

Learning from Successful Efforts to Integrate Social and Emotional Learning in Afterschool



# Resources



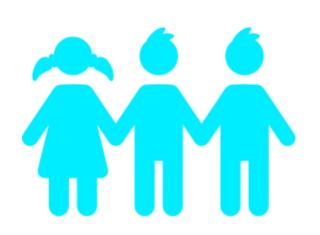
- Navigating SEL from the Inside Out
- Kernels of Practice for SEL: Low-Cost, Low-Burden Strategies
- Social and Emotional Learning for Out-of-School Time Settings
- An Ideal Opportunity: The Role of Afterschool in Social and Emotional Learning



- Creating the Conditions for Social and Emotional Learning
- Are You Ready to Assess Social and Emotional Development?
- Expert Perspectives: Building Social and Emotional Skills in Afterschool

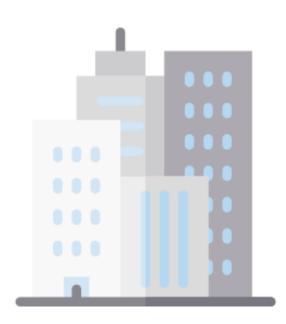


# Agenda



Programs implementing SEL





City-wide approach to SEL



Q&A



# Speakers



Allison Riley
Senior Vice President
Programming and Evaluation
Girls on the Run

**Paul G. Griffin**Founder & President
The Possibility Project





# Speakers



Maxine Quintana
Director of Afterschool Initiatives
Office of Children's Affairs, City of Denver





# Municipal Leadership to Promote SEL in Afterschool Settings

**Afterschool Alliance Webinar** 



## Mission



# To strengthen and promote cities as centers of opportunity, leadership and governance



Working in partnership with 49 state municipal leagues and serves as resource to and advocate for >19,000 cities, villages and towns

## Institute for Youth, Education, and Families



# Helping city leaders take action on behalf of the children, youth and families in their communities



Early Childhood Success

Health & Wellness

Economic
Opportunity &
Financial
Empowerment

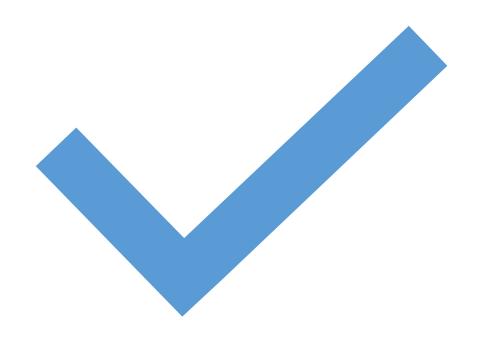
Education & Expanded Learning

Youth & Young
Adult
Connections

# The Ten C's of Mayoral Leadership

- Catalyst
- Champion
- Commander in Chief
- Convener/Community organizer
- Coordinator
- Common ground setter
- Collaborator
- Convincer
- Commits resources
- Creates visibility
- Offers Carrots incentives





Park and Recreation
Departments

Police
Departments/Juvenile
Courts

Libraries

Cities Support Afterschool and Summer Learning Programs

Mayor's Youth Councils

**Arts Commissions** 

Museums

Community Policing/ Police Athletic Leagues Fire, Public Works, Health and Environment Departments

Workforce Investment
Boards

Community-Based Organizations

**School Districts** 

Civic Groups



Citywide Afterschool System Building Resources www.wallacefoundation.org/knowledge-center

# Ways to Describe Benefits of SEL Skill Building with Municipal Leaders

- Increased student engagement/graduation
- Less conflict/public safety concerns
- Supports College Readiness
- Expand Workforce development
- Support Economic development
- Keeping corporations in their city with an educated, skilled workforce to pull from
- Addresses Youth unemployment
- Capture excitement of millennials
- Cities are places of innovation

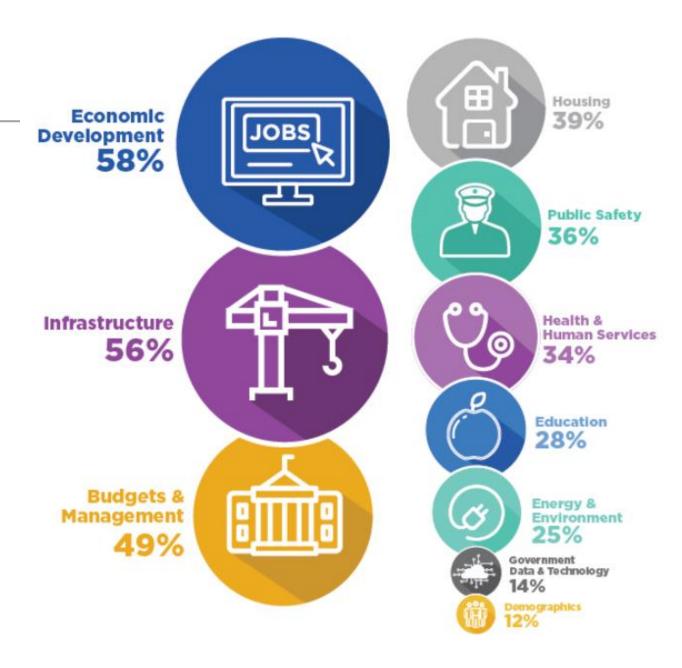




# Top 10 Issues in Cities

- Economic Development has been top priority policy area for 5 years
- 28% of mayors speeches covered education issues

Source: NLC's State of the Cities 2018 Report <a href="https://www.nlc.org">www.nlc.org</a>



# Parks and Recreation

- 57% of mayors included mention of Parks and Recreation in speeches
- #1 subtopic in West and Northeast, #2 in South
- In the Top 5 in all regions
- Interesting opportunity to embed SEL into city recreation

#### Top subtopics by region

#### West



- 1 Parks & Recreation
- 2 Police Department
- 3 Homelessness
- 4 Roads-Streets-Signs
- 5 Intergovernmental Relations
- 6 Housing Supply & Development
- 7 Affordable Housing
- 8 Government Efficiency & Effectiveness
- 9 Downtown Development
- 10 Public Transit

#### **Midwest**



- Roads-Streets-Signs
- 2 Police Department
- 3 Fire Department
- 4 Parks & Recreation
- 5 Water-Sewer-Waste Infrastructure
- 6 Downtown Development
- 7 Arts & Culture
- 8 Government Efficiency & Effectiveness
- 9 Housing Supply & Development
- 10 Intergovernmental Relations

#### South



- 1 Police Department
- 2 Parks & Recreation
- 3 Roads-Streets-Signs
- 4 Public Transit
- 5 Government Efficiency & Effectiveness
- 6 Downtown Development
- 7 Housing Supply & Development
- 8 Water & Sewer-Waste Water Infrastructure
- 9 Neighborhood Vitalization
- 10 Arena & Convention Centers

#### Northeast

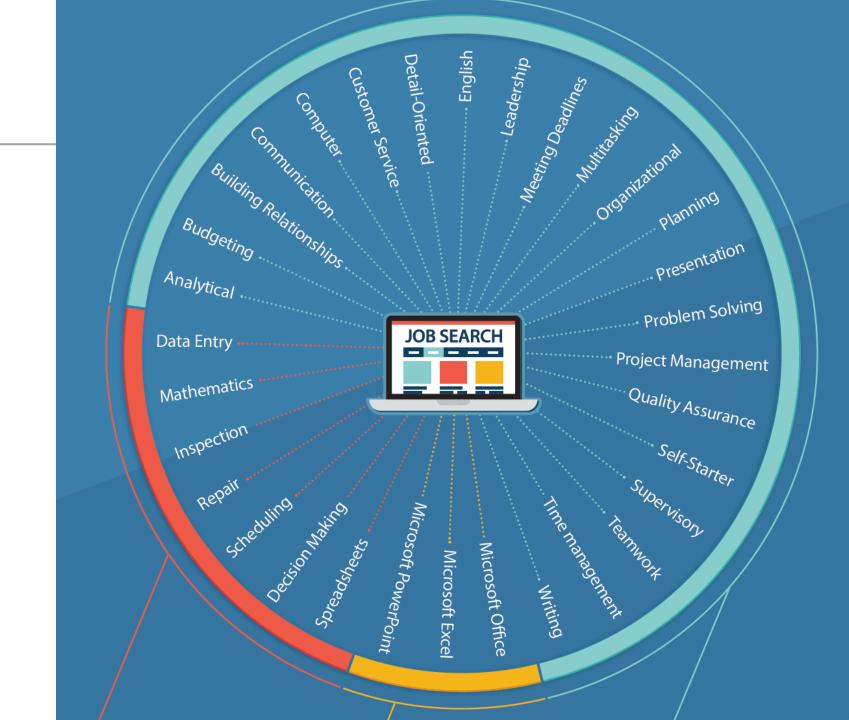


- Parks & Recreation
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- 4 Affordable Housing
- 5 Housing Supply & Development
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# Skills Employers Want

- Specialized Skills
- Software Skills
- Foundational Skills (i.e. social emotional embedded here)

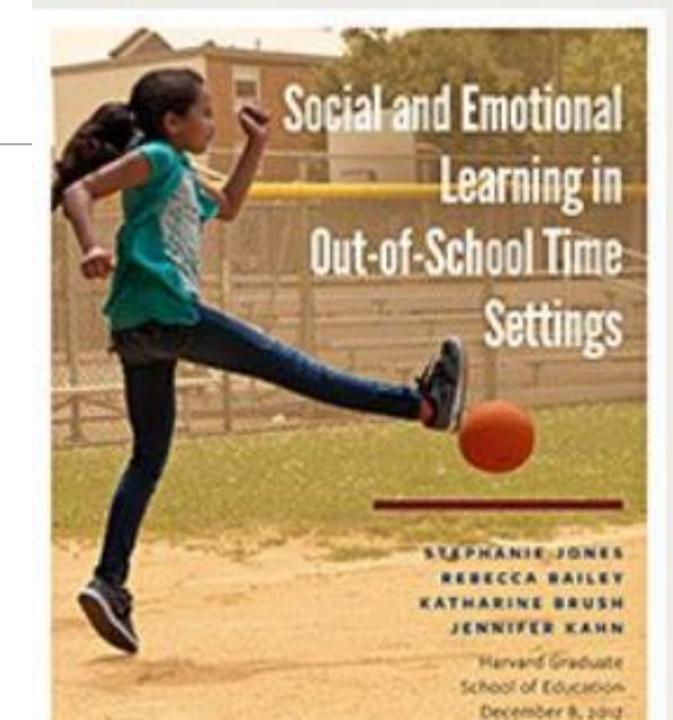
Source: Georgetown Center on Education and the Workforce

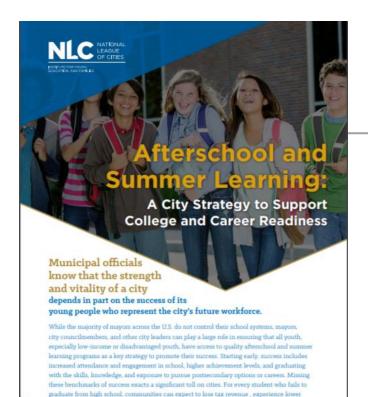


# Examples of successful SEL Programs & elements to adapt to afterschool

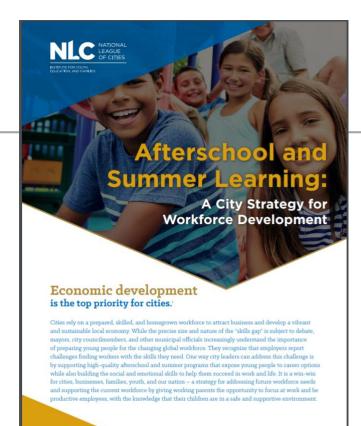
Four principles common to high quality OST and SEL programming:

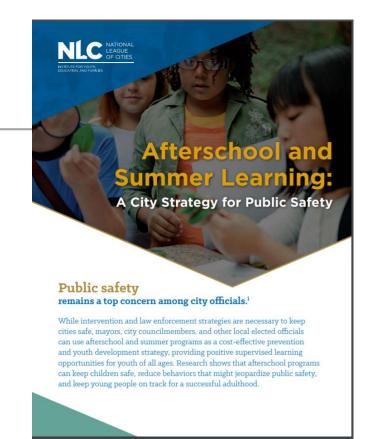
- programs provide a safe and positive environment for children and adults;
- programs support the development of high quality relationships between children and adults
- programs are developmentally appropriate, relevant and engaging for children; and
- programs provide opportunities for direct skill building.





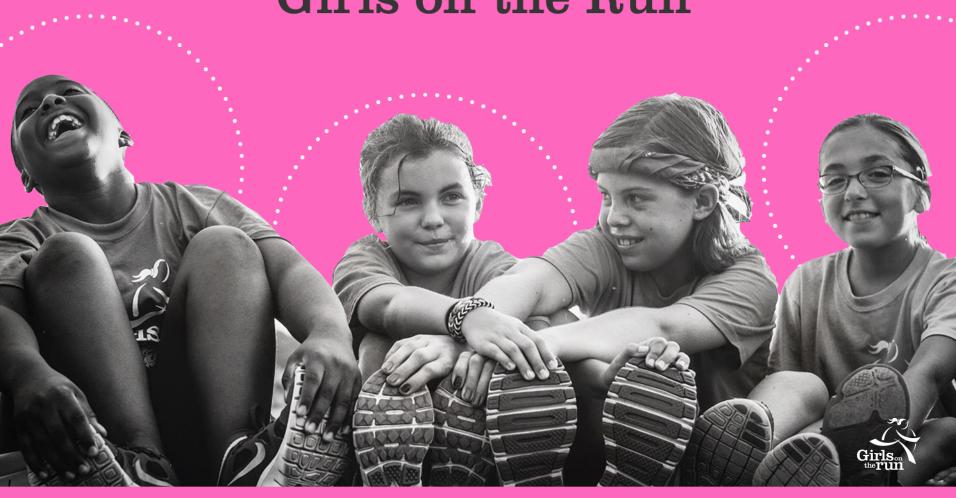
economic activity, and incur greater economic and social costs.





# New NLC Resources Available www.nlc.org

# Girls on the Run



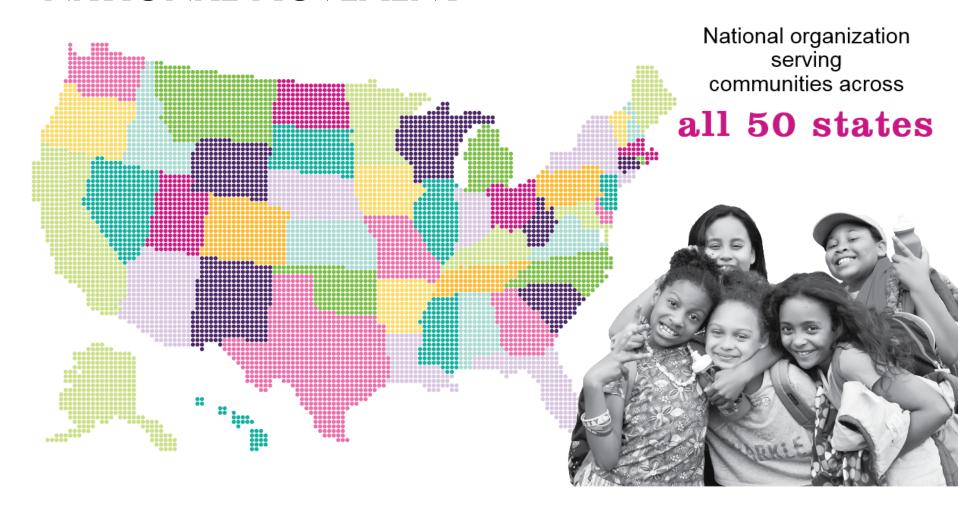
Girls on the Run is a physical activity-based

# POSITIVE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

designed to enhance girls' social, psychological and physical skills and behaviors to successfully navigate life experiences.



#### NATIONAL MOVEMENT



### WHAT WE DO



#### **National Coach Training**

#### Volunteer coaches are prepared to:

- Build relationships with and between girls
- Create a positive, inclusive environment
- Support girls' personal improvement
- Deliver intentional curriculum as intended

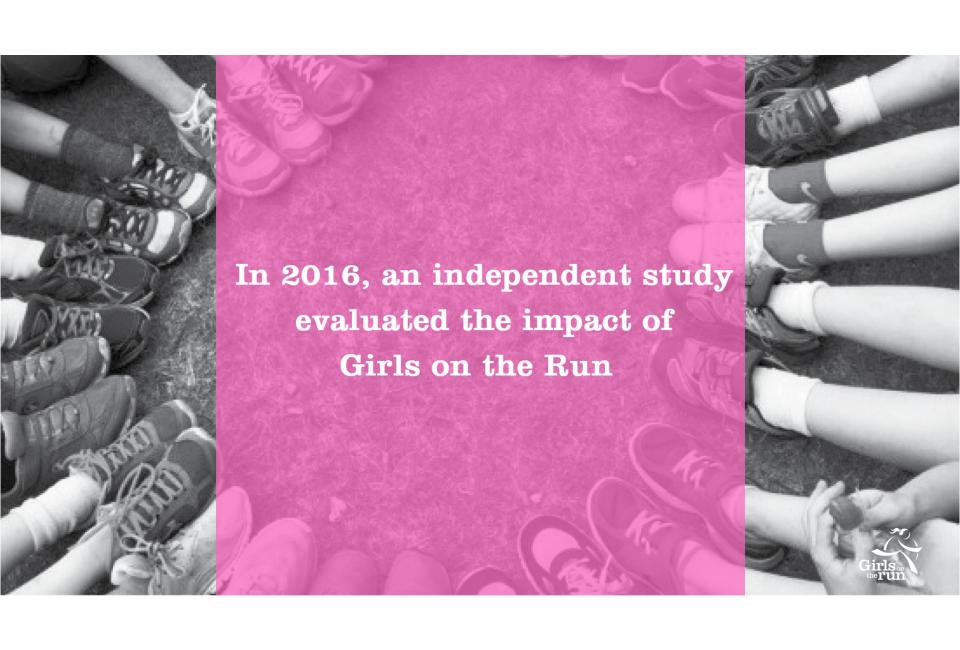




#### Our Curriculum

- 10-week program
- Meets twice per week
- 75-90 minute lessons
- Teams of 15 girls
- Community service project
- Celebratory 5K event





## Where girls made their greatest gains



CONFIDENCE

### Increased physical activity

GIRLS WHO WERE LEAST ACTIVE AT THE START INCREASED IN PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

BY MORE THAN 40%



#### Girls use critical life skills

at home, at school and with their friends



# STRATEGIES THAT WORK

# SEL THROUGH PHYSICAL ACTIVITY



- Design an activity with an outcome in mind
- Activity used to illustrate and practice skills
- Time for processing
- Ensure activities reinforce and provide opportunities to learn, practice and demonstrate skills

#### FOSTER A MASTERY CLIMATE

- Focus on effort and improvement
- Create a safe space for everyone to succeed
- Give specific feedback based on individual goals – physical skills and social-emotional skills



## PARTNERSHIPS



- Families
- Schools
- Communities





# THE POSSIBILITY PROJECT



### **OUR PROGRAM MODEL**

- a 9-month creative process, 6 hours per week
- participants learn to
  - build relationships across differences
  - undo internal and external oppressions
  - resolve the serious conflicts they face
  - engage in community action
  - practice leadership
- together, they write an original musical from the stories of their lives focused on the most serious issues they face
- perform their show for the community
- then design and execute community action projects focused on issues they care about.

## **OUR PROGRAMS**

	<u>Name</u>	Start Year	Eligible Youth	Recruited From
1.	Saturday	2001	Any youth, ages 13-19	Schools and community organizations
2.	After-School	2007	Any youth, ages 13-19	Schools and community organizations
3.	Foster Care	2009	Youth in foster care, ages 15-20	Foster care agencies and organizations and ACS
4.	Youth Justice	2015	Youth engaged with the justice system, Ages 15 to 20	ATI programs and justice organizations
5.	Rikers Island	2017	Youth in the GMDC and RNDC, short-term detention facilities	Living in the facility

### **AT THE START**





### **ACT I**

















### **ACT II**









### **ACT III**



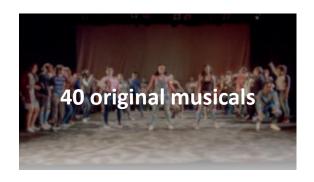






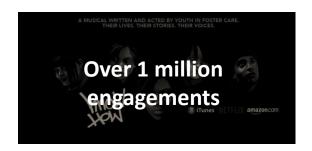
### **ACCOMPLISHMENTS**















- > 90% are more confident in advocating for themselves
- > 90% improve in cross-cultural understanding
- > 75% improve their leadership skills and abilities
- > 75% make progress in using conflict resolution skills



Research on our Saturday Program by Dr. Michael Hanson and the National Center for Children and Families found that our youth make very significant gains in three key SEL areas...

- > self-disclosure
- > emotional support
- > conflict resolution

They also gain communication skills.



Research on our After-School Program by SCE and the Weikart Center on Youth Program Quality showed improvement in all six SEL domains.

- > empathy
- > emotion management
- > problem-solving
- > teamwork
- > responsibility
- > initiative



- ➤ Since 2001 in our Saturday and After-School programs, 99% graduated or got their HSE and 92% went on to college.
- ➤ Since 2009 in our Foster Care Program, 83% stayed in school, re-enrolled in school, graduated, or completed their HSE while participating in the program.

# SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING & THE SEL CHALLENGE

### **SEL CHALLENGE PARTNERS**













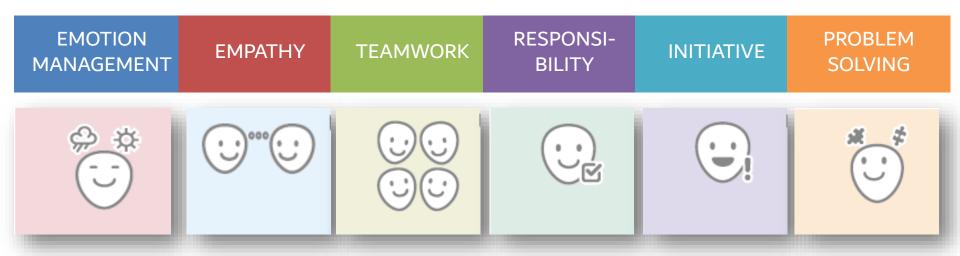








### Six SEL Domains



### You can't do SEL...

It happens while you <u>do</u> something else, like the arts or storytelling, or athletics, or a project.



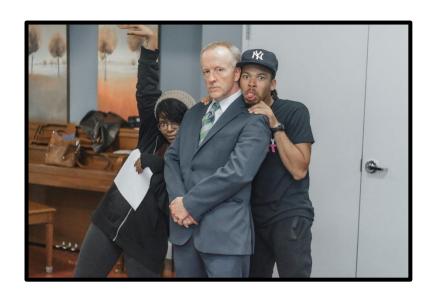
### Your relationship is the vehicle...

Without trusting relationships, all is lost. You have to learn with your youth.



### Your relationship is the vehicle...

Authenticity is essential.



### **Agency** underlies everything...

"no help, no fix, no save"



### It's social, not just emotional...

Facilitating positive relationships is as important as anything else you do.



### It's gotta be compelling...

Or they will choose something "better."



### It's gotta be active...

Or they will be bored; SEL is experiential learning.



### It's gotta have a "Big Goal"...

That's complex, ambitious, and relevant.

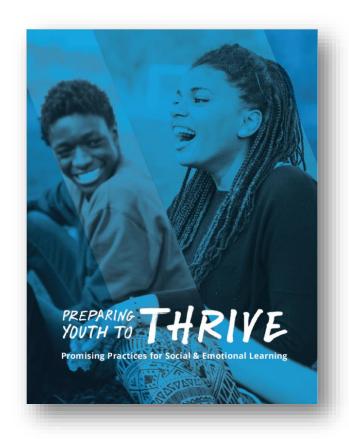


### So that means...

You partner with your youth, side-by-side, to undertake an active, compelling process aimed at a big goal.



### **SEL FIELD GUIDE**



Available at SELpractices.org



Engaging our youth together



### Denver Afterschool Alliance

A citywide system to support youth and families



#### Office of Children's Affairs Overview

#### About Us

The Office of Children's Affairs was established in 1995 to ensure Denver's children and youth have their basic needs met, are ready for kindergarten and are prepared for academic and professional success.

#### Our Role

The Office of Children's Affairs convenes policy makers, advocates and community partners to leverage resources that work to improve outcomes for all Denver children and youth. We work in collaboration with all stakeholders to support the Mayor's 5 goals for children.



#### Denver Afterschool Alliance Overview

#### Mission

- Increase access to and participation in quality afterschool programs
- Aligned to the City's and school districts priorities

#### Shared leadership

 Although housed within the City, DAA is collaboratively led and staffed by the city, school district and provider community.

#### Primary Focus

 Build the capacity of Denver's youth service providers by providing access to tools (YPQI, SAYO, DESSA, & school district data), professional development, and coaching supports for continuous quality improvement, data-driven decision making, and partnerships.



#### Why focus on SEAL? What the Research Says

#### **Science Links SEL to Student Gains:**



- Social-emotional skills
- Improved attitudes about self, others, and school
- Positive classroom behavior
- 11 percentile-point gain on standardized achievement tests



#### And Reduced Risks for Failure:



- Conduct problems
- Emotional distress

**Source:** Durlak, J.A., Weissberg, R.P., Dymnicki, A.B., Taylor, R.D., & Schellinger, K. (2011) The impact of enhancing students' social and emotional learning: A meta-analysis of school-based universal interventions. *Child Development*: 82 (1), 405-432.



#### Partnerships for Social, Emotional Learning Initiative (PSELI)

#### The Wallace Foundation's PSELI Cities

Denver, CO
Palm Beach, FL
Boston, MA
Tacoma, WA
Dallas, TX
Tulsa, OK





#### Denver's SEAL Definition (adopted from CASEL)



SEAL is the process by which youth and adults acquire social and emotional intelligence to effectively apply knowledge, attitudes, and skills to understand and manage emotions, set and achieve positive goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain positive relationships, and make responsible decisions.



#### Denver's SEAL Vision and Approach

#### Vision

"Adults model and infuse social, emotional, and academic learning to ensure that all youth in the City of Denver are successful in and out of school and in life."



A school-wide approach: All adults play a unique role in supporting the development of young people's SEL skills by:

- Modeling and explicitly teaching SEAL skills
- Creating a SEAL-rich culture and climate
- Fully integrating SEAL into day school and afterschool communities



### 3 Signature Practices of SEAL with Adults

#### Everyone can put SEAL into practice with these 3 steps:

**Highly engaging, effective and purposeful** meetings and professional learning experiences are created using three key Social, Emotional and Academic Learning (SEAL) practices:

WELCOMING RITUALS · Activities for inclusion

ENGAGING PRACTICES · Sense-making, transitions, brain breaks

OPTIMISTIC CLOSURES · Reflections and looking forward



#### **SEAL Competencies**

#### **Self-Awareness & Self-Management:**

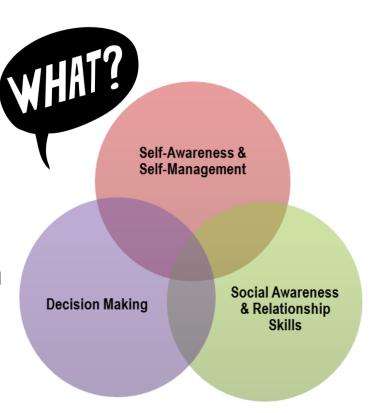
The self-discipline to reflect on and regulate our own emotions, thoughts, and values to better develop cultural identity, a healthy self-concept, set goals for ourselves, and take responsibility for our behavior.

#### Social-Awareness & Relationship Skills:

The ability to identify and recognize diverse emotions, perspectives, cultural backgrounds, and societal norms and access strategies and interpersonal skills to build product.

#### **Decision Making:**

The ability to use a critical thinking process to analyze information, situations, norms, and context to make decisions based on the identified impact to self and others.





#### 3 Legs of the Stool

HOW

SOCIAL, EMOTIONAL, and ACADEMIC LEARNING

How does your school and OST program feel to all the members of the community?

Culture and Climate

How do you intentionally address SEAL through activities academics and instructional strategies?

How are you intentionally teaching the knowledge and skills of SEAL?

**Explicit Instruction** 





### Thank You!

For more information please visit www.denvergov.org/denverafterschoolalliance



# Audience Q&A



Allison Riley
Girls on the Run



Paul Griffin, The Possibility Project



Maxine Quintana
Office of Children's
Affairs, City of Denver





## Don't forget!



#### Reports, Briefs, & Fact Sheets

- Navigating SEL from the Inside Out
- Kernels of Practice for SEL: Low-Cost, Low-Burden Strategies
- Social and Emotional Learning for Out-of-School Time Settings
- An Ideal Opportunity: The Role of Afterschool in Social and Emotional Learning
- Afterschool and Summer Learning: A City Strategy for Workforce Development
- Afterschool and Summer Learning: A City Strategy to Support College and Career Readiness



#### **Archived Webinars**

- Creating the Conditions for Social and Emotional Learning
- Are You Ready to Assess Social and Emotional Development?
- <u>Expert Perspectives: Building Social and Emotional Skills in Afterschool</u>



