How to Use the ACT Now White Paper: The Need to Grow Afterschool in Illinois

**Educate Yourself**
- Explore data that shows how afterschool can affect areas of need in Illinois, including in education, safety, and workforce
- Learn the arguments and data in support of afterschool programs in Illinois

**Communication with Parents and School Administrators**
- Use data and arguments from the white paper to convince parents and school administrators to partner with your afterschool programs by showing them the positive impact programs have on students

**Social Media**
- Use statistics and graphs from the report in social media posts to support afterschool programs, especially during national days of celebration for out-of-school time programs like Lights On Afterschool and National Summer Learning Day
- Cite the white paper in posts advocating for your programs or posts highlighting how your program helps improve education, safety, and the workforce

**Advocacy**
- Bring the white paper with you to meetings with policymakers to educate them about the importance of afterschool and cite data from the report
- Cite to the white paper in writing letters to legislators to argue in support of afterschool programs