

Upcoming School Partnerships Webinars!

On **November 30, 2022, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.**, **ACT Now** will focus on helping school districts plan for the continuation of newly established programs or resources after COVID-19 relief (ESSER III) funds are no longer available. Co-facilitated by **ACT Now** and **Ramona Dixon** (Director of Grants, Accountability, and Assessments - Rock Island-Milan School District 41), this webinar will outline, from a school districts' perspective, the most important steps to plan for the sustainable use of grant funds. Additionally, attendees will have access to an established sustainability plan to take away and reference independently. To register, click [here!](#)

Please reach out to Nikki Gillani (Afterschool Resources and Support Specialist - School Partnerships) with questions and concerns at Gillanin@actnowillinois.org.

ACT Now Professional Development Opportunity: Fostering A Systematic Approach to Family Engagement

Does your program struggle to maintain ongoing, supportive, and consistent family engagement? Do you wish you could refine the strategies to increase interaction with families and demonstrate all the high-quality work you do? **Register** today for a virtual professional development session on: **Fostering A Systematic Approach to Family Engagement**. This training will seek to dissect current family engagement strategies, develop a model of evaluation, and craft a systematic strategy to family engagement. Join us on **Thursday, December 8, 2022, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.** by registering for this event in our online system, ACT Now Center for Afterschool Learning (ANCAL).

*For any questions, please reach out to **Emma Vibber (Quality and Professional Development Manager)** at Vibbere@metrofamily.org.*

Policy Updates

State Updates

Illinois General Assembly Schedule

The [102nd General Assembly](#) is scheduled to return to Springfield for its annual veto session from **November 15 to 17 and November 29 to December 1, 2022**. While not officially confirmed, a lame duck session has been proposed between **January 4 and 10**. The 103rd General Assembly, with members elected in the November 8th general election, will convene its regular spring legislative session beginning in January and run, most likely, through May 2023.

For an archive of previously listed policy updates, click [here](#).

Trainings, Events and Webinars

To register for all upcoming **ACT Now** trainings, please sign up for the [ACT Now Center for Afterschool Learning \(ANCAL\)](#). ANCAL is an online learning and training platform that is FREE for all Illinois afterschool and OST professionals. Within this new online learning system, you will be able to access a full list of all of our professional development opportunities!

ACT Now Events:

- **[Teen Reach Quarterly #2 Meeting](#)**: November 16, 2022, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
- **[21st CCLC Town Hall](#)**: November 17, 2022, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
- **[RPSA YDS Quarterly #2 Meeting](#)**: November 30, 2022, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- **[STEM Webinar: How to Choose](#)**: December 1, 2022, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
- **[STEM Resource Fair](#)**: December 6, 2022, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- **[Statewide Community School Convening: Family and Community Partnerships](#)**: December 6, 2022, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

External Events:

- **[Illinois AfterSchool Network: Take Care of You! Soul Care for Out of School Time Providers](#)** - December 14, 2022, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

- **[The To & Through Middle Grades Network](#)**: [Practice Spotlight: Making Student Work More Meaningful](#)- November 10, 2022, at 2:00 p.m.
- **[Education Week](#)**: [How Schools Are Helping Special Education Students Recover From the Pandemic](#)- November 16, 2022, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
- **[Harmony Social and Emotional Learning](#)**: [Bridging the Gap: The Intersection of Educator SEL and Student Success](#)- November 30, 2022, from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- **[National Girls Collaborative Project](#)**: [Enjoy Computer Science Education Week with Microsoft MakeCode](#)- December 6, 2022, from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

For an archive of our previously listed Trainings, Events and Webinars, click [here](#).

Resources for Providers

Administration

[Technology in Early Childhood Education](#)

[Edutopia](#) published a blog that discussed when educators should use technology in early childhood education. The article explained that when technology is used in a meaningful way it can be used to address specific learning goals.

Safety, Health, Nutrition

[Help Reduce the Spread of Seasonal Influenza in Schools](#)

The [Center for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#) released guidance for school administrators regarding information to help reduce the spread of seasonal influenza (flu) among students and staff in K-12 schools.

Youth Development

[Free Learning Resources for Native American Heritage Month](#)

November is Native American Heritage Month and to help you celebrate [Common Sense Education](#) compiled a list of resources for educators. These resources were predominantly developed by or in partnership with Native people and/or tribal organizations and nations.

Family and Community Partnerships

[Homeowner Assistance](#)

The [Illinois Housing Development Authority](#) is reopening a mortgage assistance program designed to assist homeowners financially impacted by the pandemic. The fund provides up to \$30,000 in mortgage assistance to eligible homeowners. The program is free, and funds do not need to be repaid. **Applications will be accepted until January 31, 2023.**

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

Opportunities for Providers

Administration

[COVID-19 Impact Survey](#)

Take [Afterschool Alliance's](#) short survey on what this fall has looked like for your out-of-school-time program. 50 respondents will win a \$50 cash prize. The survey closes **November 20, 2022.**

[Carole Robertson Center for Learning Teen Reach Mentor Position](#)

The [Carole Robertson Center for Learning](#) is looking to fill an out-of-school-time Teen Reach Mentor position. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

[2023 Next Gen Afterschool Leaders Nominations Now Open!](#)

The [National AfterSchool Association's \(NAA\)](#) Next Generation of Afterschool Leaders, identifies young leaders and recognizes the talent of afterschool champions who have the potential to influence the field of afterschool. Each honoree will receive a free NAA Executive membership, a free NAA22 Convention registration, ongoing leadership development, support in expanding their professional networks, and other opportunities to broaden their impact. **Nomination period closes December 7, 2022.**

Family and Community Partnerships

[Illinois Birth to Five Seeks Family Council Members](#)

[Birth to Five Illinois](#) is a new statewide program centering family voice in the decisions made in Early Childhood Education and Care. Family Council Members will be asked to advocate for family needs, share critical input to improve programs, and serve as an advisory committee for their region's Action Council. Birth to Five Illinois is currently seeking additional interested parents and caregivers with a child eight years of age or younger.

[Native American Heritage Month at the Field Museum](#)

The [Field Museum](#) is hosting a Native American Heritage Month Celebration on **November 12, 2022**. The free celebration will feature Native American cultural performances, story tellers, and more.

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

Youth Opportunities

Youth Development

[Understanding the Holistic Application Review Process](#)

On **November 13, 2022, from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.**, [College Advisor](#) is hosting a webinar where students will be able to learn more about the holistic application review process. During the webinar students will learn how to create their strongest application to set themselves up for college admissions success.

[Million Girls Moonshot Flight Crew](#)

[Million Girls Moonshot](#) has opened their application for the Flight Crew. The Flight Crew is a group of youth advocates promoting the value of out-of-school STEM learning and equity in STEM for young people. The 2023 Flight Crew will participate in eight months of youth development and public speaking training. **Applications are due November 11, 2022.**

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

Funding Opportunities

Youth Development

[Golden Apple Scholarship Opportunity](#)

The [Golden Apple Scholars of Illinois](#) program is a teacher preparation and tuition assistance program for high school seniors and freshman and sophomore Illinois college students who have the drive to be teachers in Illinois schools-of-need. Award amounts vary.

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

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[Click Here](#) to Subscribe to the **ACT Now** Newsletter!

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

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