Policy Updates

Federal Updates

FY20 Appropriations Update

On Thursday, September 12th, the Senate Appropriations Committee voted along party lines to virtually freeze funding for the fiscal year (FY) 2020 Labor-HHS-Education appropriations bill at the current FY 2019 level. Due to a number of disagreements between members, the Labor-HHS-Education (LHHS) spending bill was not marked up last week, however a draft bill, summary, and report language were released to the public by the Appropriations Committee on September 18th. In the posted bill, which likely will be used to negotiate with the House-passed LHHS bill, 21st Century Community Learning Center (21st CCLC) funding for afterschool and summer learning programs was frozen at last year’s level of $1.222 billion. For more information, click here.

State Updates

FY21 ISBE Budget Hearings

The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) is hosting public hearings this fall to gather requests to inform their fiscal year 2021 budget recommendations. More specific location details and an online budget request form will be released soon. Below are the dates and times of the hearings.

- **October 16th**: Immediately following the board meeting in East St. Louis
- **October 23rd**: 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. in Bloomington
- **November 6th**: 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. in Mount Vernon
- **November 21st**: 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. in Chicago

For a list of previously listed policy updates, click here.

Trainings and Events

LOA 2019 Planning Webinar

Join ACT Now to learn about planning and preparing for a Lights On Afterschool (LOA) event, as well as how to utilize our LOA Toolkit. This webinar will take place on **October 2nd from 10:00**
To register, click here. Note: Participants will be eligible for Gateways Registry credit.

Youth Development, Programming, & Activities

Webinar: STEM Equity & Identity

Join ACT Now on October 22nd from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. to learn about how to ensure there are equitable STEM opportunities for all youth and the importance of developing a STEM identity in youth. This webinar will include presentations from Girls Who Code, CIS STEMpathy, NextWaveSTEM, and the YWCA. To register, click here.

Principles of Trauma-Informed Care in OST

Join the Illinois AfterSchool Network to learn how to implement the five core principles of trauma-informed care in the afterschool setting. The training will be held on October 12th from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in Rockford. Please email Sharroyn Dunbar at ianetwrk@att.net or call 217-953-4620 for more information or to register. (Note: This training costs $10 per person.)

Restorative Justice 101

Join the Illinois AfterSchool Network for an interactive workshop that examines the foundations of restorative justice for youth and the strategies associated with the approach. This workshop will be held on October 29th from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Please email Sharroyn Dunbar at ianetwrk@att.net or call 217-953-4620 for more information or to register. (Note: This workshop costs $10 per person.)

To view ACT Now’s calendar of events, click here.

Youth Opportunities

March for Sisterhood

On October 11th, the International Day of the Girl, Girls Who Code is expanding their #MarchForSisterhood to countless more people by launching the first-ever all-digital global march. Girls and allies will show their support for one another by posting videos of themselves marching on the social platform of their choice using the hashtag #MarchForSisterhood. Get your youth involved and take the pledge to #MarchForSisterhood at here!

For an archive of our previously listed Youth Opportunities, click here.
Opportunities for Providers

IAN Emerging Leaders Survey

The Illinois AfterSchool Network is in the process of gathering information via a survey in order to inform the development of trainings specifically for emerging out-of-school time leaders that focus on developing expertise as a team leader to provide high quality programming to youth, families, and the community. The survey is open until September 30th. To complete the survey, click here.

For an archive of our previously listed Opportunities for Providers, click here.

Funding Opportunities

For an archive of our previously listed Funding Opportunities, click here.

Resources for Providers

Governance Structures for Afterschool Systems

Many cities organize program providers, municipal agencies, schools, funders and other stakeholders into afterschool systems, on the theory that children will be better served. The insights on these governance structures from a major Wallace Foundation initiative are captured in this brief report. Three models for governance emerged from this research: governance based in a local government agency, governance housed in a nonprofit organization, and governance from a networked arrangement tapping several different institutions.

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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.

Do you find the ACT Now newsletter to be a quality resource for your program? If so, please consider making a contribution to ACT Now so that we may continue to provide free resources to afterschool program providers, and, in turn, create a brighter future for the state of afterschool programs in Illinois!

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