



Policy

21st CCLC Funding Update

The House Appropriations Committee marked up the FY2019 education and health funding bill on Wednesday, July 11, after a 13-hour session. The FY2019 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education (LHHS) Appropriations Act sets funding levels for all federal education, human services, and health and labor programs—including the 21st Century Community Learning Centers initiative, which provides federal funds leveraged by local school-community partnerships to provide quality afterschool and summer learning programs to 1.7 million children. The bill maintains the full current \$1.212 billion funding level for 21st Century Community Learning Center (21st CCLC) afterschool and summer learning programs. To learn more, click [here](#).

College Student Work-Study Participation in Afterschool Bill

On June 7th, Rep. Barletta (R-Pa.) joined Rep. Carson (D-Ind.) in the bipartisan re-introduction of the Students Helping Young Students Act of 2018 ([H.R. 6036](#)). The bill would amend the work-study section of the Higher Education act, which provides federal funds to support college students' work and service experiences. For a brief summary of the intended impacts of H.R. 6036, click [here](#).

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

Upcoming Events

Parent Café

Maryville Academy is collaborating with Be Strong Families staff to offer six Parent Cafés over the next three months in Chicago. The Parent Café process encourages parents to think about the parents they want to be and enhances the development and growth of all family members. Parents of children of all ages are encouraged to attend the cafés. The event is **Tuesday, July 17th, 2018 (5:30pm-7:30pm @ the Augustus Tolton Peace Center)**. For more information, click [here](#).

THE CHILLS @ Humbolt Park Beach

The Chills is the second in a series of 3 traveling teen nights brought to you by Yollocalli Arts Reach and the DuSable Teens Councils. The Chills celebrates the Year of Creative Youth in Chicago and is intended to give teens a safe and engaging evening of art and community featuring open mic and art workshops. There will be music and dancing, field games, and TACOS! And it's all FREE!!! The event is **Friday, July 27th, 2018 (1pm-5pm)**. For more information, click [here](#).

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

Youth Opportunities

Design for America: Call for Chicago High School Participants

Design for America (DFA) is a national network of social innovators working together to improve their communities. Join DFA at this year's Design for America (DFA) 2018 Leadership Studio and work on a team to create solutions that empower high school students to shape their lives and community. The event will be held **Thursday and Friday, August 2nd to 3rd @ Northwestern University**. For more information on how to sign-up or for a copy of the full schedule, click [here](#).

For archived youth opportunities, click [here](#).

Trainings and Webinars

Free STEAM Workshops

This summer, Alternative Schools Network (ASN) will host three, FREE 2-day Professional Development workshops. These events will be held **August 14 & 15 @ Logan Center for the Arts & August 22 & 23 @ NEIU CCAS**. Complete the short application [here](#) to receive more details.

Webinar: Learning from Successful Efforts to Integrate SEL in Afterschool

Together with the National League of Cities (NLC), the Afterschool Alliance is co-hosting this webinar to discuss the value of social and emotional learning and looking at how afterschool programs are intentionally building their students' social and emotional skills. This webinar will be held **Tuesday, August 24th @ 11am CT**. For more information on how to register for this event, click [here](#).

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

Resources

Makerspaces

Makerspaces serve as meeting points outside of schools for students to develop 21st-century skills, such as creativity and problem-solving. Makerspaces promote STEM learning and can help schools ensure students are combining creativity with critical thinking and other key 21st-century skills. To learn more about Makerspaces and how to create one in your library, click [here](#).

Strategy to Help Low-Income, Minority Students Master Math

Low-income minority kindergartners learn math better when taught in small groups, according to a new report from University of Michigan (U-M) researchers. This type of instructional approach not only has a positive impact on achievement, but can help bridge the gap with higher-income peers. To learn more about this strategy, click [here](#).

How to Start a Virtual Coding Boot Camp in 5 Easy Steps

Challenged by budgetary constraints, time limitations, and the wide selection of new technology that's being thrown at them, K-12 districts and afterschool programs alike aren't in the best position to set up onsite robotics and coding classes for their students. To overcome these challenges, several West Virginia schools are leveraging a technology platform that's completely online, and that's helped them bring the fascinating world of robots to a wider band of students. To learn more about how you can start your own coding boot camp, click [here](#).

Promoting Civic Education

The Center for Civic Education provides information about the U.S. Constitution, government, and the foundations of democracy. E-books, podcasts, and a variety of printed materials are available for elementary, middle school, and high school students. The center also offers professional development opportunities for teachers. Schools may encourage families to discuss with their child the materials provided by the Center for Civic Education. To learn more about these resources, click [here](#).

For a list of afterschool and youth development related resources collected by ACT Now, click [here](#).

Opportunities for Providers

Chicago Beyond's 2018 Youth Equity Challenge

Chicago Beyond is now seeking new partners through their 2018 Youth Equity Challenge. This year, they are looking for nonprofit organizations with programs and approaches that support the well-being and safety of young people living in the city's most economically fragile neighborhoods. Winner(s) will work hand-in-hand with our team to help grow their impact and reach more youth. For more information, click [here](#).

For archived opportunities for providers, click [here](#).

ACT Now! Staff Transition Update

ACT Now is excited to welcome our new Youth Development Associate, Faith Knockel! Faith recently graduated from Loyola University-Chicago with a master's degree in Educational Policy Studies. Faith is very active in the community, especially in the afterschool space, and looks forward to being even more involved through this new position. Outside of work, Faith volunteers as a tutor and mentor for Chicago-area students.

We are also sad to say goodbye to our former Youth Development Associate, Shallie Pittman, and we wish her luck in her next chapter as she moves to Ohio. Shallie's last day is July 18th and all further questions should be directed to Susan Stanton, Network Lead (stantons@metrofamily.org) or Faith (knockef@metrofamily.org). Please join us in welcoming Faith to the team, as well as letting Shallie know how much we appreciate all of her contributions to ACT Now.



Follow Us



To unsubscribe from the ACT Now mailing list, click [here](#).

Contact Us

ACT Now Coalition
One North Dearborn #1000
Chicago, Illinois 60602
www.actnowillinois.org
312-877-0725