Policy Update

$200 Million in Cuts to the Illinois Budget

On October 17, 2017 the Rauner administration outlined $200 million in cuts to the FY18 budget approved in July 2017. The cuts include $89 million to human services across 36 social service programs. The Governor’s office justified the cuts by stating that the budget remains to be $1.5 billion out of balance. For more information, click here. To read the Responsible Budget Coalition’s response to Governor Rauner and the General Assembly calling for a reversal, click here.

Prompt Payment Act Reform Bill

On October 25, 2017 the Illinois House voted to override Governor Rauner’s August veto of the Prompt Payment Act, HB3143. The legislation amends the State Prompt Payment Act to include vendors providing prevention, intervention, or treatment services and supports for youth on behalf of the state. The Prompt Payment Act requires the state to provide payment in a timely manner for services rendered or compensate the contractor for prolonged delays. A vote to override the veto in the Illinois Senate will take place during the week of November 6, 2017. To identify your senator as well as retrieve contact information to ask them to override the veto, click here.

ACT Now policy updates affecting the afterschool/youth development field, including information about Teen REACH and 21st Century, can be found here.

Trainings and Webinars

Discipline and Guidance without Losing their Love and Respect

The Illinois Department of Human Services is sponsoring a training on Tuesday, November 7, 2017 where afterschool teachers and support staff will learn techniques for creating respectful and responsible youth. The workshop will be held at Children’s Home + Aid, 2133 Johnson Road, Granite City, IL. Register by calling Kate at 1-800-467-9200 x116.
Illinois AfterSchool Network

The Illinois AfterSchool Network’s upcoming trainings are listed below. For more information or to register, contact Jackie Richie at ianetwrk@att.net or call 217-753-4620.

- **November 9, 2017** (Urbana, IL): Dealing with Behavioral Management in Our Afterschool Program
- **November 14, 2017** (Chicago, IL): Making Meaningful Connections between In-School and Out-of-School Time: Homework Strategies in Action!

*To view ACT Now’s calendar of events, click [here](#).*

Resources

**Role of Sports Participation in a Socially Vulnerable Childhood**

A study conducted by the Health and Society Group of Wageningen University identifies four roles that sports have played in the lives of adults who experienced socially vulnerable childhoods. To access the study, click [here](#).

**Building Students’ Resilience on the Bus**

Dr. Lori Desautels, an assistant professor of education at Butler University in Indianapolis, offers strategies for how the school bus ride before and after school can be utilized to promote students’ emotional self-regulation. To read more, click [here](#).

**American Teenagers and Severe Anxiety**

A New York Times magazine article addresses the severe anxiety more American teenagers are facing and explores treatment methods. To access the article, click [here](#).

**Afterschool and the School-to-Prison Pipeline**

A recent American Youth Policy Forum For Thought explores how out-of-school time programs can be positioned as a mechanism for disrupting the school-to-prison pipeline. For examples on the role afterschool can play, click [here](#).
NASA Space Place

NASA Space Place is a science communications website that engages upper-elementary-aged children in space and Earth science through interactive games, hands-on activities, fun articles, and short videos. The resources can be accessed here.

For a list of afterschool and youth development related resources collected by ACT Now, click here.

Lights On Afterschool

Thanks to all the afterschool providers, students, educators, and parents across Illinois for your participation in this years’ Lights on Afterschool festivities. ACT Now would love to hear how your organization celebrated this momentous occasion. Please send photos from your event to pittmans@metrofamily.org. Below check out how Metropolitan Family Services, Springfield Urban League and Governor Rauner, WeGo Together for Kids, and After School Matters keep the lights on!
Youth Opportunities

For archived youth opportunities, click here.

Funding Opportunities

For a list of previously listed afterschool and youth development related grants, click here.
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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