

ACT NOW!

Afterschool for Children and Teens

ACT Now Newsletter Update

ACT Now will be updating its newsletter format to better serve your needs. Starting next week, you will receive a shorter weekly newsletter with the content focusing on the most recent policy updates and professional development, funding, and youth opportunities that have transpired. Once a month, we will have longer newsletters with full updates. You will always be able to find a full listing of resources relevant to the afterschool field on our website, actnowillinois.org. You are welcome to send feedback to ACT Now's Network Lead Susan Stanton at StantonS@metrofamily.org regarding the newsletter format and content.

Policy Update

Illinois Budget Update

On July 6th, the Illinois House voted 71 to 42 to override Governor Bruce Rauner's vetoes of a budget, ending a 736 day impasse.

- [Public Act 100-0021](#) had a significant increase in Teen REACH funding. Teen REACH programs will receive \$19,489,500 in FY18 funding, an over \$6 million increase from FY15. The budget that passed also provided an additional \$10,521,800 in Teen REACH funding for FY17; however, the process for programs to access this funding is still unclear. This budget also represents the first time the state has labeled a budget line item Teen REACH. This is due to the Teen REACH codification bill that passed last year. Previously, Teen REACH funding fell under the youth support programs or after-school youth support programs budget line, which meant DHS did not have to use the funding for the Teen REACH program. This is a huge victory for afterschool in Illinois and would not have been possible without the tireless advocacy of advocates and providers around the state. Thank you for your hard work. We can't wait to see all the wonderful things your programs do this year!
- [Public Act 100-0022](#) increases the individual state income tax rate from 3.75% to 4.95% and the corporate rate from 5.25% to 7%. This along with other measures are set to help the state raise over \$5 billion dollars in revenue.

21st CCLC RFP Update

In lieu of hosting a FY17 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) RFP, the Illinois State Board of Education has received permission from the U.S. Department of

Education to extend the grants of the FY13 cohort by an additional five years. The next competitive 21st CCLC grant process is not known at this time.

Federal Budget Update

On May 23rd, the Trump administration released its full FY18 budget. The proposal eliminates or cuts funding to programs that are vital for children and families.

- Funding for 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC), a federally funded afterschool program, was proposed for elimination.
- Funding for the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG), which supports low-income working families with quality child care, was reduced by \$99 million. The \$5 million increase reported in the proposal is an error due to using the FY17 Continuing Resolution as the baseline rather than the FY17 Omnibus level.
- To call on Congress to protect funding for afterschool and summer learning programs in FY18, click [here](#).

Other programs that support children and families identified for elimination or funding cuts in FY18 can be found [here](#).

Bills Passed in the Illinois Legislature

The following bills passed in both chambers of the General Assembly and have been sent to Governor Rauner to be signed:

- May 25th: Social Services Contract Notice, [HB3110](#)
- May 25th: The Prompt Payment Equity Act, [HB3143](#)
- May 31st: The Thriving Youth Fund, [SB2046](#)

To share your opinion on these bills with the Governor, click [here](#) or call him in his Chicago (312-814-2121) or Springfield (217-782-0244) office.

Child Protection Improvements Act

The federal Child Protection Improvements Act of 2017, [H.R.695](#), which would provide no/low cost national background checks for youth serving organizations was received in the Senate and read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary on May 23rd.

Juvenile Justice Reform Act

The federal Juvenile Justice Reform Act of 2017, [H.R.1809](#), which provides funding for delinquency prevention programming was received in the U.S. Senate on May 24th.

Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act

The Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act, [H.R.2353](#), updates the Perkins career and technical education (CTE) legislation. The bill recognizes and supports the work afterschool and summer providers are doing to help students enter the workforce prepared and ready for well-paid, in-demand careers. It has been received in the Senate, read twice, and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Upcoming Events

National Summer Learning Day

Afterschool programs, educators, policymakers, businesses, schools, and families can all make this summer a season of learning by being a part of Summer Learning Day on **Thursday, July 13, 2017**. To register your event, click [here](#). For more information about the importance of summer learning in Illinois, click [here](#). For more advocacy resources, check out our [summer learning advocacy toolkit](#).

College Changes Everything Conference

The Illinois Student Assistance Commission's seventh annual College Changes Everything conference will take place on **Thursday, July 20, 2017**. The event will be held at the Tinley Park Convention Center, located at 18451 Convention Center Drive, Tinley Park from 8:00 a.m. through 4:30 p.m. For more information or to register, click [here](#).

Youth Power = Vibrant Cities: A Conversation

Mikva Challenge in partnership with the Chicago Architecture Foundation will be hosting a conversation between authors of *No Small Plans*, a graphic novel that follows the neighborhood adventures of teens in Chicago as they wrestle with designing the city they want, need and deserve. The event will be held on **Thursday, July 20, 2017**, from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. at the Weinberg/Newton Gallery, located at 300 West Superior, Suite 203 in Chicago. For more information, click [here](#).

Trainings & Webinars

Selecting Making & Tinkering Activities

Join Click2Science on **July 12, 2017** at 1:00pm for their upcoming Webinar Wednesday. The workshop will focus on selecting, evaluating, and adapting high-quality STEM activities to create optimum learning experiences. Click [here](#) for more information or to register for this event.

Understanding and Responding to Incidents of Bias

The Afterschool Alliance will be hosting a webinar on **Thursday, July 13, 2017** that will assist afterschool programs with ensuring a climate of safety and inclusion. The session will begin at 11:30 a.m. For additional information or to register, click [here](#).

Culturally-Sensitive Mental Health Services for Immigrant and Refugee Populations

The You Are Not Alone Professional Development Series is presenting a training that will identify the trends in mental health needs among immigrant and refugee communities. Two session date are available, **Friday, July 14, 2017** or **Friday, July 28, 2017**. For more information, click [here](#).

SciGirls STEM Training

SciGirls, an Emmy-award winning PBS KIDS television series and website, is offering a professional development training on engaging middle and high school girls in STEM. The workshop will be held on **Saturday, August 12, 2017** from 9:00 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. at Concordia University Chicago, located at 7400 Augusta Street in River Forest, IL. For more information or to register, click [here](#).

Resources

Selecting STEM Activities

Click2Science's July learning modules are designed to assist out-of-school time staff with feeling confident and comfortable choosing and facilitating STEM activities. For more information, click [here](#). Click [here](#) to register for the July 12th, "Selecting Making & Tinkering Activities" webinar.

Promoting a Comprehensive Model to Reduce Violence

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's (OJJDP) Comprehensive Gang Prevention, Intervention, and Suppression Model identifies strategies that have been effective in addressing street violence in multiple cities. To access an overview of the model, click [here](#).

Funding Opportunities

Nike Community Impact Fund

The Nike Community Impact Fund (NCIF) is providing grants to programs in East Los Angeles, South Chicago, downtown Detroit, New Orleans, Washington DC's Ivy City neighborhood and Flatbush, Brooklyn that promote sports and physical activity for youth

and address pressing community needs. Applications are due **Monday, July 31, 2017**. For funding guidelines or to apply, click [here](#).

Environmental Service-Learning Grant

Project Learning Tree GreenWorks! is offering grants up to \$1,000 to assist schools and youth organizations with environmental service-learning projects that link the classroom to the real world. The deadline to apply is **Saturday, September 30, 2017**. For more information about the grant program, funding guidelines, and how to apply, click [here](#).



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

Was this email forwarded to you? [Sign up for ACT Now Coalition updates!](#)

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.

To stop all emails from the ACT Now Coalition: [Click here to unsubscribe](#)