

What Is ACT Now?

- ACT Now is a statewide coalition that brings together afterschool and youth development stakeholders from across the state to work towards ensuring that young people in Illinois have access to quality, affordable out-of-school time and youth development programs.
- We are a diverse coalition supported by Illinois families, educators, business leaders, community advocates, youth organizations, and policymakers from across the state.
- ACT Now believes that an increased commitment to young people beyond the traditional school day is a crucial part of their growth into productive, healthy adults.

The Coalition Is A Resource For...

- Learning about policy developments involving afterschool
- Networking with other providers and youth advocates to find solutions to daily challenges
- Advocacy training
- Learning about strategies for improving quality in afterschool programs
- Drawing on technical expertise to inform best practices
- Connecting with experts on professional development

ACT Now's Three Standing Committees

- ACT Now's three major streams of work are broken up between our three standing committees: the Policy and Advocacy Committee; the Professional Development Committee; and the Quality Assurance, Outcomes and Evaluation Committee.

The Policy and Advocacy Committee provides a forum for ACT Now's public and private partners to develop and pursue a shared policy agenda to increase the quality and availability of afterschool programs. Its work includes assessing local, state, and federal legislative opportunities as well as non-legislative policy opportunities. The Policy Committee is currently working on a Teen REACH codification bill and a positive youth development agenda.

The Professional Development Committee facilitates information sharing and resource coordination to identify and meet the needs of the afterschool field for professional development across the entire workforce continuum. The Professional Development Committee is working on planning regional meetings and policy trainings along with developing trainings for our Quality Standards.

The Quality Assurance, Outcomes, and Evaluation Committee promotes the adoption of a common system of quality standards statewide and the development of capacity-building, assessment, and evaluation tools, including those linked to standards. It addresses a wide variety of data collection and usage issues, and promotes the use of best practices statewide. The Quality Committee is working on finalizing its Quality Standards and developing a Standards Assessment Tool.

Interested in joining ACT Now or receiving our updates?

**DON'T WAIT: Text "SUBSCRIBE" & your email address to 312.877.0725
OR Contact Shallie Pittman at Spittman@Voices4kids.org or 312.516.5574**

ACT NOW MEMBERS

A Knock at Midnight
A Shining Star Learning Center
Ada S. McKinley Community Services
Advance Illinois
After-School All-Stars
After School Matters
Alternative Schools Network
America SCORES Chicago
Applied Scholastics International
Association House of Chicago
Bartlett Park District
Beatrice Caffrey Youth Service
Better Boys Foundation
Boys and Girls Club – Bloomington-
Normal, Chicago, Cicero, Danville,
Dundee Township, Elgin, George
Werden Buck, Greater Peoria, Joliet,
Lake County, Livingston County, the
Mississippi Valley, Pekin, Prairie
Central, Rockford, Roseland, West
Cook County
Brain Hurricane
Breakthrough
Bright Beginnings Christian Day Care
Brighton Park Neighborhood Council
BUILD
Building Better Youth through Sports
Byron Park District
CAPS
Carole Robertson Center for Learning
Casa Central
Cass County Health Department
Centro Romero
Center of Halsted
Centers for New Horizons
Charles Hayes Center
Chess Academy LLC
Chicago Area Project
Chicago Commons
Chicago Department of Family and
Support Services
Chicago Housing Authority
Chicago International Charter Schools-
Longwood
Chicago Out-of-School Time Project
Chicago Park District
Chicago Police Department
Chicago Public Schools
Chicago Urban League
Chicago Training Centers
Chicago Youth Centers
Chinese American Service League
Child Care Resource and Referral
Child Link
Children's Home + Aid
Christopher House
Community Assistance Programs
Comer Science and Education
Foundation
Corazon Community Services
Crawford County Teen REACH/A.C.E.
Afterschool Program & Summer
Success/Southeastern Illinois
Counseling Centers, Inc.
Debra T Thomas Learning Center 2, Inc.
Decatur Area Education Coalition
Department of Human Services McLean
Don Moyer Boys and Girls Club
Donors Forum
Dreamz, Inc.
El Hogar Del Nino
Elijah's House
Erie Elementary Charter School
Erie Neighborhood House
Family Focus
Family Network - After School Activity
Program
Farther Foundation
Fight Crime Invest in Kids Illinois
Fleetwood - Jourdain Community Center
Freeport School District
FOUS Youth Development Services
Garden of Prayer Youth Center
Gary Comer Youth Center
Genesco Park District
Glen Oak Learning
Golden Apple Foundation
Good Hope Baptist Church
Habilitative Systems, Inc.
Hickory Hills Park District
Hilltop Kids Learning Center
Holy Cross Immaculate Heart of Mary
Parish
Holy Family Ministries
Howard Area Community Center
Hyde Park Neighborhood Club
ICARE Ministries
Illinois Action for Children
Illinois African American Coalition for
Prevention
Illinois AfterSchool Network
Illinois Alliance of Boys & Girls Clubs
Illinois Association of Park Districts
Illinois Center for Violence Prevention
Illinois Central College
Illinois Collaboration on Youth
Illinois Department of Human Services
Illinois Task Force on African American
Males, Illinois Department of Human
Services
Illinois State Alliance of YMCAs
Instituto del Progreso Latino
Iroquois-Kankakee Regional Office of
Education
Joliet Park District
Kidz Landing at Christ Community
Lutheran
Knowledge Universe – Champions Early
Learning Center
Kraft Great Kids
La Petite Academy – Bloomington
Land of Learning
Latino Policy Forum
Lawyers Lend-A-Hand to Youth
Laurance Armour Day School
Logan Square Neighborhood Association
Make It
Manhattan Park District
Marion Stamps Youth Center
Metropolitan Family Services
Mikva Challenge
Milestone Early Learning Center &
Preschool
Miracle Center
Mujeres Latinas En Acción
Murphysboro Youth & Recreation
Center
MWAH! Performing Arts Troupe
New Lenox Park District
Nicasa
Onward House
Outreach Community Ministries
Park District of Forest Park
Park District of LaGrange
Park Ridge Park District
Patriots Gateway Center
Paul Revere Elementary School
Phalanx Family Services
PLCCA, Inc.
Project Scope
Project Success of Vermillion County
Project Sincere
RBC Community Service Center
Riverside Parks & Recreation
Department
Robert Emmet School
Rogys Learning Place
Sankofa Safe Child Initiative
Scribbles Center for Learning
South Suburban Special Recreation
Association
Southwest Organizing Project
Springfield Urban League
Stalene Boys and Girls Club
Strengthening Chicago's Youth
Supplemental Educational Services of
Illinois
Sunlight African Community Center
Tazewell County Health Department
The Chicago Training Center
The Federation for Community Schools
The Growing Place, Inc.
The Intonation Music Workshop
Thomas Metcalf School
Tutor/Mentor Connection
UCAN
Union League Boys & Girls Club
Universidad Popular
University of Illinois Extension
Urban Initiatives
Victory Christian International Ministry
Voices for Illinois Children
Walnut Street Daycare
Wauconda Park District
Wee Folks
West Chicago Police Department
Westside Health Authority
West Town Academy
Women Employed
Worth Park District
YMCA – Bloomington-Normal,
Metropolitan Chicago, Rock River
YWCA Elgin
York County Park District
Youth Guidance
Youth Organizations Umbrella
Youth Outreach Services
Zam's Hope CRC