

AFTERNOON RECREATIONAL PROGRAM (ARP)

Parsons Child & Family Center's Afternoon Recreational Program (ARP) provides recreational and creative arts activities in a therapeutic and supportive afterschool setting for Albany County children age 7–12 who have mental health needs. Participants are scheduled to be involved in a range of small group activities including gym, music, art, computers, cooking, movies, and games with an overall emphasis on social skills enhancement. Program staff possess background and credentialing in special education and work closely with participants' primary service providers.

AVAILABLE SERVICES

- Structured recreational and creative arts activities in a therapeutic and supportive afterschool setting
- Transportation is available to the city of Albany and other outlying areas; youth are picked up at their respective schools or homes, and are returned home each day after the end of the program

BENEFITS

- Provides a supervised, structured environment for participant during afterschool hours
- Fosters positive social skills development through group activity
- Facilitates participant development of appropriate relationships with peers and caring adults

Who can access services? Albany County youth ages 7–12 who are receiving primary mental health and/or preventive services typically because of social, emotional, and behavioral challenges. Enrollees are most often unable to participate in more traditional types of community afterschool programming due to their need for intensive support and supervision. ARP is an adjunct to services provided by a participant's primary clinical program.

How are services accessed? Call 518.426.2772 for referral or information. Children may be referred to the program by their parent, primary clinical program, ICM, school district, private therapist, or other service provider.

When are services available? The program is located on the Parsons Child & Family Center's Academy Road campus and runs year-round on specified weekdays from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.