



18 MILLION CHILDREN NEED AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS

Despite an increase in the number of children attending afterschool programs over the last five years, today more than a quarter of the nation's schoolchildren are on their own in the afternoons. The parents of 18 million children say they would enroll their kids in afterschool programs, if programs were available. These are the findings from a new survey of nearly 30,000 households across the United States conducted for the Afterschool Alliance and sponsored by the JCPenney Afterschool Fund. It was released on October 6.

America After 3PM updates the 2004 study of the same name. The new survey finds that the number of children left alone after the school day ends has risen to 15.1 million children (26 percent of school-age children) – an increase of 800,000 since the 2004 study. Thirty percent of middle schoolers (3.7 million kids) are on their own, as are four percent of elementary school children (1.1 million children).

At the same time, Americans see afterschool programs as a solution: Nine in 10 adults surveyed agree that there should be “some type of organized activity or place for children and teens to go after school every day that provides opportunities to learn.”

“The bottom line is that more children need – and don't have – afterschool programs today than five years ago,” said Afterschool Alliance Executive Director Jodi Grant. “We have increased the number of children in afterschool programs, but not enough to keep up with demand. Today too many parents are unable to enroll their kids in afterschool
Need continued on page seven...

19 NEW ‘AFTERSCHOOL AMBASSADORS’

The Afterschool Alliance has announced the selection of 19 afterschool providers and advocates from around the nation to serve as 2009-2010 Afterschool Ambassadors. The 19 local leaders hail from 15 states. Each Ambassador will continue directing or supporting a local afterschool program while also serving a one-year Afterschool Ambassador term organizing public events, communicating with policy makers, and building support for afterschool programs.

“Americans strongly support afterschool programs but across the nation, we're seeing programs cut back or closed in the face of recession-driven budget cuts,” said Afterschool Alliance Executive Director Jodi Grant. “Our new Ambassadors bring energy and talent to their work, and will spread the word about the urgent need to make afterschool programs available to all families that need them. We are proud to have
Ambassadors continued on page nine...

Lights On Afterschool 2009

There's only one week left to plan your event for the nation's only rally for afterschool programs! The tenth annual *Lights On Afterschool* will be Thursday, October 22. Organize or join one of the 7,500 events across the nation and at military bases worldwide that will include a million people this year. *To register for Lights On Afterschool and receive free posters and email updates, and to see a free online organizing kit, visit*
<http://www.afterschoolalliance.org/loa.cfm>.

OUTREACH

Use *America After 3PM* State Data to Promote Your Program

On Thursday, October 15, the Afterschool Alliance will release new state-specific data on afterschool, providing a snapshot of participation and demand in each state today. The new data in the *America After 3PM* household survey provides a wealth of information that programs can use in numerous ways with lawmakers at all levels, media, funders and potential funders, community partners and more. Combined with individual program data, the *America After 3PM* state-specific numbers are a tremendous resource.

For each state, the data shows:

- How many children and youth are and are not in afterschool programs;
- How many children and youth would be in afterschool programs if programs were available to them;
- What families are paying for afterschool care;
- How the recession is affecting programs, and much more.

Fact sheets for all 50 states will be available online at the Afterschool Alliance website on October 15. *To view the information on your state, visit www.AfterschoolAlliance.org.*

AFTERSCHOOL FOR ALL

The Afterschool Alliance is excited about the great activities being planned nationwide for the 10th annual rally for *Lights On Afterschool*. From a talent show in Ann Arbor, Michigan, to a rally in Chandler, Arizona, thousands of communities are busy preparing for their *Lights On Afterschool* events to celebrate the critical difference that programs make in the lives of youth and families. As they build robots, write plays, volunteer at food banks, or learn to play new instruments, children in afterschool programs are getting the hands-on enrichment experiences that will help them become successful adults.

Are you ready to join in the celebration and help make some noise for afterschool in your community? *Lights On Afterschool* is the perfect time to contact your elected officials and let them know about the importance of afterschool programs. We've created a fill-in-the-blanks [letter template](#) that you can personalize to ask your mayor, city council member or governor to support more investments in afterschool programs. The template is available, along with other partner tools, as part of the [Afterschool for All partners toolkit](#).

Thank you for your continued support for *Afterschool for All*. Please contact Marie Coichy-Dauphin with any questions or concerns at mdauphin@afterschoolalliance.org or 646-943-8662.



FUNDING NEWS

The Afterschool Alliance's website has resources for afterschool providers, including tips for initiating relationships with funders and businesses, and for identifying funding opportunities. *To learn more, visit <http://www.afterschoolalliance.org/funding.cfm>. Remember to check here, <http://www.AfterschoolAlliance.org/policyEconRecovery.cfm>, to find out how afterschool programs might tap into economic recovery funds.*

GRANTS/AWARDS AVAILABLE

Grants for Music Education

Do Something and VH1 Save the Music are sponsoring grants for youth-led music education advocacy efforts. Students can start a petition, organize a concert, post flyers, or undertake any activity that encourages music education. Entries will be judged on effectiveness, and the grand prize winner will receive \$2,500 and a Beatles Rock Band game system. Five runners-up will receive \$1,000 and a Rock Band video game package. The deadline to apply is October 23. *For project ideas and more information, visit <http://www.DoSomething.org/SaveOurMusic>.*

Grants for Community Garden Programs

Youth Garden grants are available through the National Gardening Association (NGA) and Home Depot for child-centered garden programs, run by schools or community organizations. Programs should include a focus on education, nutrition, environmental awareness, entrepreneurship, leadership and team building, or community service. One hundred grants will be given in the form of Home Depot gift cards and NGA educational materials. The deadline is November 2. *For more information, visit <http://KidsGardening.com/ygg.asp>.*

Grants for Educational Field Trips

Target is sponsoring 5,000 grants of up to \$800 for educators to take youth on educational field trips. Any accredited, K-12 public, private or charter school is eligible to apply. The deadline is November 3. *For field trip ideas, and for more information, visit <https://targetfieldtripgrants.target.com/>.*



GET YOUR AFTERSCHOOL SNACK!

Hungry for the latest news in afterschool? Be sure to check out *Afterschool Snack*, the Afterschool Alliance's new up to the minute blog on afterschool news, trends and information from across the country. Tune in every Wednesday for a national news round-up, and throughout the week for your daily dose of afterschool.

New this week:

- [*New Data Finds More Kids in Afterschool Programs...but Need Grows, too*](#)
- [*Government, Corporate, Non-Profit Collaboration Showcased at National Lights On Afterschool Kick-off Event*](#)
- [*Lights On Afterschool and the Nationwide Science Experiment*](#)
- [*Provide Input into Ending Childhood Hunger*](#)

Check out Afterschool Snack at <http://www.AfterschoolAlliance.org/AfterschoolSnack/ASnack.cfm>.



BRONX AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM SUFFERS LOSS

"Glenn Wright was the kind of kid who'd walk away from trouble," says Danny Peralta, Director of Arts and Education at The Point Community Development Corporation in the Bronx, New York. "That's why it's so sadly ironic that trouble came to find him this way."

The 21-year-old Wright was an afterschool student, who became an afterschool volunteer, then a colleague and friend of Peralta. In September, Wright was murdered in what police say was a gang-related case of mistaken identity.

On a late summer Saturday evening, the young man was cleaning his grandmother's windows. While taking a break, he was brutally attacked by a group of young men. He sustained stab wounds to his neck, and died the next day.

Peralta describes Wright as "an amazing young man who had nothing to do with gangs."

While burdened with his own grief at the loss of a young man he'd helped mentor into adulthood, Peralta worries also about the effect of the violence on the close-knit group of Wright's friends – young men who have known each other since elementary school.

Wright and Peralta met four years ago, when the then-high school student joined a new robotics team at a Harlem afterschool program where Peralta worked. The 19-member squad won a city-wide competition, earning a trip to Atlanta, Georgia, to compete against teams from across the nation. Peralta helped raise money to fund the trip and says, "I got to know Glenn and the other kids really well during that week in Atlanta."

It was the beginning of a four-year mentoring relationship. Peralta worked to create opportunities for the teens, taking them to museums and other arts-related activities. After graduating high school, Wright stayed in contact, volunteering with the afterschool program. When Peralta moved to his current job in the Bronx, he reached out to Wright, drawing him into a photography program at The Point.

Through that program – the New York City Bridge Project – Peralta helped provide cameras, computers, and other equipment for teens working as a "photo collective" through which they captured a variety of images from across the city's five boroughs while learning the art of storytelling through photography. But it was about more than the art. Peralta and his colleagues mentored the teens, and worked to help them develop a variety of life skills unrelated to photography – leadership, planning, implementation and more.

Wright's sudden and violent death has stunned those who knew him. Now, Peralta, a newly selected Afterschool Ambassador for the Afterschool Alliance, is working to develop a program in the young man's honor that will help break down barriers dividing youth in the city.

The first step is to use The Point's upcoming *Lights On Afterschool* event as an occasion both to remember Wright and to bring together youth from different neighborhoods.

Peralta has a bigger vision for next year: a "Hands Across The Point" initiative, dedicated to Wright. It would bring together youth from a variety of afterschool programs and train them to be junior ambassadors for afterschool.

"I want them to be able to recognize the role afterschool plays in their lives and learn to communicate that to others," Peralta says. "If I can get kids from across the city to meet each other, shake hands, share an experience, they'll look at each other differently. And perhaps if something comes up – something where violence is imminent – they'll be able to recognize each other and appreciate the impact of their actions."



IN THEIR OWN WORDS...

"We have to do this one child at a time by establishing mentoring programs, by fighting for quality afterschool programs and by advocating on behalf of educational opportunities... We need to let them know we care. We can reach out to them on a daily basis and promote programs that touch these children... The theory of this is that we need to spend more on education so that we're not spending much more on incarceration... We live in a much different society from when I was growing up."

-- Kathy Taylor, Mayor of Tulsa, at the Oklahoma Municipal League's annual conference, *Tulsa World*, September 24, 2009

Voices from the Afterschool Storybook...

"I am a single mom blessed with two very special gifts disguised as boys. The boys have different needs and abilities. One of my children has mid-high functioning Autism. I like to refer to autism as awe-tism. The way his mind works is truly rare and wonderful. If you are parent of a special needs child, you understand how hard it is to trust just anyone with your child. I know you have heard the saying, 'there are angels that walk among us.' Well, I am a firm believer that some of them work for our afterschool program."

-- Sheri Clark, Afton, Iowa

To read more about Clark's afterschool experience, and read more afterschool voices from across the country, visit

http://www.afterschoolalliance.org/storybook/gallery.cfm?CNT_ID=STRY9000056. Share your story at

<http://www.afterschoolalliance.org/storybook/GALLERY.CFM>.



IN THE NEWS...

Alaska – Students in Burchell High School's afterschool program are earning academic credits to help them graduate faster, in nontraditional ways. Nearly 70 percent of the Wasilla teenagers at this alternative high school voluntarily stay after school to cook, dance, learn Japanese, write, take photographs, publish a school newspaper, and more. The program has gained the attention of the U.S. Department of Education, which sent representatives to visit last month as part of its study on "best practices" of afterschool programs, the *Anchorage Daily News* reports. "What is happening at Burchell should be replicated all over the country," Department of Education consultant Duane Rupert said. School officials credit the program for increasing graduation rates, particularly

among their large population of homeless students and teen parents.

California – More than 39,000 marathon participants later, Students Run Los Angeles (SRLA) is celebrating its 20 year anniversary. The afterschool program provides running shoes, uniforms, race entry fees, transportation and nutrition for at-risk teenagers as they train for ten months before the 26.2 mile race. “SRLA’s history is grounded in challenging young people to stay in school and experience the benefits of goal setting, character development and improved health through a truly life changing experience,” SRLA Executive Director Michelle Fleenor said. To celebrate its anniversary, SRLA hosted a California-style beach party, paying tribute to founding members and community partners. *For more information on Students Run Los Angeles, visit <http://www.srla.org>.*

California – Elementary school students in Modesto and Livingston are working to put food on the table for their families – literally. By completing eight hours a week of homework, sports and other activities, the youth earn a bag of groceries to take home, as part of the Food 4 Thought afterschool program. They also help assemble the bags when the food arrives. Foster Farms poultry company, Livingston’s largest employer, funds the program. “There is a real moral lesson in this, which is if you work hard and excel, you are compensated for it,” said Ira Brill, Foster Farms’ director of marketing and advertising services. The county has seen unemployment and budget cuts, and a large percentage of children already receive subsidized lunches, the *Modesto Bee* reports.

Florida – There’s a photography exhibit on display at the Orange County Regional History Center in downtown Orlando that is inspiring many visitors. “The heART of the Homeless” was created by children living at the Coalition for the Homeless, who

participate in the ABC’s (Art by Coalition Children’s) afterschool program. Launched in 2003, the program pairs youth with local professional artists. In addition to photography, students learn drawing, painting and sculpting. “I feel proud of myself because I am succeeding at things I’ve never done before,” 12-year-old Jesus told the *Orlando Sentinel*. “If I’m feeling sad that day and know... I can achieve something, it makes me feel better.”

Hawaii – Parents are scrambling to find a place for their children to go on “Furlough Fridays,” a money-saving effort by the state that will eliminate 17 school days. Afterschool program providers have been handling phone calls from concerned parents, the *Honolulu Star-Bulletin* reports. “A lot of parents are very worried about what they’re going to do,” said Tony Pfaltzgraff, senior vice president of community development at the Honolulu YMCA which, along with Kamaaina Kids is working with the state Department of Education on a plan to accommodate the extra students.

Illinois – Two men who have served the country at home and abroad took a new tour of duty last month when they spoke to afterschool students at the UNITY Community Center. Army National Guard Sergeant Chris Saldaris and Army National Guard Specialist Mike Chasteen told the youth about their experiences as Army National Guard members and their time in Afghanistan. UNITY Community Center serves at-risk kids, ages five through 18, in Normal. The event was sponsored by students in Illinois State University’s Educational Administration and Foundations Social Foundations of Education course, which Saldaris attends as a health education major. *For more information on UNITY, visit <http://www.normal.org/gov/cdp/unity/index.asp>.*



HELP CREATE THE STEM DIRECTORY

The Coalition for Science After School needs your help to create its STEM directory, an online database of science, technology, engineering and mathematics afterschool programs. This nationwide effort, in partnership with Time Warner Cable, will be a valuable resource for students, parents and communities to find and promote science education.

Program leaders are invited to register on the Coalition's website and submit information about their program, events, projects, publications and partnerships. The directory can also be used to browse program evaluators and funders.

To register and submit your program information, visit

<http://directory.scienceafterschool.org/signup>.

For more information on the Coalition for Science After School, visit

<http://ScienceAfterschool.org>.



Need continued from page one...

programs, but not enough to keep up with demand. Today too many parents are unable to enroll their kids in afterschool programs because they're not available, transportation is unworkable, or they can't afford the fees. As a nation, we need to increase our efforts to keep up with the rising demand and make sure that afterschool is available to all children who need it."

"Access to afterschool programs continues to be a major concern for America's families, which is especially important to our millions of customers who are seeking high-quality afterschool care for their children," said Michael Theilmann, chief human resources and administration officer for JCPenney and chairman of the JCPenney Afterschool Fund.

"Data from the *America After 3PM* study is powerful evidence of the opportunity for

our country to do even more to support the rising need and demand of afterschool programs," Theilmann added. "We look forward to continuing our strong, long-term commitment to this issue and need others to join us in helping to provide children with life-enriching opportunities that foster their academic, physical and social development – preparing them for college, work and life."

Lights On Afterschool Kicks Off

The *America After 3PM* study was released at a Department of Education event featuring U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan. The event also kicked off *Lights On Afterschool* this year.

"Schools should be open 12, 13, 14 hours a day with a whole host of activities: art, drama, ESL, academic enrichment, pot-luck dinners... We should bring our nonprofit organizations into our schools," said Secretary Duncan, opening the event. "In all this push for closing the gap and raising the bar, thinking creatively about non-school hours is important. Thank you for helping create the model of what schools should look like going forward."

The event began with a youth parade, with afterschool students displaying banners they created about their afterschool programs. 21st Century Community Learning Center Department of Education Student Ambassadors Jalia Johnson of Washington, D.C., and Ozvaldo "Ozzie" Rodriguez of Fort Worth, Texas shared the ways their afterschool programs have affected their lives.

Other speakers included: Dr. Thelma Melendez de Santa Ana, Assistant Secretary for the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, U.S. Department of Education; Joan Lombardi, Deputy Assistant Secretary and Inter-Departmental Liaison for Early Childhood Development, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; Melodee Hanes, Acting Deputy Administrator for Policy at the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention; Margo Lion, Co-Chair of the President's Committee on Arts and

Humanities; and Mike Boylson, Executive Vice President and Chief Marketing Officer, JCPenney, and Director, JCPenney Afterschool Fund Board.

The event also featured a demonstration of the Verizon Thinkfinity.org, a free educational website that offers resources for teachers, students and afterschool programs.

Findings

Other key findings from *America After 3PM*:

- **Americans believe afterschool programs work and support them.** The vast majority of parents of children in afterschool programs are satisfied with the programs their children attend, and overall public support for afterschool programs is similarly strong. Nine in 10 parents (89 percent) are satisfied with the afterschool programs their children attend. Eight in 10 parents support public funding for afterschool programs.
- **The availability of afterschool programs has improved in the last five years, and families are taking good advantage. But availability is not keeping pace with rising need and demand.** The number and percentage of children participating in afterschool programs has increased significantly in the last five years, with 8.4 million children (15 percent) now participating. That compares with 6.5 million children in 2004 (11 percent). But the parents of 18.5 million children (38 percent) not currently participating in an afterschool program would enroll their children in a program if one were available to them, a significant increase from the 15.3 million (30 percent) seen in 2004.
- **While African American and Hispanic children are more likely than others to be in afterschool programs, millions are unsupervised each afternoon and the unmet need is tremendous.** One in four African American and one in five Hispanic children attend afterschool programs, compared to 15 percent of all children in the United States. Yet 28 percent of African American and 21 percent of Hispanic children have no adult supervision after the school day ends. More Hispanic and African American parents say the economy is impacting their ability to pay for care for their children after school. Nearly two in five parents overall (38 percent) would enroll their children if afterschool programs were available, as would 47 percent of Hispanic parents and 61 percent of African American parents.
- **The economy has taken a toll on participation in afterschool programs.** Nearly one in three households (31 percent) report that their children are spending more time in the care of a parent after school now than a year ago. The primary reasons include changes in work status (fewer parents are employed) and availability and affordability of care (some afterschool programs are cutting hours or closing, and parents are less able to afford fees). Parents cite a number of barriers to enrolling their children in afterschool programs with more than half of parents (52 percent) citing cost and more than one in four reporting hours of operation (26 percent) and availability of programs (27 percent) as reasons for non-participation.

JCPenney Support

In conjunction with *Lights On Afterschool* events across the nation, the JCPenney Afterschool Round-Up program will kick off in JCPenney stores throughout the country. From October 16 to 25, customers will have the opportunity to “round-up” their JCPenney purchases to the nearest whole dollar and donate the difference to afterschool programs in their local communities that provide life-enriching programs for children in need.

“With more than \$80 million contributed to afterschool programs over the past 10 years, JCPenney stands out among the

nation's corporations for helping to frame and solve the afterschool issue and increasing access to afterschool programs that provide meaningful activities for children in need," Grant added

State Data

On Thursday, October 15, the Afterschool Alliance and the JCPenney Afterschool Fund will release survey data from all 50 states.

The America After 3PM report and accompanying data are available at www.AfterschoolAlliance.org. State summaries will be posted on October 15.

Findings from *America After 3PM* are based on 29,754 parent/guardian responses to survey questions about after school child care arrangements during the 2008-2009 school year. RTi, a market research firm, conducted the survey and analyzed the data for the Afterschool Alliance. The entire survey was sponsored by the JCPenney Afterschool Fund. RTi also conducted the *2004 America After 3PM* household survey.



Ambassadors continued from page one... them on our team."

This year's class of Afterschool Ambassadors is the tenth group selected for the honor. Past Ambassadors include a variety of state and local afterschool leaders – more than 150 in all.

The new class of Afterschool Ambassadors include one returning Ambassador (Florencia Trujillo of New Mexico) and 18 new Ambassadors. They are:

- **Vestavia Hills, Alabama:** Ronda Charping, Vestavia Hills City Schools Extended Day;
- **Ridgecrest, California:** Sandra Goldstein, Southern Sierra Boys & Girls Club;
- **Bakersfield, California:** Garrett Shipes, Greenfield Success After School Program, Greenfield Union School District;
- **New Haven, Connecticut:** Dr. Charles Warner, Gateway Center, New Haven Public Schools;

- **Fort Shafter, Hawaii:** Peter Tedtaotao, Ft. Shafter Youth Center SAS Program;
- **Wichita, Kansas:** Patricia Houston, Community Education, City of Wichita;
- **Paris, Kentucky:** Leslie Spears, Promise Program, Paris Independent Schools;
- **Catlettsburg, Kentucky:** Teresa Spurlock, Catlettsburg Elementary WOW Afterschool Program, Boyd County Public Schools;
- **Boston, Massachusetts:** Daniel Rosen, Citizen Schools;
- **College Park, Maryland:** Kendra Wells, 4-H Youth Development Extension, University of Maryland;
- **Detroit, Michigan:** Gazell Watkins-Mitchell, Before and After School Programs, Communities In Schools of Detroit;
- **Farmington, New Mexico:** Florencia (Flo) Trujillo, Farmington Public Library (returning Ambassador);
- **Haddonfield, New Jersey:** Denise Sellers, Haddonfield Child Care;
- **Las Vegas, Nevada:** Judy Schroeder, Safekey Program, City of Las Vegas, Department of Leisure Services;
- **New York, New York:** Liz Hopfan, Free Arts NYC;
- **Bronx, New York:** Danny Peralta, THE POINT CDC;
- **Dallas, Texas:** Tanya McDonald, Dallas AfterSchool Network;
- **Irving, Texas:** Gail Vessels, YMCA of Metropolitan Dallas; and
- **West Valley City, Utah:** Margaret Peterson, Community Education Partnership of West Valley City, Inc.

The Robert Bowne Foundation is sponsoring the Ambassadorships of Liz Hopfan and Danny Peralta of New York. Bright House Networks is sponsoring the Ambassadorships of Gazell Watkins-Mitchell of Michigan and Garrett Shipes of California.

To learn more about the Afterschool Ambassador program, please visit <http://www.AfterschoolAlliance.org/ambassadors.cfm>.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS...

October 19 - 20, 2009

School's Out Washington will host The Bridge From School to Afterschool and Back 2009 conference in Vancouver, Washington. Afterschool leaders will address the challenges related to the recession and opportunities for programs presented by a new administration. *For more information, visit <http://schoolsoutwashington.org>.*

October 22, 2009

The Afterschool Alliance will sponsor the 10th annual *Lights On Afterschool*, raising awareness of the benefits of afterschool in communities across the country. *For more information, visit <http://www.afterschoolalliance.org/loa.cfm>.*

November 3 - 5, 2009

The California Afterschool Network will host the first annual STEP UP- High School Summit in San Diego, California. Afterschool professionals, staff, and high school administrators will gather to discuss ideas and promising practices for high school afterschool programs. *For more information on submitting a proposal, visit http://www.afterschoolnetwork.org/step_up_rfp. For more information on the summit, visit www.afterschoolnetwork.org/node/7057.*

November 5 - 7, 2009

The Schott Foundation for Public Education will sponsor the 2nd Annual National Opportunity to Learn Education Summit 2009 in Arlington, Virginia. It is designed to provide a platform for public education donors, foundation officers, grassroots community advocates, youth and researchers to share critical advocacy strategies, funding approaches and more. *For information, visit <http://www.regonline.com/OTL2009Summit>.*

November 12 - 14, 2009

The National Guild of Community Schools of the Arts will sponsor the 2009 Conference for Community Arts Education in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The event provides networking opportunities and collaboration among arts education leaders, and will focus on how to grow these programs in tough economic times. Several discounts and cost-saving opportunities are available through the Guild. *For more information, visit <http://www.communityartsed.org>.*

November 13 - 14, 2009

The New Jersey School Age Care Coalition will host Celebrate Afterschool! in Princeton, New Jersey. The annual conference will provide a forum for all New Jersey afterschool communities and providers. *For more information, visit <http://www.njsacc.org>.*

February 19 - 21, 2010

The Reaching At-Promise Students Association will sponsor the Transforming At-Risk to At-Promise Conference in San Diego, California. Participants will be engaged in vital conversations to ensure equitable opportunities for all students and promote successful communities. Special guests and presenters will include Dr. Jesse Jackson III, Adam Palmese, and Bill Habermehl. *For more information, visit <http://www.atpromiseconference.org/>.*

The Afterschool Alliance is a nonprofit public awareness and advocacy organization working to ensure that all children and youth have access to quality afterschool programs. More information is available at www.afterschoolalliance.org.

The Alliance is proud to count among its founding partners the Mott Foundation, U.S. Department of Education, JCPenney Afterschool Fund, Open Society Institute/The After-School Corporation, the Entertainment Industry Foundation and the Creative Artists Agency Foundation.

The *Afterschool Advocate* is produced for the Afterschool Alliance by PR Solutions, Inc., Washington, DC; Phone: 202/371-1999; Fax: 202/371-9142; E-mail: advocate@afterschoolalliance.org.
