



Sports4Kids Spotlight: Eunice Dunham

Eunice Dunham began her illustrious career with Sports4Kids as a Site Coordinator at Rosa Parks Elementary School in Berkeley, Calif. Following two years of stellar service to the school and its community, Eunice took on the challenge of being an Area Director in Oakland, and merely one year later, Eunice was on her way to the East Coast to start up Sports4Kids in "Beantown," Boston, Mass.

What's the most exciting thing about the Boston program?

When you first present the idea of Sports4Kids to people, they look at you like you're reading them a fairy tale, as if the notion that a single person changing the school climate is more fantasy than reality. A year later, these same people are stunned at the power of our program and the progress it's made in the schools we serve. I'm very proud of that.

Why did you decide to make the move?

After my first year as a Site Coordinator I realized the power of this program, and I knew immediately that I wanted as many children as possible to be able to experience this incredible movement. Launching Boston was my way of doing that. Now that I'm here, I love the city more every day. It grows on you. It's different from the West Coast. The pace is a bit frenetic, but I'm getting into the flow of things.



What is your vision for Sports4Kids Boston?

At Sports4Kids we believe that playing should be a part of every student's school day. Six inches of snow may deter some, but

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Sports4Kids by the Numbers:

8,720 Dollars to raise by March 31 to maximize a 2:1 match from a generous, anonymous donor

1,392 Girls who played in Sports4Kids basketball leagues nationwide

40 Corporate kickball teams expected to play in June 2008 tournaments

29.6 Percentage of time scissors is thrown in officially sanctioned Rock, Paper, Scissors competitions – the lowest of all three.

2008 CORPORATE KICKBALL TOURNAMENTS

You've been watching the clock...

The playground is waiting...

The bell rings...

It can only mean one thing...

It's Corporate Kickball time!

Have a blast and support Sports4Kids by having your business or corporation field a team for one of our four nationwide tournaments. Simply gather eight to 12 of your co-workers and we'll take care of the rest.

What's in store?

- An exciting afternoon of team-building and networking over grass stains and a big red bouncy ball
- A delicious picnic lunch with refreshments for all
- An improved tournament set up, including a revamped pitching and scoring system
- A shot at engraved immortality on the traveling Silver Bowl trophy

If you're interested in having your corporation or organization field a team for one of this summer's tournaments (scheduled for June 2008) please contact your local Sports4Kids office:

San Francisco Bay Area:

Steve Fox at (510) 893-4180 or steve@sports4kids.org

Baltimore:

David Gilmore at (410) 662-1220 or dgilmore@sports4kids.org

Boston:

Eunice Dunham at (617) 522-3600 or eunice@sports4kids.org

Washington, D.C.:

Christopher Rehling at (202) 822-0097 or crehling@sports4kids.org

Bay Area Corporate Community Rocks Recess

In an effort to accurately portray the influence and importance of Sports4Kids' school-day programming, we recently developed a new concept: the Interactive Site Visit. On Nov. 9, Sports4Kids launched the first of these school site visits with representatives from the San Francisco Bay Area business community including eBay, 24 Hour Fitness, Presidio Bank, Vertical Systems Inc. and Clif Bar.

After a morning of networking over bagels and coffee at the Sports4Kids Oakland office, our participants were treated to a 90 minute interactive training session facilitated by the Sports4Kids Community Training Program. The crash course in coaching included proven group management tools for working with children and a basic set of games and conflict resolution techniques. From there our newly trained, bright eyed "Corporate Coaches" were delivered to schools where, with the assistance of

additional Sports4Kids staff members, they led games with children on the playground, solved problems, and had a blast! The feelings were mutual as many children eagerly asked when their new "coaches" would be coming back.

Due to the success of this pilot program, Sports4Kids will be offering Interactive Site Visits to individuals looking to form a partnership with Sports4Kids in Boston, Washington D.C., Baltimore, the Silicon Valley, and the San Francisco Bay Area. For more information on this opportunity please contact the following:

Baltimore:

David Gilmore, (410) 662-1220

Boston:

Eunice Dunham, (617) 522-3600

Washington, D.C.:

Christopher Rehling, (202) 822-0097

Silicon Valley:

Phuoc Nguyen, (408) 719-1399

San Francisco Bay Area:

Steve Fox, (510) 893-4180


Thank you Bank of America!



Juliet Don, Senior Vice President, presents Sports4Kids Program Director Odiaka Gonzales with a contribution from the Bank of America Charitable Foundation at a celebration for the Bank of America Neighborhood Builder grantees.

"The Interactive Site Visit greatly exceeded my expectations. I truly felt that I made a difference in the young lives that I came into contact with that day. I left feeling uplifted and motivated to continue supporting this great cause."

—Troy Croghan, 24 Hour Fitness, Interactive Site Visit participant



got tickets?

If you have transferable airline vouchers burning a hole in your pocket, donate them to Sports4Kids! We will be sending 16 staff to New Orleans and St. Louis in April to demonstrate the power of play in hopes of opening new offices there in September 2008. Contact Elizabeth Cushing, Director of Development, at elizabeth@sports4kids.org to contribute your tickets to Sports4Kids' expansion effort.

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not us. Most of the schools we work in have no gymnasiums, and our resourceful Site Coordinators have turned hallways into organized four square courts and cardboard boxes into basketball hoops. We do whatever it takes to make sure that play remains a priority regardless of the weather. It's my vision that our work will influence more Boston educators to adopt our philosophy and make play a part of every day.

So, are you a Sox fan yet?

Fenway's great, but my heart will always be with the A's

STARS IN THE FIELD



Joe Cokes, Oasis High, Oakland, Calif.

Coach Joe's Wednesday Service Days in the After School Program allow his students to participate in public service events — such as the recent field trip to a speech by Oakland Mayor Ron Dellums and Former President Bill Clinton — and learn more about their community.



Dani DeLaurentis, Lee Academy, Boston, Mass.

Coach Dani's boundless energy has helped her successfully rise to the challenge of adapting the Sports4Kids curriculum to work with eight (!) preschool classes this year.



Jordan Smith, Academia Bilingüe de la Comunidad Public Charter, Washington, D.C.

Coach Jordan hosts a weekly recess football game with the cherished "Title Belt" being awarded to the team that most exemplifies hard work and good sporting behavior.



Evelia Ramirez-Guerra, Lincoln Elementary, Richmond, Calif.

Coach Evelia bolsters her English and Spanish-speaking students' communication skills and self-esteem by displaying their daily journals and writing workshop projects throughout the school.



Terrell Lyles, Alexander Hamilton Elementary, Baltimore, Md.

Coach Terrell has created a tremendous sense of togetherness and community in his After School Program while providing a creative outlet for his students to communicate through the "Express Yourself" wall, dedicated to the kids' artwork and inspirational quotes.



Mary Kelly, Adelante Spanish Immersion, Redwood City, Calif.

Coach Mary has successfully organized a Yoga club, introduced an entire school to the game of Ultimate Frisbee, and takes time out of her weekends to coordinate and facilitate a variety of extracurricular events for her school's Junior Coaches and various other teams.



"Sports do not build character. They reveal it."

— John Robert Wooden

Sports4Kids Girls' Basketball Goes National

Now in its eighth year, the Sports4Kids Interscholastic Girls' Basketball League has become a highly anticipated winter ritual for Sports4Kids' students and families. As one of the cornerstones of Sports4Kids' family and community involvement, it has also become an absolute necessity when we bring our program to new cities. To that end, our skills-based, developmental leagues have recently completed their 2007-08 seasons in all four of our expansion cities as well as across the San Francisco Bay Area. Nationwide, we now have nearly 1,400 girls on 116 teams, many playing basketball for the first time in their lives.

"Because of the Girls' Basketball League, I had people cheering for me for the first time in my life."

-Sabrina, Lincoln Elementary School, Oakland, Calif.

Girls' Basketball Stats

Baltimore: 192 girls, 16 teams, 3rd year

Boston: 144 girls, 12 teams, 2nd year

Washington, DC: 84 girls, 7 teams, 1st year

Silicon Valley: 156 girls, 13 teams, 2nd year

San Francisco Bay Area: 816 girls, 68 teams, 8th year

"I can't believe my parents were watching me playing basketball, and tonight I made a basket! My parents were so proud of me. I love basketball and I love Sports4Kids' Girls' Basketball League!"

-Amber, Lincoln Elementary School, Oakland, Calif.



Opening Up the Playbook:

Switch

Here's a Sports4Kids classic that works for kids (and adults) of all ages. It's simple, active and perfect for playing anywhere — from your backyard to your office lobby. Mom, apple pie, and Switch. That's just how we roll.

Switch

Group Size: 5-55

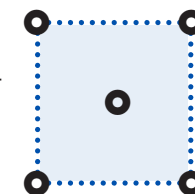
Age Group: 4-94

Length of Activity: 10 minutes

Equipment Needed:

Cones, chalk, or other markers

Set-Up: A four square court or four cones/markers forming a square and one in the middle



Developmental Goal:

To develop active listening capability.

Skills Practiced:

Agility, communication, and conflict resolution.

How to Play:

- There must be at least five players at a time. Four players each occupy one of the four corners, and one player occupies the middle marker.

- Play begins when the person at the middle marker says "Switch!".
- When "Switch!" is called, all players (including the player occupying the middle marker) must find a new corner to occupy. You may not run to the middle marker, and you may not stay at your corner.
- If two players arrive at the corner at the same time, a quick Ro Sham Bo is played, winner stays.
- The player without a corner to occupy walks to the end of the line to wait for his/her next turn.
- The first person in line walks to the middle marker and begins the next round by saying "Switch!"

Before You Start:

- Make sure participants understand the four corners and the middle marker.
- Review how to Ro Sham Bo (Rock Paper Scissors). Rock beats scissors, scissors beats paper, paper beats rock.

- Play a practice round.

Variations:

- Add more outer markers for players to occupy. Always use as many players as markers.
- Substitute running with speed-walking, hopping, moon-walking or anything else you can imagine.
- "Double-Double Switch" Players occupy each marker as a team of two. Hand-holding is prohibited to avoid accidental "clothesline" injuries, requiring teams to communicate in anticipation of their next move. You must arrive at a marker together, (a team that arrives together trumps a player at a corner without their teammate, no matter who gets there first).

Coach's Reminders:

- "No going back to the same base."
- "Always look where you're running."



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www.Sports4Kids.org

Our Mission:
To improve the health and well-being of children by increasing opportunities for physical activity and safe, meaningful play.

Sports4Kids Welcomes Three New Board Members

Lynda Brothers, Partner, Sonnenschein, Nath & Rosenthal, LLP, practices law in San Francisco. Lynda's practice emphasizes federal and state remedial actions, regulatory compliance for air emissions, solid waste, hazardous and radioactive waste, waste water discharges, compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act and the California Environmental Quality Act. Her work focuses on siting, permitting and developing new, complex industrial and commercial facilities. Lynda is a former multi-sport athlete at the University of California, Berkeley and currently an active supporter of the Cal women's basketball team.

Elizabeth Carlson is the Assistant Executive Director for Affiliate Relations and Special Programs at the National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP). Her work there has included collaboration with the Institute for Alternative Futures on NAESP's Vision 2021 project and leading the annual

National Distinguished Principals program. As a former principal, Beth is eager to support Sports4Kids' national expansion by reaching out to administrators across the country.

Aenor Sawyer, MD, Orthopedic Surgeon, specializes in sports medicine, fracture care, and pediatric orthopedic surgery. In her current practice she utilizes her experience in physical therapy, exercise physiology, medicine and surgery as she cares for adult and child athletes from various sports at different levels — from recreational, Olympic, to professional. In addition to her clinical practice, Dr. Sawyer maintains an active role in research with emphases in sports injury prevention, overuse injury, anterior cruciate ligament repair, stress fractures and bone health. She also volunteers her time as the Director of the Pediatric Bone Health Consortium and the Director for We Duet for Kids, a fundraising program to assist childhood cancer survivors.

What we do:

Sports4Kids brings play and physical activity back to the playgrounds of low-income public schools across the country. At each school, a well-trained and enthusiastic Site Coordinator creates structured activities at recess, works with teachers to provide physical activity classes, coordinates a daily after-school program and coaches teams for our developmental sports leagues. As a testament to the effectiveness of the program, schools pay nearly 40% of the average \$55,000 annual cost of the program.

