

ACT NOW!

Afterschool for Children and Teens

Teen REACH Year-End Report

The Illinois Department of Human Services is collecting data and narrative information from Teen REACH programs funded in FY17. This information helps providers and ACT Now to explain the impact Teen REACH has on the communities that it serves. The completed year-end report should be submitted to Mike.Sandidge@illinois.gov and DHS.Youthservicesinfo@illinois.gov using the subject line "TR – Year End Report" by **Wednesday July 26, 2017**.

Policy Update

LHHS FY18 21st CCLC Appropriations

On July 19th, the U.S. House Appropriations Committee approved the FY18 Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education (LHHS) bill that cuts 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) funding by \$191 million. This is the lowest level of federal afterschool funding since 2007. If the House bill were to become law, roughly 8,331 children in Illinois would lose access to quality afterschool and summer learning programs next year. To call on Congress to protect funding for afterschool and summer learning programs in FY18, click [here](#).

Take Action to Support Teen REACH

The Governor's office is looking carefully at contracts for all programs that were not in the Governor's budget, including Teen REACH. The budget that passed gave the Governor the authority to spend up to \$19.6 million on Teen REACH, but it does not require the administration to issue contracts and spend this money.

We need you to take action to help Teen REACH. Ask your legislators to tell the administration to issue Teen REACH contracts as soon as possible by clicking [here](#). Please also consider sharing this message with your networks.

Additional ACT Now policy updates affecting the afterschool/youth development field can be found [here](#).

Upcoming Events

Youth Power Panel

Mikva Challenge will be hosting a panel discussion entitled “Youth Power = Stronger Identities, Stronger Social Emotional Learning Skills” on **Thursday, August 3, 2017**, from 4:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. Panelist will discuss how youth empowerment aligns with adolescent brain development and builds lifelong impacts contributing to a stronger civic identity and community engagement. For more information, click [here](#).

Lights on Afterschool

Lights on Afterschool (LOA) is a national celebration of the afterschool programs that keeps kids safe, inspire learning, and help working families. On **Thursday, October 26, 2017** more than one million Americans will attend more than 8,000 Lights On Afterschool events in all 50 states and in the District of Columbia. If you are considering hosting an activity, click [here](#) to visit the Afterschool Alliance LOA webpage and register your event. There you will find tips for planning an event and engaging the community as well as marketing resources.

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

Youth Opportunities

InSTEM Summer Session

DePaul University’s Inspiring STEM in Girls (InSTEM) Program is an intensive one-week experience designed to engage 6th, 7th, and 8th grade girls in STEM activities. It will be held from **Monday, July 31, 2017 through Friday, August 4, 2017**. For more information, click [here](#).

Congressional App Challenge

The Congressional App Challenge (CAC) is a public effort to encourage kids to learn how to code. District-wide competitions take place from July through early November. For more information, click [here](#).

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

Training and Webinars

Restorative Justice Summer Institute

Umoja will be hosting a restorative justice training on **Tuesday, August 15, 2017 and Wednesday, August 16, 2017** that will address conflicts in educational settings. For more information, click [here](#).

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

Resources

Making the Most of ESSA: Opportunities to Advance STEM Education

Education First's recent report, "Making the Most of ESSA: Opportunities to Advance STEM Education" provides recommendations for ensuring that STEM policies in state ESSA plans best support student success. To read the report, click [here](#).

Connecting Students to Apprenticeship Programs

The U.S. Department of Education Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education has released a report that explores the potential for connecting secondary career and technical education (CTE) students with apprenticeship training opportunities. It profiles eight programs and synthesizes observations across the sites to support state and local leaders in connecting high school CTE students with apprenticeships. To access, click [here](#).

Youth Violence Prevention Tools

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has created a tool that outlines evidence-based strategies states and communities can use to stop and prevent youth violence. To access the resource, click [here](#).

Youth Engagement Strategies

The Interagency Working Group on Youth Programs, which is composed of representatives from 20 federal agencies that support programs and services focusing on youth, is seeking input from young people and organizations about the best ways to engage youth. To share your youth engagement strategy, click [here](#).

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

Provider Opportunity

Black Girls CODE Wellness Instructors

Black Girl CODE is looking for yoga/fitness instructors for its Chicago summer camp. Click [here](#) for more information.

For additional provider opportunities, click [here](#).

Employment

Thrive Chicago seeks to hire a Data Analyst to help build and support their growing organization. The job description can be found [here](#).

Funding Opportunities

School Breakfast Grants

School Breakfast Grants ranging from \$2,100 to \$5,000 have been made available to help schools implement a Breakfast After the Bell delivery model. For more information about the requirements and submission deadlines, click [here](#).

For a list of afterschool and youth development related grants, click [here](#).

ACT Now Newsletter Update

ACT Now has updated its newsletter format to better serve your needs. At the beginning of each month, we will still have a longer newsletter with fuller updates. All other weeks in the month will have a shorter newsletter with the most recent policy updates and professional development, funding, and youth opportunities. You will always be able to find a full listing of resources and policy updates for the afterschool field on our website, actnowillinois.org. You are welcome to send feedback to ACT Now's Network Lead Susan Stanton at StantonS@metrofamily.org regarding the newsletter format and content.



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

Was this email forwarded to you? [Sign up for ACT Now Coalition updates!](#)

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.

Please send this information to others who might be interested by forwarding this e-mail.

To stop all emails from the ACT Now Coalition: [Click here to unsubscribe](#)