



NEWS RELEASE

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Youth Services Wraps Up Summer Program with Luau

South Salt Lake City – Salt Lake County Division of Youth Services will be wrapping up a sizzling summer program with a Luau on Friday, August 24 at 1 PM.

Maui Wowi will be sponsoring the event by providing free smoothies to the youth who participated in the three month program.

Activities throughout the summer included volunteering at the Utah Food Bank, cleaning up trails in Heber, attending professional soccer and baseball games, and weekly speakers and entertainers.

As part of a grant through the American Express, the youth also participated in a weeklong dance camp, choreographed by the Children's Dance Theater. The American Express grant also provides an art therapist, art teacher and dance teacher throughout the year.

The summer program is important for the youth, who are staying at the Adolescent Group Homes and the Christmas Box House, because the youth learn new social and educational skills and provides them a non-violent, healthy way to express themselves, said Recreational Therapist Kelly Riding.

“First and foremost, when kids are busy it keeps them out of trouble,” Riding said. “It also allows these kids to be kids again and gives them something to focus on besides their troubles.”

NOTE: Media is invited to the Luau but no pictures or footage of youth will be allowed.

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