



Afterschool Advocate

A media outreach newsletter published by the Afterschool Alliance

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ADVOCATES TELL CONGRESS: INCREASE AFTERSCHOOL FUNDING

Last week, hundreds of parents, children, educators and advocates from around the country came to Washington, D.C. to encourage Congress to increase funding for quality afterschool programs. Organized by the Afterschool Alliance, the eighth annual *Afterschool for All Challenge* featured the release of the *Roadmap to Afterschool for All*, a new report with in-depth recommendations describing the funding and legislation needed to provide afterschool for all children in this country.

“Breakfast of Champions”

U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan presented the national *Afterschool for All* Champion award to After School Matters Chair Maggie Daley at the “Breakfast of Champions” on Tuesday, April 28. More *Challenge continued on page nine...*

A ROADMAP TO AFTERSCHOOL FOR ALL

Our nation is serving too few of the children who would benefit most from participating in afterschool programs. According to an Afterschool Alliance report released at the *Afterschool for All Challenge*, there are programs for children whose parents and guardians can afford to pay tuition and fees, but our afterschool system is leaving behind millions of low-income children whose parents cannot pay.

Roadmap to Afterschool for All: Examining Current Investments and Mapping Future Needs recommends significant increases in afterschool investments, with the federal government leading the way to ensure that the 5.6 million low-income children who need afterschool have access to quality programs.

The *Roadmap* analyzes data on federal, state and local funding for afterschool
Roadmap continued on page ten...

HELP AFTERSCHOOL – DEADLINE 5/6!

The Afterschool Alliance is encouraging program directors across the country to take a vitally important new online survey that assesses how afterschool programs are faring in today’s economy. It takes just 15 to 20 minutes to complete. *Please log on at*
http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=JzBj_2bILvXWwihj46Z0_2fo0Q_3d_3d.

In addition, your Senators have until Wednesday to sign onto a ‘Dear Colleague’ letter to the Senate Appropriations Committee that requests an increase in funding for 21st Century Community Learning Centers in Fiscal Year 2010. Please call both of your Senators (202/224-3121) and ask them to sign onto this letter. To sign onto the ‘Dear Colleague’ letter, your Senators should contact the office of Senator Chris Dodd or Senator John Ensign.

The deadline for both actions is May 6, so don’t delay!

OUTREACH

Not Too Late to Take Action

Not everyone was able to travel to Washington, D.C. to meet face-to-face with their Senators and Representatives at the *Afterschool for All Challenge*, but you can still have an impact. It's not too late to amplify the message delivered by hundreds of advocates who were in Washington last week by sending a message to elected officials in support of increased afterschool funding. It's quick, easy and has a powerful effect.

The Afterschool Alliance has an action alert ready to go on its website. Please take a moment to view the alert and email your Members of Congress. The alert builds on the message of the *Challenge*, telling legislators "On April 28th, more than 300 adults and children walked the halls of Congress to show their support for afterschool and to encourage Congress to support efforts to make more of these programs available to the children, families and communities that rely on them. Specifically, I am writing to ask for your support to fully fund the 21st Century Community Learning Centers initiative in the fiscal year 2010 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies appropriations bill."

The alert also shares information about the newly released *Roadmap to Afterschool for All* and encourages lawmakers to join the Afterschool Caucus, if they have not done so already. It only takes a minute to have your voice heard. *To take action now, visit <http://capwiz.com/afterschool/issues/alert/?alertid=13230766>.*

AFTERSCHOOL FOR ALL

Last Tuesday, the Afterschool Alliance proudly presented an *Afterschool for All* card, signed by nearly 1,000 individuals, to U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan at the "Breakfast of Champions." This card has been in the works for months, and people of all ages – including moms, dads, kids, afterschool leaders and other community members – signed it. Many included personal stories and pictures, and told President Obama and his team what a difference afterschool is making in their lives.

The Afterschool Alliance is thrilled to have shared this powerful symbol of public support for afterschool with Secretary Duncan. Thank you to everyone who signed the card! *To view the card, visit <http://www.groupcard.com/c/gN468jFPymo>. To make a permanent stamp of support for afterschool, don't forget to sign the Afterschool for All national petition at: <http://www.afterschoolalliance.org/a4aJoin.cfm>.*

Contact Marie Coichy at mcoichy@afterschoolalliance.org or 646/943-8662 with any questions or comments.



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>.*

**** Tapping Economic Recovery Funds for Afterschool Programs ****

The Afterschool Alliance has created web pages addressing how afterschool programs might tap into recovery funds. You will find: who to talk to about accessing various funds; background on the major funding streams that can support afterschool; links to official guidance; ideas and sample outreach letters developed by local afterschool leaders. *See <http://www.afterschoolalliance.org/policyEconRecovery.cfm> for more information.*

GRANTS/AWARDS AVAILABLE

Awards for Conservation

The Earth Island Institute is accepting nominations for the Brower Youth Awards, honoring young people, age 13 to 22, showing leadership in environmental justice advocacy, conservation, preservation or restoration. Six prizes of \$3,000 will be awarded. The deadline to apply is May 15. *For more information, visit <http://www.broweryouthawards.org>.*

Grants for Literacy Programs

Build-a-Bear Workshop is sponsoring grants of up to \$10,000 for programs promoting childhood literacy and education, such as summer reading programs, early childhood education programs, and literacy programs for children with special needs. The deadline is May 30. *For more information, visit <http://www.buildabear.com/aboutus/community/2009Literacy.pdf>.*

Grants for Arts Education

The National Endowment for the Arts is offering grants for projects that help youth acquire knowledge and understanding of the arts and build their skills. Projects must include a participatory learning experience and must provide experience, study, performance and assessment of the subject. The project may be school- or community-based. The deadline to apply is June 11. *For more information, visit <http://www.arts.gov/grants/apply/GAP10/LITA.html>.*

Awards for Youth Artists

VSA Arts, with support from Volkswagen Group of America, is hosting an art competition for young people, ages 16 to 25, with disabilities. The grand prize is \$20,000, first place is \$10,000, second place \$6,000, and there will be 12 awards of excellence of \$2,000. Selected works will be exhibited around the country. The deadline to apply is June 19. *For more information, visit <http://www.vsarts.org/prebuilt/showcase/gallery/exhibits/vw/current>.*

Grants for Female Athletes

The Women's Sports Foundation, with support from the Gatorade Company, is sponsoring grants of \$2,500 for female athletic teams. Twenty grants will be awarded to teams of girls, in ninth through 12th grade, who play on school, amateur, community or nonprofit-affiliated teams. The deadline is July 17. *For more information, visit <http://www.womenssportsfoundation.org/content/grants-and-scholarships/grants/gogirlgo-ambassador-team-awards.aspx>.*



CHALLENGE PARTICIPANTS SHARE AND LEARN

Before participating in the “Breakfast of Champions” and visiting with their representatives in Congress, participants in this year’s *Afterschool for All Challenge* spent a full day networking with other afterschool professionals, and joining in timely discussions of pressing issues affecting the field.

Afterschool Funding

Panelists at a session on federal funding for afterschool explored the *American Recovery and Reinvestment Act* (President Obama’s economic stimulus package), and other funding streams. Tony McClain, an aide to U.S. Senator Blanche Lincoln, previewed the reintroduction of last year’s *Investment in Afterschool Programs Act*, which would provide support to rural afterschool programs. McClain said the bill will include some funding for rural programs’ transportation, professional development, training, planning and increased access to technology.

Crystal Weedall FitzSimons of the Food Research and Action Center discussed federal nutrition programs for children. Although underutilized, they offer important funding opportunities for afterschool programs, she said. Cynthia Billings of PlusTime New Hampshire and Jill Riemer of the Georgia Afterschool Investment Council discussed what Riemer described as the “unprecedented opportunities” offered by the stimulus bill for afterschool programs. Funding should be viewed as a “first installment” on needed afterschool funding and a “first step” in a continuing relationship between afterschool programs and the federal government, she said.

The Afterschool Alliance has posted information on how afterschool programs might tap funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. Please visit:

<http://www.afterschoolalliance.org/policyEconRecovery.cfm>.

Older Youth

At a session on programs for older youth, Afterschool Ambassador Steve Amick of the League of California Afterschool Providers said that one key to success for programs serving these students is to “turn it from *making* kids stay after school to saying they *get* to stay after school.” Amick said that when it comes to programming for high school students, adults can steer the process but they need to listen to youth innovation and ideas.

Harlem RBI’s Megan Demarkis, also an Afterschool Ambassador, stressed the importance of involving older youth in program design. She urged providers to ask youth questions about the activities they’d like to have available, and pay careful attention to the answers. Demarkis’ program is based in New York City.

STEM

A session on science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) featured Dr. Anita Krishnamurthi of the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center and Eileen Sweeney of Motorola, Inc. Sweeney urged programs to focus on STEM topics, as a way to fill the “pipeline of future employees.”

“We are company of inventors and innovators,” she said. “STEM is in our DNA.” Krishnamurthi noted that “many professional scientists mention afterschool as the spark that got them interested in science.”

New Day for Learning

A panel on the groundbreaking Charles Stewart Mott Foundation-funded New Day for Learning initiative explored the need for strong links between in-school and out-of-school learning. The Foundation’s An-Me Chung and Margaret Brodtkin of the San Francisco New Day for Learning Initiative were among the panelists.

Brodkin’s program is one of ten newly selected “New Day for Learning Communities.” She discussed the value of strong partnerships and the ways communities, counties, cities and schools can approach the task of transforming how, when and where children learn.

Additional Panels and Sessions

At the day’s plenary session, Afterschool Alliance Executive Director Jodi Grant, Board Chairman Terry Peterson and Vice President for Research and Policy Jen Rinehart discussed the newly released *Roadmap to Afterschool for All*.

Other panels examined afterschool’s role in workforce development and in raising healthy children.

The U.S. Tennis Association offered a demonstration of its tennis-based afterschool work, complete with rackets, balls and nets.

Children attending the *Challenge* attended a special Youth Advocacy Forum, where they were treated to a “behind the scenes” look at Capitol Hill and a session on social networking and how it can be an effective tool for afterschool advocacy.



**IN THEIR OWN WORDS
AT THE BREAKFAST OF
CHAMPIONS...**

“Thanks for starting my day off with a smile. In Chicago we have the Cubs, the White Sox, the Bears, the Bulls and Maggie Daley. I’m so glad to be here to honor Maggie Daley today. Maggie is really building for our future.”

-- U.S. Senator Dick Durbin (IL)

“Afterschool programs keep kids safe, reduce the rates of drug and alcohol use and increase student achievement... On the Committee on Education and Labor we hear a lot about spending money, but what we are doing is

investing in our kids. Without afterschool programs, we are not giving kids the opportunities they need. We all know that afterschool programs work. We spend so many billions of dollars a year on programs that don’t work, let’s spend some money on programs that do.”

-- U.S. Representative Phil Hare (IL)

“I love the 21st Century Community Learning Centers program. When we started back in 1996, I had to beg for \$1 million and now we’re up to \$1 billion dollars in funding and we need to get it up and over \$2 billion!.. When I visit afterschool programs in my district, I see the impact it has on these kids. It fires me up and I say ‘Yes we can.’ Afterschool makes a difference in these kids’ lives.”

-- U.S. Representative Nita Lowey (NY)

“What all of you advocates for afterschool are doing here today is changing the politics in Washington. When you make your visits today, ask your Representatives and Senators where they stand on Representative Hare’s bill [supporting rural afterschool programs], or my bill, the *Youth PROMISE Act*, or the drop out rate. Make sure your legislators know that investing in afterschool programs is the right thing to do. Investing in afterschool is good politics.”

-- U.S. Representative Bobby Scott (VA)



**NATIONAL PROGRAMS EXPAND
TO HELP YOUTH**

On April 21, President Obama signed the *Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act* into law. This broad national service initiative will expand the AmeriCorps program, create a new Education Corps program, and encourage volunteerism. The \$5.7 billion five-year initiative includes provisions that would benefit afterschool.

“I’m asking you to stand up and play your part,” President Obama said when signing the bill. The *Serve America Act* “connects deeds to needs. It creates opportunities to serve for students, seniors, and everyone in between. It supports innovation and strengthens the nonprofit sector. And it is just the beginning of a sustained, collaborative and focused effort to involve our greatest resource – our citizens – in the work of remaking this nation.”

The law calls for an Education Corps, modeled after AmeriCorps, and focuses more funding and attention on educational issues in low-income communities. The Education Corps will help improve student engagement, academic achievement, high school graduation rates, and college-going and persistence rates for high school graduates. Corps participants may address community needs by offering a range of services, including “providing assistance to a school in expanding the school day by strengthening the quality of staff in an expanded learning time initiative, a program of a 21st Century Community Learning Center, or a high-quality after-school program.”

The President signed the bill into law at the SEED Public Charter School in Washington, DC – a public boarding school for inner city youth that fully integrates community service into its curriculum. Ninety-eight percent of its graduates have been accepted to college. Former President Bill Clinton, former First Lady Rosalynn Carter, former Secretary of State Colin Powell, and Senators Kennedy (MA) and Orrin Hatch (UT), creators of the bill, were present at the signing.

In other federal news, Congressman Adam Schiff introduced H.R. 1469, the *Child Protection Improvements Act of 2009*. This amendment would expand the pilot program providing background checks for individuals working with youth. Under the programs, the FBI to supplies the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children with criminal records for any volunteer who submits their

fingerprints for background checks prior to beginning volunteer service with any child serving agency participating in the program. The pilot program has been in effect for one year.



ISSUE BRIEF EXPLORES RECRUITING, RETAINING OLDER YOUTH

A new MetLife-Afterschool Alliance Issue Brief, “Afterschool: The Challenges of Recruiting and Retaining Older Youth,” explores how afterschool programs can overcome the challenges associated with convincing teens to attend programs designed for their age group. It is one in a series of Issue Briefs sponsored by the MetLife Foundation that addresses the benefits afterschool programs provide to youth, families and communities.

The new Brief finds that afterschool program participation tends to decrease once a student reaches middle or high school, while the likelihood that they will engage in risky behavior during unsupervised afternoon hours increases. Funding for programs serving older youth is limited, and students this age may face pressure to hold paying jobs, have other responsibilities or difficulty finding transportation, and may want unstructured free time. All these factors create challenges in recruiting older youth to attend afterschool programs.

“Successful afterschool programs have developed innovative strategies to attract and keep older youth engaged. Techniques such as promoting leadership and real world experience, providing opportunities to socialize and do what is of most interest, offering flexible attendance policies and accessible locations, and acting as a bridge between school and community are among those employed by programs,” the Brief says.

The Issue Brief offers several examples of afterschool programs that successfully recruit and retain older youth. *To view it, go to <http://www.afterschoolalliance.org/research/IssueBriefs.cfm>.*



GUIDANCE FOR STATE LEADERS ON AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS

The National Governors Association (NGA) Center for Best Practices and the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) have released a report detailing research that affirms the importance of afterschool programs in every state's education system, and offers a series of recommendations for their improvement and continued success.

The Quality Imperative: A State Guide to Achieving the Promise of Extended Learning Opportunities finds that afterschool programs improve students' academic achievement, increase positive attitudes towards school and learning, improve behavior, social skills and work-study habits, and are beneficial to working families and the community.

According to the report, high quality programs have several common features. They have a clear mission and goals and carry out evaluations periodically to monitor and improve performance. The content of the programs are engaging and relevant, building on academic and non-academic skills. The staff-to-participant ratio is low, staff members are well qualified, and there is low employee turnover. Staff members also build positive and meaningful relationships with students, and programs as a whole build relationships with schools, families and the community.

The report also finds that high quality programs have adequate resources and funding. "Ongoing financial resources are needed to acquire physical resources and support a qualified staff," it says.

"Consequently, the abilities to attract and use diverse funding and to develop and use external partnerships are extremely important."

"Effective extended learning opportunity (ELO) programs complement what children learn during school in ways that support student success," NGA Center Education Division Director Dane Linn said. "By establishing state ELO quality systems, governors can expect substantial returns on their investments in ELOs and better outcomes for children, families and communities in their state."

The report offers seven recommendations to state leaders to enhance the quality and success of their afterschool programs. They are: create an extended learning opportunity quality team, identify federal and state funding sources, set state goals and program standards, measure program performance, provide incentives to improve quality, support a strong afterschool workforce, and connect students with available information and programs.

"As we strive to achieve success for all students, we must embrace opportunities to extend learning," CCSSO Executive Director Gene Wilhoit added. "Implementing the systemic approaches to quality discussed in this report will ensure ELOs continue to enhance student learning and support states in reaching their educational goals."

To view the report, go to <http://www.nga.org/Files/pdf/0904ELOQUALITYIMPERATIVE.PDF>.



IN THE NEWS...

Louisiana – Twenty-six young people traveled from Brooklyn to help rebuild houses in St. Bernard Parish as part of the Journey for Change: Empowering Youth through Global Service program. Started by Malaak Compton-Rock, wife of comedian Chris Rock, the program is a year-long traveling

service project, taking students across the country to gain new perspective and help others. The program is made up almost entirely of students from the afterschool program at the Salvation Army Bushwick Community Center, where Chris Rock spent his free time as a child. “The center was instrumental in his life,” Compton-Rock told the *Times-Picayune*. “It really is a special place.” Between applying layers of sheetrock mud to walls, 14-year-old volunteer Donovan Rodgers said, “I like helping people and seeing the smiles on their faces. I’m going to look for more opportunities like this and expand my mind about giving.” *For more information about Journey for Change or Malaak Compton-Rock’s other programs, visit www.angelrockproject.com.*

Maryland – Meade High School students will have a better shot at military-intelligence and government jobs, thanks to an afterschool program that teaches them Arabic. Students will have a teacher of Arabic and will use Rosetta Stone computerized software to learn the language, *The Capital* reports. Located on the Fort George G. Meade base, which is close to national security organizations, the school also has a Homeland Security Signature Program and an upcoming Base Realignment and Closure process that will relocate military personnel and their children to the region.

Missouri – The St. Louis city school district is overhauling existing programs, including its afterschool programs, to regain state accreditation. Superintendent Kelvin Adams’ proposal to the school board includes extending afterschool programs, making them two to three hours a day and four to five days a week, with an academic focus. The plan also includes increasing the number of “academic coaches,” hiring a firm to evaluate the district, partnering with community organizations, and creating a school for students who don’t speak English fluently, the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* reports. After closing

14 of its 85 schools and trimming \$15 million from its budget Adams says “Now the issue is for us to restructure, redesign the academic component.”

New Jersey – Former Philadelphia Eagle football player Irving Fryar told students at Landis Intermediate School that they should focus on their goals, work hard and make good decisions to get over roadblocks in life. His visit was hosted by the school’s 21st Century Community Learning Center afterschool program and the South Jersey Youth Alliance. Now a pastor at New Jerusalem House of God in Mount Holly, Fryar talked about his personal experience working hard to gain success. “We try to bring different people in,” Landis Principal Donald Kohaut told the *Daily Journal*. “We are really trying to help the students.”

New York – When budget constraints meant Public School 37 couldn’t hire a replacement for its band teacher, sixth-grader Paul Sheriff stepped up to bring the music back. Under Sheriff’s directions, members of the Cynthia Jenkins School Band now meet during lunch and after school to practice. Sheriff suggested the idea after becoming the unofficial piano player at school assemblies – a job he was given to keep him from acting up. The band has already performed at a district-wide concert and at the school’s multicultural festival. School officials hope to have a more official program in place by the fall, the *Daily News* reports, because Sheriff is graduating this year. “When you’re a little kid, you’re not old enough and people don’t always listen,” he said. “I’m glad I did it, so maybe they can try to get more music back in here.”

Ohio – About 45 teenagers took their appeal for afterschool funds to the Statehouse, urging lawmakers to set aside money to cover costs. “If you have no after-school activities, you’re going to have nothing to do,” 17-year-old Randy Olsen said. “Most of the time when that happens, you got people up to no good.”

House Speaker Armond Budish has said he is a “strong believer” in afterschool programs, the *Plain Dealer* reports.

Tennessee – Knoxville Mayor Bill Haslam was at the third annual “Gym Jam” to cheer on students as they participated in Olympic-style competitions. The City Parks and Recreation Department After School Program hosted the event, featuring teams of children from recreation centers across the city that offer the free after school service. Activities like chin-ups, dodge ball, sprints and basketball free-throws encourage exercise and healthy competition. *For more information on Knoxville children’s recreation center programs, including its Summer Playground Program, visit <http://cityofknoxville.org/recreation>.*



Challenge continued from page one...

than 300 adults and 50 youth took part in the events. State afterschool champions from California, Georgia, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, New York and Ohio also received special recognition.

“Yes, afterschool helps youth develop academically but, more importantly, it helps them find their passion and better themselves long-term,” Secretary Duncan said. “The reason we’re not seeing hundreds of thousands of high school students in afterschool programs is lack of funding, not lack of demand. When we open our doors and give them opportunities, kids can do amazing things.”

Headed by Daley, After School Matters began in 1991 as a summer jobs program. It now serves 58 public high schools and more than 100 community-based organizations in Chicago. “Instead of afterschool hours being a void, imagine groups of teens in museums, sports fields, theatres, community centers and schools creating robotics projects, refurbishing computers and building software, performing poetry, playing sports,” she said.

“Now imagine this is a jobs program... Our teens find these programs so valuable... For teens, creating a jobs program is a valuable asset.”

“After School Matters is totally replicable. Every city in this country can make it work,” Daley added, advising advocates to get support from their mayors; establish teen apprentice programs to build skills and prepare youth for the workforce; and develop networks of partners who “share in the responsibility and in the creation, the challenges and successes.”

The emcee for the “Breakfast of Champions” was television star, best-selling author and youth advocate Judge Glenda Hatchett. “I’ve come to say thank you to all the advocates who have been working so tirelessly,” she said. “There is no more important work than for us to commit to our children. All of our children need to be supported. They are all we have on which to build the men and women of the next generation... All children – not just ‘at-risk youth’ – can benefit from afterschool programs.”

Senator Richard Durbin (IL) and Representatives Phil Hare (IL), Nita Lowey (NY) and Bobby Scott (VA) all spoke at the event.

Meetings with Members

After the “Breakfast,” students, parents and afterschool leaders held more than 200 meetings with Members of Congress and legislative aides to discuss the benefits offered by afterschool programs, urging Congress to increase support. The *No Child Left Behind Act* authorized \$2.5 billion for the federal 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) initiative this year, but current funding is just \$1.13 billion. The 21st CCLC initiative is the primary federal funding stream for afterschool.

“At this time of tremendous economic stress, America needs many more quality afterschool programs so our kids will be safe and supervised after the school day ends,”

said Afterschool Alliance Executive Director Jodi Grant. “Right now we are far below the \$2.5 billion authorized by Congress for the 21st CCLC this year. Reaching that goal will require increased contributions from all levels of government, and the business and charitable communities. The federal government must lead the way. The people who gathered in Washington, D.C. for these two days did their part and carried a critically important message that we need lawmakers to step up, too.”

Youth Leaders

Four extraordinary young people were selected to receive special scholarships to attend the *Challenge* and discuss what afterschool programs mean to them and their families. Gregory Quintero, a high school senior from Bakersfield, California, and Lauryn Johnson and Lauren Savage, both eighth graders from Farmington Hills, Michigan, received scholarships to attend from Bright House Networks.

“Afterschool is important to our whole city [Farmington Hills, Michigan]. Without my afterschool program, I would walk home to an empty house and sit there for hours until my parents came home from work,” 13-year-old Savage said.

The United States Tennis Association sponsored Christopher Carcamo, a senior at the CASE-Southwest School After-School Tennis initiative in Houston, Texas. “Music has been my passion and my afterschool program let me explore my passion. I’m even in a band – we’re an up-and-coming band,” he said. “The cooking classes offered by my afterschool program will help me cook delicious meals for my college roommate next year. I’ve recently been accepted to Texas State University.”

State Champions

The state Afterschool Champions honored for their work on behalf of afterschool were:

- THINK Together afterschool program Founder and CEO Randy Barth of Santa Ana, California;
- Eagle Ridge Elementary School Principal Jeanette Scott of Milledgeville, Georgia;
- Dr. Ella Brunner, Associate Professor at Jefferson Community and Technical College in Louisville, Kentucky;
- Michigan State Senator Bill Hardiman of Kentwood;
- Ohio State Representative Tracy Maxwell Heard of Columbus;
- Montgomery County Executive Isiah Leggett of Maryland;
- New York State Deputy Secretary for Education Duffy Palmer.

The “Breakfast of Champions” was made possible through the support of Abbott, United States Tennis Association, Bright House Networks, Marriott, Inc., Open Society Institute, NAMM, National Association of Chain Drug Stores, Cable in the Classroom, National Afterschool Association, National League of Cities and Foundations, Inc.

For more information on the Challenge, visit
<http://www.afterschoolalliance.org/challenge.cfm>.



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programs and charts a course for expansion that would eventually give all children access to quality afterschool programs. At present, the federal government covers only eleven percent of the total cost of afterschool, it finds, even though 29 percent of children in programs qualify for federal assistance. The report concludes that a federal investment of slightly less than \$18 billion would give 5.6 million low-income youth access to the academic support, supervision, mentoring and fitness opportunities, healthy snacks, and

other benefits that quality afterschool programs provide.

The *Roadmap* finds that parents of children in afterschool programs are paying the majority of the afterschool bill. On average, parents pay more than three-quarters (76 percent) of the cost of afterschool programs through tuition and fees. Even in low-income communities, parents pay more than half of afterschool costs (54 percent). On average, families are paying \$2,400 per year per child for afterschool programs, and low-income families are paying an average of \$1,722 per year per child.

“Right now, the nation is coming together to address huge challenges, and setting priorities for the future,” said Afterschool Alliance Executive Director Jodi Grant. “Unless we give every child safe, supervised, enriching activities, we lose a real opportunity to create a brighter future, strengthen families, and improve our economy. Now more than ever, we need to increase the investment in quality afterschool programs from all sectors. The *Roadmap to Afterschool for All* is designed to point the way – but the real test of America’s commitment to its children will be whether we travel down the road this report maps out.”

According to the new report, the federal government’s contribution to afterschool programs is less than \$2.3 billion, which is 11 percent of the cost of these programs. That \$2.3 billion includes \$1.13 billion in 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) funds.

During the election campaign, President Obama pledged to double funding for 21st CCLCs, and to create a new funding stream to support summer programs. The *Roadmap* says that would be an essential first step. It also recommends that other sectors increase their investments in afterschool eight-fold – the same increase it recommends for the federal government.

In the United States today, more than 14 million children are on their own after the school day ends. Only 11 percent of all

children in grades K-12 are enrolled in afterschool programs.

The research for the *Roadmap* was led by Alison Earle, research scientist at the Harvard School of Public Health and funded by the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation and the Atlantic Philanthropies. *For more information, visit* <http://www.afterschoolalliance.org/roadmap.cfm>.

USE A4A FOR DISCOUNT ON SCHOOL SUPPLIES

The Afterschool Alliance partnership with Discount School Supply gives friends of afterschool a ten percent discount on all school supply orders. To receive the discount, put the code A4A (it stands for Afterschool 4 All) in the pink promotional box when ordering supplies at www.discountsschoolsupply.com. Or mention it when you call 1-800-627-2829 to place an order.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS...


May 26 – May 29, 2009

Nova Southeastern University, the Council of Canadian Child and Youth Care Associations, and the Association for the Child & Youth Care Practice Inc. will present the Ninth Triennial International Child and Youth Care Conference in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. More than 1,500 youth workers will convene from more than 100 nations. The theme is “Global Warning,” and Dr. Munoz will discuss innovative afterschool initiatives around the world. There will be more than 150 sessions on trends, advocacy, program design, and ways to engage families and communities in youth development. *For more information, visit* www.icycc2009.com.

July 7 - July 9, 2009

The U.S. Department of Education and the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, in

conjunction with the JCPenney Afterschool Fund, will host the 21st Century Community Learning Centers' (CCLC) 2009 Summer Institute in Nashville, Tennessee. This year's theme, "The 21st CCLC Program: Realizing America's New Education Promise," captures the direction of the initiative as programs strive to develop afterschool activities that include and support the President's education goals and initiatives. Participants will attend general sessions that focus on the President's new education agenda, as well as receive technical assistance for management of 21st CCLC programs from a daily operational perspective. *For information, visit www.sei2003.com/21stcentury/welcome.aspx.*

 **July 13 - 16, 2009**

The National Institute for Out-of-School Time will sponsor its annual summer seminar series to provide training for afterschool professionals. The Boston, Massachusetts, event will address program evaluation, the changing landscape of out-of-school time, system and community building, technical assistance and more. *For information, visit www.NIOST.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 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>.



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.

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