

# ACTNOW!

## Afterschool for Children and Teens

### Policy Update

#### Stopgap Budget Update

On April 6, 2017 the Illinois House passed [HB109, HAM1](#), which amends/repeals appropriations to the stopgap budget covering the first six months of FY17. The total appropriated for After School Youth Support Programs for the second half of FY17 is \$17,917,400. It is unclear at this time if the Senate will be moving forward with this bill.

#### FY18 Budget Proposal Eliminates 21st CCLC

The 21st Century Community Learning Centers (CCLC) initiative was not included in President Trump's FY18 budget proposal. If eliminated, 456 communities serving 52,496 students in Illinois will be affected. To call on Congress to protect funding for afterschool and summer learning programs, click [here](#). For additional advocacy resources, click [here](#).

#### Teen REACH Not Funded in FY18 Proposal

Teen REACH is a cost-effective out-of-school time prevention program that provides safe environments for youth and a unique, comprehensive array of supports including: academic assistance, life-skills building, mentoring, and job preparation. The Governor's FY18 Budget Proposal did not include Teen REACH. To take action and tell the General Assembly to fund Teen REACH, click [here](#). Additional advocacy opportunities/options, including using social and print media, can be found in our [Teen REACH Advocacy Toolkit](#). To access the Teen REACH fact sheet, click [here](#).

#### Tell Policymakers to Release the 21st CCLC RFP

The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) is in the process of finalizing the next 21st Century RFP. **We need you to tell your policymakers that the RFP needs to be released NOW in order to limit gaps in funding as much as possible.** Click on this [link](#) to share this message with legislators asking them to tell ISBE to release the RFP. You can also use this [form letter](#) to send a message to ISBE.

#### Social Services Contract Notice

The Social Services Contract Notice Act, [HB3110](#), passed out of the House and is now in the Senate. This bill was written in response to the Good Friday social services cut that took place in April 2015. The bill would require the state of Illinois to provide the General Assembly and social service providers advance notice prior to reducing, eliminating, or suspending services. The HB3110 fact sheet can be accessed [here](#). To identify your legislator as well as retrieve contact information to ask them to support this bill, click [here](#).

### **Thriving Youth Fund**

The Thriving Youth Fund bill, [SB2046/HB3217](#), is on its second reading in the Senate. It establishes the thriving youth income tax check box that allows taxpayers to fund non-Medicaid eligible community-based youth programs. The SB2046/HB3217 fact sheet can be accessed [here](#). To identify your legislators as well as retrieve contact information to ask them to support this bill, click [here](#).

### **Lottery After-School Rescue**

The Lottery After-School Rescue bill, [HB0273](#), creates an “After-School Rescue” scratch-off game where the net revenue goes to the making of grants to at-risk schools for the promotion of extracurricular and after-school programs. To identify your legislator as well as retrieve contact information to ask them to support this bill, click [here](#).

### **Illinois Criminal Justice Information Act**

The Illinois Criminal Justice Information Act, [HB3166](#), calls for the development of new methods and uses of criminal justice information for the improvement of the criminal justice system and the reduction of crime. The bill supports afterschool programs and youth jobs as violence prevention measures, particularly in communities that have been greatly impacted. To identify your legislator as well as retrieve contact information to ask them to support this bill, click [here](#).

### **Trauma-Informed Care for Children and Families Act**

The federal Trauma-Informed Care for Children and Families Act of 2017, [S.774/H.R.1757](#), addresses the impact of toxic stress and trauma on childhood development. The legislation would equip adults serving youth with resources to provide evidence-based treatments and interventions. To access the section-by-section overview, click [here](#).

## **Upcoming Events**

### **Afterschool Professionals Appreciation Week**

Join the National AfterSchool Association in celebrating the heart of afterschool by honoring afterschool professionals the week of **April 24-28, 2017**. This is a great time to show appreciation to the 850,000 providers who provide quality service to more than 10 million kids outside of the

traditional school day. Click [here](#) for ideas on how parents, administrators, and communities can acknowledge the afterschool professionals in their programs.

### **IAN Spring Conference**

IAN's 31st Annual Spring AfterSchool Conference will be held on **Saturday, April 29, 2017**, at the Sheraton Lisle Hotel, located at 3000 Warrenville Road in Lisle, IL. The 2017 spring conference will include professional development sessions for front line staff and seasoned professionals, an interactive market, and a public policy meeting sponsored by ACT Now. Click [here](#) for additional details or to register.

### **Chicago at a Crossroads**

The New York Times in collaboration with the University of Chicago Crime Lab will be hosting "Chicago at a Crossroads: Solving the Gun Violence Crisis" on **Wednesday, May 3, 2017**. The event will be held at Venue SIX10, located at 610 South Michigan, Chicago, from 6:00 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. For more information or to register, click [here](#).

### **Becoming a Trauma-Informed Community**

Family Bridges will be hosting a trauma summit on **Thursday, May 4, 2017** that will provide the basis for understanding Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and their impact on children and communities. This free event will be held at the Bolingbrook Golf Club, located at 2001 Rodeo Drive, Bolingbrook, IL, from 9:30 a.m. through 4:00 p.m. For additional information or to register, click [here](#).

### **7th Annual STEAM Conference**

Northeastern Illinois University and Columbia College Chicago's 7th annual STEAM Conference will take place on **Saturday, May 20, 2017**. This free event will be held on the campus of Northeastern Illinois University, located at 5500 North St. Louis Avenue in Chicago. The conference will provide middle school and high school students, educators, and parents an opportunity to explore activities focused in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts/Architecture/Agriculture, and Mathematics (STEAM), through student-led, project-based, and career-oriented workshops. Click [here](#) for more information or to register.

### **At-Risk After-School Meals Summit**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA), Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) At-Risk Afterschool Meals Component provides funding to afterschool programs that serve a meal and/or snacks to children and teens in low-income areas. An At-Risk After-School Meals Summit will be held in Chicago on **Thursday, May 25, 2017** at the YMCA of Metro Chicago, located at 1030 West Van Buren Street. The event will bring Cook County sponsors together with organizations and resources that can help enhance meal programs. For more information or to register, contact Sonianne Lozada at [slozada@gcfd.org](mailto:slozada@gcfd.org) or at 773-843-5492.

## Youth Opportunities

### One Summer Chicago

One Summer Chicago brings together government institutions, community-based organizations, and companies to offer over 31,000 employment and internship opportunities to Chicago's youth and young adults ages 14 to 24. For additional information or to apply, click [here](#).

### Jackson Park Caddie Program

The Western Golf Association will sponsor and manage a caddie program for students from the communities surrounding the Chicago Park District's South Shore and Jackson Park Golf Courses. Interested eighth, ninth, and tenth graders are encouraged to apply. The application deadline is **Wednesday April 26, 2017**. For more information, click [here](#).

### Chicago Freedom School Fellowship

The Freedom Fellowship is a six-month program that brings together 21 youth between the ages of 14 and 17 from across the city of Chicago to explore issues of injustice and gain skills in leadership and activism. Youth interested in applying must submit their application by **Monday, May 1, 2017**. For more information, click [here](#).

### 2017 Impact Youth Conference

The Peace Hub's 3rd annual conference designed specifically for youth and youth advocates, will be held on **May 5-6, 2017** at the Gary Comer Youth Center, located at 7200 South Ingleside in Chicago. For additional information or to register, click [here](#).

### Chicago Summer STEM Camp

Project SYNCERE in partnership with the Chicago Department of Family & Support Services is hosting a free six-week summer STEM camp. Students must be Chicago residents entering grades nine through 12 and in good academic standing. Applications are due by **Thursday, May 11, 2017**. For more information or to apply, click [here](#).

### Cream of the Crop Photo Contest

The Cream of the Crop Photo Contest, sponsored by Illinois State Treasurer Michael Frerichs, invites youth ages eight through 18 to submit an innovative, scenic snapshot of agriculture in Illinois. All photographs must be the original work of the photographer and submitted in JPG format, 300 dpi, no larger than 5MB. The deadline to enter is **Tuesday, June 27, 2017**. Click [here](#) to view the contest rules or to submit your entry.

## Trainings and Webinars

### Healthy #AfterschoolWorks

Join the Afterschool Alliance and the National AfterSchool Association on **Wednesday, April 26, 2017** at noon to discuss how afterschool and recreation professionals can blend healthy eating and physical activity best practices with STEM, literacy, creative arts, and outdoor education. For more information or to register, click [here](#).

### ACT Now Quality Standards

ACT Now is holding free trainings around the state on the Afterschool Quality Standards. The trainings will provide participants a general overview of the Standards and strategies for implementation. **Credit for the trainings will be available through the Gateways to Opportunity system and participants can also earn CEUs.** A training is scheduled for **Friday, April 28, 2017**, from 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Sheraton Hotel Lisle in Lisle, IL. This is a pre-conference session before the Illinois AfterSchool Network Conference. You do not need to register for the conference to participate in the training. For more information or to register, click [here](#).

### The President's Budget Eliminates Afterschool Funding. What Happens Now?

The Afterschool Alliance will be hosting a webinar on **Thursday, May 4, 2017** to share the latest developments on 21st Century Community Learning Center funding. The session will begin at 12 noon. For additional information or to register, click [here](#).

### Creating Fun and Engaging SUMMER Hands-On Science Experiences

IAN will be hosting regional trainings to support afterschool professional with creating fun, interactive, and inspiring summer hands-on science activities. For more information or to register for these trainings, click on the links below.

- [Harvard, IL on May 10, 2017](#)
- [Springfield, IL on May 11, 2017](#)

### Rev Up Training Institute

The Chicago Freedom School in partnership with the Youth Development Masters of Education Program at UIC are hosting a four-day training institute for youth organizers, youth workers, and educators who seek to incorporate social change practices into their work. The event will be held on **Thursday, May 18, 2017 through Sunday, May 21, 2017**, from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. For additional details or to register, click [here](#).

## Opportunity for Providers

### National Afterschool Matters Fellowship

The National Afterschool Matters Fellowship is a two-year leadership training program offered by the National Institute on Out-of-School Time at the Wellesley Centers for Women at Wellesley College and the National Writing Project. Mid-career out-of-school time (OST), education, or youth development professionals who demonstrate a commitment to the OST field are encouraged to apply. Applications are due by **Wednesday, May 31, 2017**. For more information, click [here](#).

## Funding Opportunities

### Chicago Fund for Safe and Peaceful Communities

The Chicago Fund for Safe and Peaceful Communities will award grants ranging from \$1,000 to \$10,000 to support activities designed to promote peace, build trust, and strengthen relationships, and led by Chicago residents in 17 communities. Fundable projects could include educational events, group or youth activities, resident leader stipends, recreational activities, festivals, performances, picnics, block-level activities and more. Applications must be submitted by **Thursday, May 4, 2017**. For more information, click [here](#).

### Opportunity Works

The Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership in conjunction with the Office of the President of the Cook County Board of Commissioners announces the release of funding for Opportunity Works, an initiative that will introduce young adults, ages 16-24, from suburban Cook County to careers in high-growth, high-demand sectors. Governmental, not-for-profit, educational, or for-profit entities in business for at least three years may submit a proposal to be service providers. The proposal deadline is **Friday, May 5, 2017** at noon. For more information, click [here](#).

### Best Buy Foundation Community Grants

The Best Buy Foundation provides one-year grants up to \$10,000 to help afterschool and summer programs bring new technologies to teens who are underserved. Proposals are due by 4:00 p.m. on **Friday, May 19, 2017**. For funding guidelines or to apply, click [here](#).

## Advocates in Action

ACT Now thanks all the advocates who took part in our April Advocacy Initiative. During the final week of the event, ACT Now and Teen REACH providers spoke on the merits and impacts of the state funded Teen REACH afterschool program at a recent Illinois House Appropriations-Human Services hearing.

If you were unable to participate in the Advocacy initiative, you can still take action in support of afterschool by clicking [here](#).



Read more about the [ACT Now Coalition](#). Please send any information you would like included in the next newsletter to [StantonS@metrofamily.org](mailto:StantonS@metrofamily.org)

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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.

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