

CALIFORNIA EMERGING TECHNOLOGY FUND

ORGANIZATION PROFILE: ORGANIZATION NAME DATE

– ORGANIZATION AND PROJECT OVERVIEWS –

Name of Organization	LA'S BEST AFTER SCHOOL ENRICHMENT
Name(s) of Principal(s) and Complete Titles	Carla Sanger, President/CEO and Laura Martinez, Grant Writer
Contact Information (complete)	200 N. Spring Street, Suite M120, Los Angeles, CA
Name of Program or Project (if different from organization)	
Geographic Location or Focus of Program or Project	City of Los Angeles
Demographic Overview of Focus Community or Population	LA's BEST is a dynamic program serving more than 26,000 children in our communities with the greatest needs and fewest resources. A large number of sites are located in South Los Angeles and East LA where gang activity is the highest in the city. LA's BEST families are either in the highest ranges of poverty or among the working poor. School eligibility for LA's BEST is determined by a minimum of 70% of the school population qualifying for federal subsidy for free or reduced lunch; however, the current subsidy average of all LA's BEST sites is 92%. Other eligibility factors include high vulnerability to drug, gang and crime activity, low performance on standardized tests, and no competing programs at the site. The student population is 82% Latino, 9.3% African American, 4.7% Asian/Filipino/Pacific Islander, 3.7% Caucasian, and .3% Native American.
Description of Program or Project named above	The mission of LA's BEST After School Enrichment is to provide a safe, supervised after school education, enrichment and recreation program for elementary school children ages 5 to 12 throughout Los Angeles.
o Goals	
o Objectives	All children need a safe place to be after school with caring, responsible adults and engaging activities that connect each child to family, school and community.
o Strategies	LA's BEST approaches inner-city children as individuals to be developed rather than problems to be solved. LA's BEST contributes to the healthy development of all children by addressing the following critical community needs: supervision in neighborhoods most vulnerable to drugs, gangs and crime; academic support and enrichment; reduction of tolerance for violence and building empathy; and social competency skills, including controlling impulses and managing anger.

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Actions 	<p>From the end of the school day to 6:00 p.m., children with the greatest needs and fewest resources benefit from a safe and supervised education, enrichment, and recreation program – <i>at no cost to parents</i> – offering homework assistance, language support, literacy and math skills activities, among others. Other opportunities include but are not limited to: Celebrate Science, After School Arts Program, BEST Fit, special field trips and sports.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Outcomes 	<p>LA’s BEST is one of the few, if not the only, after school programs in the country with independent evaluations to demonstrate a direct correlation between participation in LA’s BEST and a reduced likelihood to commit juvenile crime or drop out of school.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Brief History (when was the organization founded or when was the program launched?) 	<p>In September of 1988, the City of Los Angeles took a bold step outside of traditional city business to create an innovative after school program to address the alarming rise in street gangs, school dropouts and drug use in communities where children lacked adequate adult supervision during the critical hours between 3 and 6 p.m. Former Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley spearheaded the effort, proclaiming that the city had a “fundamental moral obligation” to assist low-income families by providing safe and engaging after school programs. The resulting program, LA’s BEST.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Size and Magnitude of Program or Project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Number of People Served, Involved, Impacted 	<p>LA’s BEST has grown from its original 10 sites in 1988 to now serve more than 26,000 students in 180 elementary schools across the City of Los Angeles. Since its inception, LA’s BEST has made a difference in the lives of more than 100,000 children living in economically disadvantage communities vulnerable to drugs and crime.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Annual Budget, Percentage of Earned Income and Staff 	<p>LA’s BEST Combined FY 2007-2008 Total Budget = \$41,029,862 includes restricted support and documented in-kind support.</p> <p>Funding Percentages: State - 74.34% City - 5.61% Private - 20.05%</p> <p>Corporate Administration Staff Salaries = 2.98% of total budget Direct Program Support Staff Salaries = 64.00% of total budget</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Funding Sources and Partners 	<p>LA’s BEST is a unique partnership including the City of Los Angeles, the Los Angeles Unified School District and the private sector. In addition, LA’s BEST collaborates with more than 100 community-based organizations to provide diverse and meaningful activities for the program.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Results and Evidence of Success <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Metrics for Evaluation Progress 	<p>Since 1988, the LA’s BEST program has been evaluated by UCLA’s National Center for Research on Evaluation, Standards and Student Testing (CRESST). According to a CRESST study released in December 2005, students who did not attend LA’s BEST after school enrichment program drop out 20% more often than LA’s BEST students. The four-year study examined 5,800 students who attended LA’s BEST for up to three years and compared them with 5,800 similar LAUSD students who did not attend the program. The findings showed that LA’s BEST had the greatest impact on keeping African-American and Hispanic students in school.</p> <p>Because there is limited research on the long-term effectiveness of after school programs in lowering rates of</p>

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	juvenile crime, UCLA’s Center for the Study of Evaluation was charged by the U.S. Department of Justice to bridge that research gap and evaluate the effectiveness of LA’s BEST. The study modeled crime trajectories longitudinally for 10 years and used a sample of over 6,000 students. The findings were positive, profound and unambiguous (release date July 2007).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change in Outcomes or Metrics Over Time • How long does it take to secure results for the program above? 	LA’s BEST submits reports annually to our private funders and the State of California demonstrating any changes in outcome. LA’s BEST has long term results which are demonstrated by CRESST and the Department of Justice, which measure data from the 1990s to today.

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