit akafterschool.org or to read more about all 5 Superheroes, [go to our blog](#).

[Alaska Afterschool Network](#) is statewide collaboration supporting, strengthening and advocating for afterschool programs in Alaska and is a project of [Alaska Children's Trust](#). Contact [Thomas Azzarella](#), Director, for more information.

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