



For immediate release:

Dr. Genie's Kids Foundation to hold Mini-Medical School in Portland, Oregon

Portland, OR (October 13, 2016) Dr. Genie's Kids Foundation announces it has partnered with Little Medical School to offer a mini-medical school program at the Latino Network SUN Community School at Cesar Chavez in Portland, Oregon.

Little Medical School provides fun-filled and hands-on programming for afterschool programs and summer camps. It is the first program of its kind that is focused on introducing elementary-aged children and teens to the thrilling world of science and medicine. Little Medical School has reached over 50,000 students in 21 states.

A team of board-certified physicians, healthcare providers and educators have created this interactive program as a way of introducing kids to careers in healthcare through role-playing activities. Children learn and have fun as they wear a white coat, use equipment and instruments that doctors use, and understand how the human body works. Students participate in a white coat ceremony, take the Little Medical School Oath, and receive a diploma at graduation. In this manner, the Little Medical School concept is a flawless match to the mission and vision of the Dr. Genie's Kids Foundation.

"There's nothing like seeing a child's eyes light up while listening to the sound of their own heartbeat," says David Prather, an Emergency Department Registered Nurse and Little Medical School instructor. Through a partnership with the Latino Network, Little Medical School is giving kids the opportunity to explore careers in health and science that they might not otherwise have. Not only do the participants learn STEM centered concepts, but they are led by role models who are currently working in the healthcare industry, or are students pursuing advanced degrees. "Kids leave with a new understanding of how the body works," says Prather. "They also gain confidence in themselves which empowers them to continue learning new things."

About Dr. Genie's Kids Foundation

Dr. Genie's Kids Foundation was founded in honor of pediatrician Dr. Eugenia Pierce as an avenue to provide opportunities to expose children from underserved areas to healthcare careers. Dr. Genie's Kids Foundation focuses on healthcare workforce development in underserved areas by enhancing elementary and middle school afterschool and summer camp programs with mini-medical school, mini-nursing school, and mini-pharmacy school programming. The foundation encourages children from all walks of life to pursue careers in medicine and other healthcare professions. For more information, please visit www.drgenieskids.org. For more information on Little Medical School, please visit www.littlemedicalschool.com.

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