

ACT NOW!

Afterschool for Children and Teens

Policy Update

Teen REACH Update

DHS began distributing Teen REACH funding notices on October 28, 2016. Despite the stopgap deadline of December 31, 2016, DHS has indicated that they will provide full payment to programs through June 30, 2017.

ACT Now is incredibly excited that programs will receive eight months of funding and thanks all the providers that participated in tireless advocacy on this subject. However, after June 30, 2017, Teen REACH may be in jeopardy once again if it is not included in the budget. It is important that programs continue to send messages to legislators and the administration about the importance of this program. If you have any questions, please contact ACT Now's Network Lead, Susan Stanton, at sstanton@voices4kids.org or 312-877-0725.

ACT Now recently held a press conference in Rockford to bring greater attention to the importance of the Teen REACH program and the need for continued funding. For more information and to see the links, see the Afterschool in the News section of this newsletter below.

Child Care and Development Fund

The [Child Care and Development Fund](#) (CCDF) final rule was finalized on September 30th. The CCDF is the primary federal funding source devoted to improving the quality of care for all children and to helping low-income families obtain child care. The final rule includes provisions that establish a baseline for health, safety, and quality; ensures that parents have specific information on provider options and available services; lengthens eligibility periods for subsidies; and requires that states invest funds in improving the quality of its child care as well as its workforce. It also recognizes the importance of school-age afterschool programs, noting its impact on closing the achievement gap, improving children's behavior and school performance, and reducing absenteeism. For more information on the CCDF final rule, click [here](#).

Child and Adult Care Food Program

The USDA's Food and Nutrition Service [Child and Adult Care Food Program \(CACFP\): Meal Pattern Revisions Related to the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act](#) amended the CACFP meal pattern regulations. The final rule requires that centers and day care homes, including afterschool programs and family child care homes, participating in CACFP serve more whole grains, serve a greater variety of vegetables and fruit, and reduce the amount of added sugars and solid fats in meals. Centers have until October 1, 2017 to comply. For more information, click [here](#).

Title IV, Part A Non-Regulatory Guidance

The U.S. Department of Education recently released its non-regulatory guidance on student support and academic enrichment grants. Authorized under Title IV, Part A, the Student Support and Academic Enrichment (SSAE) program is intended to increase the capacity of State educational agencies (SEAs), local educational agencies (LEAs), schools, and local communities to: 1) provide all students with access to a well-rounded education, 2) improve school conditions for student learning, and 3) improve the use of technology in order to improve the academic achievement and digital literacy of all students.

The guidance document provides information on the activities that LEAs may conduct under the SSAE program and offers examples of practices that may be helpful to grantees. It requires LEAs receiving an SSAE program allocation of at least \$30,000 to use at least 20 percent of the SSAE program funds for activities that support student access to a well-rounded education. It also necessitates that these programs and activities be coordinated with other schools and community-based services. Allowable uses of these funds include programming and activities that improve instruction and student engagement in STEM subjects. Assuming that funding is appropriated, the SSAE program will be implemented in the 2017-2018 academic year. The Senate appropriations bill currently proposes funding the program at \$300 million, the House bill proposes \$1 billion, and ESSA authorizes spending at \$1.65 billion. To access the document, click [here](#).

Upcoming Events

College Changes Everything . . . Continuing the Conversation

Inspired by the College Changes Everything Conference, the "College Changes Everything . . . Continuing the Conversation" event offers more in depth discussions

around College and Career Readiness and Success topics. The first event will be held on **Thursday, November 3, 2016**, from 8:30 a.m. through 12:00 p.m. at ISAC's Deerfield office, located at 1755 Lake Cook Rd. This free workshop will focus on the importance and impact of students' attendance during their Pre-K-12 school years. To register, click [here](#).

Illinois Childhood Trauma Coalition Quarterly Meeting

The Illinois Childhood Trauma Coalition's, in partnership with the Center for Childhood Resilience at the Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago, next quarterly meeting will focus on "Strategies for Engaging Youth, Caregivers and Providers in Efforts to Address Community Violence." The event will take place on **Thursday, November 3, 2016**, from 12:30 p.m. until 2:30 p.m. It will be held at Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital, located at 225 East Chicago Ave, Chicago. For additional details or to register, click [here](#).

NAA16 Virtual Convention

The National AfterSchool Association (NAA) will be hosting its second virtual convention **November 6-20, 2016**. This online resource features the top-rated workshops from the annual convention in a convenient format that allows afterschool providers access to professional development opportunities on their own time. For additional details or to register, click [here](#).

12th Annual Community Schools Forum

The Federation for Community Schools will convene its 12th Annual Community Schools Forum on **Thursday, November 10, 2016**. The event will be held at The Hilton Lisle/ Naperville, located at 3003 Corporate W Drive, in Lisle, IL. For more information or to register, click [here](#).

Mentoring Networking Breakfast

The Illinois Mentoring Partnership (IMP) is hosting its second annual IMPACT Awards Breakfast, honoring the champions of youth mentoring, on **Friday, January 27, 2016**. The event will be held from 7:30 a.m. until 9:00 a.m. at The Union League Club of Chicago, located at 65 West Jackson Blvd. For more information, click [here](#).

Youth Opportunity

World of 7 Billion Video Contest

Population Education, the only national program with a strong emphasis on curriculum and professional development for K-12 educators that focuses on human population issues, is hosting the *World of 7 Billion* video contest. The competition challenges students in grades six through 12 to illustrate, in 60 seconds or less, the connection between world population growth and one of three global challenges: climate change, ocean health, or rapid urbanization. Participating teachers can receive free curriculum resources and student winners will receive cash prizes up to \$1,000. All entries must be submitted by 4:00 p.m. CST on **Thursday, February 23, 2017** to be considered. Contest guidelines and resources can be accessed [here](#).

Trainings and Webinars

ESSA's Non-Academic Measure

The American Institutes for Research is holding a webinar on **Tuesday, November 1, 2016** from 11:00 a.m. until 12:15 p.m. entitled "ESSA's Non-Academic Measure: What States Should Know About School Climate and SEL." In the session, a panel of state educators, researchers, and a journalist will offer suggestions for the non-academic indicator based on their research and field experience. AIR will also present findings from a new policy brief, "When Districts Adopt Social and Emotional Learning: Findings from an Ongoing Evaluation of Districtwide Implementation of Social and Emotional Learning." Click [here](#) for additional details or to register.

Measuring the Impact of STEM Learning in Afterschool

The Afterschool Alliance is hosting an hour long webinar on **Wednesday, November 2, 2016** at 12:00p.m. on measuring the impact of STEM Learning in afterschool. Participants will hear about three innovative efforts that have been exploring how afterschool programs contribute to STEM learning across time and space. For more information or to register, click [here](#).

West 40 Youth Health Focused Workshops

West 40 is hosting youth health focused professional development workshops in November and December 2016. All events will be held at the West 40 Intermediate Service Center No. 2, located at 4413 West Roosevelt Road, Hillside, IL. For more information or to register for these events, click on the links below.

- [November 2nd: No Kid Hungry Illinois Breakfast Summit](#)
- [November 14th: Facilitating Play for Children with Autism and Related Challenges](#)
- [November 17th: Nurse Network Meeting](#)
- [December 5th: Illinois Caucus for Adolescent Health 3 Trainings Workshop](#)

Engaging Youth in Civic Engagement & Service Learning

Join IAN on **Thursday, November 3, 2016** for a training entitled “Engaging Youth in Civic Engagement & Service Learning.” In this session, afterschool teachers and support staff will learn how to integrate character development throughout their curriculums. The workshop will be held at John A. Logan College, located at 700 Logan College Road, Carterville, IL from 6:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. To register, email Jackie Richie at ianetwrk@att.net or call 217-953-4620.

Building Youth Resilience Through School-Based Mentoring

A webinar on school-based mentoring will be held on **Monday, November 7, 2016**, from 1:00 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. It will highlight “Between Sisters,” a school-based female mentoring program that was designed to provide academic, emotional, and social support to at-risk elementary school students. This session will help attendees better understand how mentoring programs can enhance leadership and student voice. For more information or to register, click [here](#).

Making Common Core Connections

IAN is offering a training that will assist afterschool providers with linking their programs to Common Core math and reading standards. This workshop will be held on **Tuesday, November 15, 2016**, from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. at Erie Neighborhood House, located at 1347 West Erie in Chicago. For more information, click [here](#). To register, email Jackie Richie at ianetwrk@att.net or call 217-953-4620.

Controlling the Environment, Not the Child/Youth in Afterschool Programming

IAN will be conducting a regional training on **Tuesday, November 15, 2016** entitled “Controlling the Environment, Not the Child/Youth in Afterschool Programming.” Participants will learn the basics of operating a high-quality afterschool program and how to create a “PEACE-PLACE” for their students. This session will be held at Menard Hall on the campus of Lincoln Land Community College, located at 5250 Shepherd Road, Springfield, from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. For more information, click [here](#). Contact Jackie Richie at ianetwrk@att.net or call 217-953-4620 to register.

Prioritizing Social Emotional Learning

The American Youth Policy Forum is holding a webinar on **Wednesday, November 30, 2016** from 2:00 p.m. until 3:15 p.m. entitled “Bringing Social and Emotional Learning to the Forefront: What Happens When Districts Prioritize SEL?” The session will feature a panel of researchers and practitioners who will share what coordinated and purposeful SEL looks like in practice. Click [here](#) for additional details or to register.

Paper Tigers: Screening and Discussion on Trauma Informed Schools

Warren Township Youth Services is hosting a screening and panel discussion on the documentary “Paper Tigers.” The film follows an alternative high school’s journey to becoming trauma-informed utilizing the science and framework of adverse childhood experiences, or ACEs. The event will be held on **Thursday, December 1, 2016** from 6:00 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. at Town Hall, located at 17801 West Washington Street, Gurnee, IL. For more information or to register, click [here](#).

Resources

Quality Standards Webinar

In the webinar, “Setting the Bar: A Review of Illinois’ New Quality Afterschool Standards,” ACT Now provided a broad overview of its [Statewide Afterschool Quality Standards](#) and accompanying [resources](#). To view the recording, click [here](#).

Acids and Bases

In this month’s National AfterSchool Association STEM Gem activity, participants will use red cabbage, ammonia, baking soda, laundry detergent, lemon juice, soda pop, vinegar, and water to demonstrate that everything in the world is either an acid, a base or neutral. In this experiment students will use red cabbage as a chemical indicator to help them understand the properties of acid and bases. To view the lesson plan, click [here](#).

ESSA Toolkit

The Afterschool Alliance [toolkit](#) provides messaging and materials to assist afterschool advocates with making the case for increasing/expanding afterschool and summer

learning programs through ESSA. Newly included are an [ESSA implementation PowerPoint](#), [reducing absenteeism fact sheet](#), and [ESSA implementation talking points](#).

VoYC Youth Count Toolkit

Voices of Youth Count (VoYC) is a national policy and research initiative that captures the diverse experiences of unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness and housing instability. VoYC has developed a toolkit that provides step-by-step guidance to communities looking to engage and empower youth and critical stakeholders for a better youth count. To access the toolkit, click [here](#).

Chicago STEM Pathways Cooperative Landscape Survey

The Chicago STEM Pathways Cooperative is conducting a STEM out-of-school time (OST) landscape survey on programs offered in Chicago between January 1 and December 31, 2015. The findings will help the Cooperative understand how the Chicago STEM OST community is serving youth and families, identify gaps in service, and inform future work to better meet community needs. The survey must be completed by **Saturday, December 31, 2016**. Participants will receive a \$5 Starbucks gift card as a thank you for filling out the survey. To take the Assessing Chicago OST STEM Opportunities 3.0 survey, click [here](#).

Opportunities for Afterschool Providers

After School Matters RFP

After School Matters is seeking new independent instructors and community organizations interested in providing afterschool and summer programs during the Summer 2017, Fall 2017, and Spring 2018 program sessions. RFPs for new/potential program providers are due on **Friday, November 4, 2016** by 5:00pm. For more information, click [here](#).

Funding Opportunities

Afterschool Meals Grant

No Kid Hungry Illinois is offering mini-grants up to \$2,500 that can be used by schools, child care centers, and eligible non-profit or for-profit organizations to help maximize their ability to serve full supper meals through the Child and Adult Care Food Program

(CACFP) At-Risk After-School Meals Program. Grants may be used toward staffing, equipment, outreach materials, transportation, and other program costs. To apply for funding you will need to first create an account using the access code: ILCACFP2017. Applications must be submitted by **Friday, November 18, 2016**. The grant portal can be accessed [here](#).

School Breakfast Grant

The No Kid Hungry Illinois Breakfast Grant provides schools with up to \$5,000 for the purchase of approved equipment, materials, and initiatives facilitating alternative breakfast models such as Breakfast in the Classroom, Grab N Go or Second Chance Breakfast. To apply for funding you will need to first create an account using the access code: ILBREAKFAST2017. Applications must be submitted by **Friday, November 18, 2016**. The grant portal can be accessed [here](#).

Afterschool in the News

On Thursday, October 27th ACT Now was joined by providers, policy makers, and law enforcement in Rockford, IL for a press conference in support of the Teen REACH afterschool program. Area leaders shared the program's benefits and stressed how it is a wise investment in positive youth development. To read more, click [here](#). Also available is coverage by the local [CBS](#), [NBC](#), and [Fox](#) television affiliates.



Read more about the [ACT Now Coalition](#). Please send any information you would like included in the next newsletter to SStanton@voices4kids.org

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The ACT Now Coalition brings together afterschool and youth development stakeholders from across Illinois to work towards ensuring that all young people in Illinois have access to quality, affordable afterschool programs.

Please send this information to others who might be interested by forwarding this e-mail.

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