

Trainings and Events

Youth Development, Programming, & Activities

Webinar: How SEL Prepares Youth for the Future

This webinar will provide SEL strategies to implement right away and ideas for building staff confidence and competence in SEL. The webinar will be held on **January 16th from 1 PM to 2 PM**. To register, [click here](#).

Webinar: STEM Programming & Funding

ACT Now is continuing our series of STEM PD webinars for program providers to have an opportunity to strengthen their ability to navigate and implement STEM resources and activities. The next STEM webinar will focus on navigating funding streams and planning STEM activities with limited funding. This webinar will be held on **January 23rd from 10 AM to 11 AM**. To register, [click here](#).

Responding to Adolescent Relationship Abuse

This training will explore adolescent relationship abuse and methods for connecting youth to supportive services and community resources. The training will be held in **Chicago, IL on February 6th from 11:30 AM to 4:15 PM**. To register, [click here](#).

Webinar: Focusing on the "M" in STEM

In this webinar, Dr. Saundra Frerichs, STEM Education Specialist, shares best practices for integrating math activities into your program to help improve student outcomes, resources for finding afterschool math activities are shared, and how to build staff confidence in mathematics. This webinar is **available on-demand**. To access this webinar, [click here](#).

Administration

Webinar: Maximizing Volunteer Engagement

Learn how to maximize the potential of your volunteers and engage them in recruiting processes, supporting fundraising and events, and much more. This webinar will also discuss how to manage volunteers in these different capacities, what roles and responsibilities are better suited for paid staff, and how volunteers can support your program at various stages of development. The webinar will be held on **January 24th from 12 PM to 1:15 PM**. To register, [click here](#).

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

Opportunities for Providers

MLK Day of Service

The week before Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (**January 15th - 21st**), join thousands of organizations across the country to honor Dr. King through service. You can host service projects on the holiday or the weekend before, or use the opportunity to register new volunteers who will serve throughout the year in his memory. For a list of project ideas and other planning resources, [click here](#).

For an archive of our previously listed Opportunities for Providers, click [here](#).

Funding Opportunities

Motorola Foundation Solutions Grant

Motorola Solutions Foundation's (MSF) 2019 Grant Program supports programs that advance STEM education. The deadline to submit the 2019 inquiry form is **February 4th**. To submit an inquiry form, [click here](#).

MSF will host an optional informational session on **January 10th from 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM** (Conference Call: 877-228-9172 // Passcode: 1150278). This session will provide an overview of the grant program, explain 2019 priorities, and answer any general questions you may have.

Youth Literacy Grant

The Dollar General Youth Literacy Grants support schools, public libraries, and nonprofit organizations that help students who are below grade level or having trouble reading. Grants help in the following areas: Implementing new or expanding existing literacy programs; purchasing new technology or equipment to support literacy initiatives; and purchasing books, materials, or software for literacy programs. Applications will be available on **February 28th**. To learn more, [click here](#).

For an archive of our previously listed Funding Opportunities, click [here](#).

Resources for Providers

Youth Development, Programming, & Activities

National Mentoring Month Toolkit

January is National Mentoring Month (NMM)! For ideas and resources to celebrate NMM, check out the NMM Toolkit! To access the toolkit, [click here](#).



Modeling Engineering Practices

These staff development tools are designed to assist in training frontline staff and volunteers to facilitate quality STEM learning experiences for youth to engage in engineering practices, including: defining the problem, design a solution, testing, responding to failure, and optimization. To access these tools, [click here](#).

Engineer for the Week

Engineer for the Week (EFTW) is a Facebook Education program that aims to demystify the world of tech by empowering youth to build a working tech prototype while developing computer science skills. Facilitators will guide participants (ages 13+) through a project to design and build a "chatbot" or a game that makes a positive impact on a social topic of their choice. EFTW's Spring Sprint starts this February! To sign up, [click here](#).

Call for Resources

Do you have valuable resources, stories, or best practices to share with the afterschool field? Please click [here](#) to share your resources with ACT Now and we will disseminate them (via our newsletter and website) to other providers across the state! If you have any questions, please contact Faith Knocke (ACT Now - Youth Development Associate) KnockeF@metrofamily.org

NOTE: We are now sorting our trainings and resources by the Core Areas in the Illinois Statewide Afterschool Quality Standards to promote better understanding and implementation of the Standards. Dark blue headings denote a Core Area. To learn more about the Quality Standards, click [here](#).