



Skrappy's is on the move

Our Family's youth empowerment center, Skrappy's, is moving into a temporary new space downtown while its search for a permanent home continues.

Skrappy's will close the doors at its current 201 E. Broadway location on Friday, Sept. 28. The program will reopen Tuesday, Oct. 9, in the basement of the Big Brothers Big Sisters of Tucson building at 160 E. Alameda St.

The new location will accommodate Skrappy's after-school activities such as media arts, breakdancing, Capoeira, tutoring, civic engagement and computer projects, but there will be no concerts in this location. Skrappy's will be open from 3:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesdays-Fridays.

Skrappy's may lease the Big Brothers facility for up to five months, depending on when a permanent location can be found and made ready. No details on a permanent space are available at this time.

For information on activities at Skrappy's, go to www.skrappys.org or call (520) 358-4287.

Skrappy's is a youth-run performing arts center and after-school hangout operated by Our Family. It was founded in 1996 and became part of Our Family (then known as OUR TOWN) in 2002. It is nationally recognized as a model of positive youth development and civic engagement. Skrappy's offers a variety of programs from dance, filmmaking and art classes to health fairs and a host of volunteering opportunities.

Last year, more than 16,000 young people walked through the Skrappy's doors seeking self-expression, community engagement and a safe, stimulating, drug- and alcohol-free environment. About 4,800 of those received services from Our Family's outreach staff in the form of food, clothing or referrals to other resources in the community.