Afterschool Advocate

A media outreach newsletter published by the Afterschool Alliance

Volume 5, Issue 7, June 25, 2004

## NEW PSAS AND WEB SITE ENCOURAGE "TWEENS" TO PARTICIPATE IN AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS

Bored kids can engage in some weird behavior. They talk to their socks, dance with their cats, squish their faces against windowpanes – or worse. But children attending afterschool programs have better, more constructive, educational and fun things to do. That is the message in a new series of Afterschool Alliance public service announcements (PSAs) targeting youth in their "tween" years. The spots are being distributed to media outlets around the nation this spring and summer.

The Afterschool Alliance joined with The Advertising Council and the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation to launch the new youth campaign, which features television and print spots that target kids ages nine to 14. The PSAs are funded by grants totaling \$3 million from the Mott Foundation. The spots are the newest phase in the Afterschool Alliance's highly successful public service campaign that was launched in November of 2000 to promote public support for afterschool programs.

Created by volunteer ad agency DDB Chicago, the new PSAs use humor to encourage kids to find out more about afterschool programs on the Alliance's new youth-oriented web site, www.afterschoolscene.com.

"Our new PSAs encourage youth to check out afterschool programs," said Afterschool Alliance Executive Director Judy Y. Samelson. "Kids who are already in *Continued on Page Three...* 

## AMERICA'S LEADING BUSINESSES CALL FOR MORE HIGH-QUALITY AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS

Despite the unprecedented growth in funding for afterschool programs since the 1990s through federal, private corporate and other philanthropic investment programs, demand for afterschool programs still far exceeds supply in virtually every community across the nation, a recent Corporate Voices for Working Families' report finds.

Corporate Voices for Working Families is calling on local, state and federal government entities, as well as private and non-profit sectors, to assess existing afterschool programs, consider philanthropic priorities, review policy proposals on 21st Century Community Learning Centers and other programs, and formulate policy positions that provide more afterschool care to working families. Corporate Voices is a non-partisan, non-profit partnership organization created to bring the private sector voice into the public dialogue and to improve corporate practice on issues affecting working families.

#### After School for All

In its report *After School for All: A Call* to Action from the Business Community, Corporate Voices outlines seven principles that define a successful afterschool system.

These elements include:

1. Learning as the central mission;

Continued on Page Three...

## **MEDIA OUTREACH**

Below is a sample letter-to-the-editor on the need for more afterschool funding. It can be personalized or localized, and submitted to local newspapers. Most newspapers accept letters by email or Internet, in addition to postal mail. To figure out what your newspaper takes, look in the letters-to-the-editor section of the paper, check the web site's letters section (or sometimes the contact section), or just call the paper and ask. Be sure to sign the letter-to-the-editor and include an address and a phone number so that, if your letter is selected for publication, the newspaper staff can confirm that the letter is indeed from you. The newspaper will not print your contact information.

[Date]

Letters to the Editor [your newspaper] [street address] [city, state, zip]

To the Editor:

With the school year winding down, you might expect afterschool programs to be headed into mothballs for the summer as well. But in fact, many such programs reconfigure themselves into daylong summer programs, and provide the same valuable services to our kids and families that they do during the school year.

That's great for families in neighborhoods lucky enough to have afterschool programs, but for those who want afterschool programs but don't have ready access – more than 14 million children according to recent research by the Afterschool Alliance, funded by JCPenney Afterschool – it's a reminder that we're shortchanging our youth by skimping on afterschool programs.

Two years ago, the federal government committed to steady and sensible growth in afterschool funding, but it hasn't lived up to the commitment. The No Child Left Behind Act called for \$2 billion in afterschool funding for the coming year, but the President has proposed spending just half that, and it's not clear Congress will do any better. That'd be a loss for all the communities and families here in [your city] and across the country that need quality afterschool and summer care.

Sincerely,

[your name] [your title and affiliation] [your daytime phone] [your evening phone] *New Youth PSA and Web Site Continued...* afterschool programs know that they offer innovative, educational and fun activities that help students explore their creativity, learn and grow. Now, with these new PSAs, we're taking that message to all young people and encouraging them to visit our new youth web site, which provides a window to afterschool programs and gives afterschool students a way to share their experiences. We need more afterschool programs, so every young person can enjoy the benefits these programs offer."

#### www.afterschoolscene.com

Developed in partnership with themusicedge.com and Nortel Networks Kidz Online, the new web site showcases afterschool efforts and innovations, and features information provided by afterschool students on activities, programs and projects taking place at their afterschool programs. The site will also offer games, polls, bulletin boards, celebrity chats, and resource and activity finders. It currently features advice for kids interested in music from Taboo from Black Eyed Peas, and students from the BEST Afterschool Program in Scranton, Pennsylvania describing a film-making project, among other stories.

In addition to themusicedge.com and Nortel Networks Kidz Online, Just Think is a partner for the new web site.



#### After School for All Continued...

- 2. Provides links between parents, schools and programs, and provides high-quality program options to parents who enroll their children in programs;
- Recruits, trains and compensates a professional staff that has the skills, knowledge and attitudes needed to support young people;
- 4. Depends upon the creation and support of infrastructure built on public/private

collaborations at the local, state and national levels;

- 5. Articulates outcomes for children's learning and program quality that are appropriate to the afterschool setting;
- 6. Embraces accountability for measurable results; and
- 7. Builds crosscutting partnerships to govern, finance, sustain, and improve the system.

#### Recommendations

Corporate Voices is calling for further public and private review of afterschool programs and recommends the following:

- A commitment to identify additional resources to support the creation of quality afterschool systems, possibly from re-allocation of public funding;
- The creation of policies that support increased coordination of public and private resources;
- An investment in the creation of an infrastructure needed to support afterschool systems in multiple ways;
- Additional policies that encourage cooperation, joint use of space, overlap in staff and other similar innovations to provide a wide range of learning opportunities; and
- Discussion on how to create an education system that supports and cultivates the changing needs and demands of children, families and the economy in the 21st Century.

For more information or a copy of the After School for All report, visit www.cvworkingfamilies.org.



## LAW ENFORCEMENT LEADERS URGE CONGRESS TO REJECT CUT IN ANTI-GANG FUNDS

On June 1, national law enforcement leaders from around the country joined Fight Crime: Invest in Kids in urging Congress to support a full assault on rising gang violence with a proven strategic plan to cut crime and keep more kids from joining gangs. The leaders cautioned that the White House's proposed 40 percent cut to federal juvenile crime prevention funds would jeopardize local programs that reduce gang and youth violence.

"Serious violent criminals need to be locked up, but to curb gang violence we must intervene to keep these kids from becoming criminals in the first place," said Los Angeles Police Chief Bill Bratton. "Research shows there are proven strategies to cut gang-related homicides almost immediately and shut off the pipeline delivering new kids into gangs. The proposed budget cuts will force many of the anti-gang programs to close shop, raising the risk of more violence and higher taxes to pay for criminal justice and prison costs. And sadly, more children will be caught in the crossfire."

Despite an increase in gang violence, Congress plans to vote on the proposed cut in federal juvenile justice and delinquency prevention funds, which support anti-gang programs in communities across the country. Since 2002, there has been a 44 percent overall reduction in delinquency-fighting and anti-gang funds.

#### Caught in the Crossfire

In conjunction with its call to Congress, Fight Crime: Invest in Kids released a new report that brings together recent research that gang homicides across the country increased an alarming 50 percent since 1999.

*Caught in the Crossfire: Arresting Gang Violence by Investing in Kids* finds that gangs have spread beyond inner cities into suburbs and rural areas.

#### **Call for Action**

Law enforcement leaders insist the crucial time to act is now before more young people are caught up in the violence of gangs. The organization recommends that additional federal and state dollars be allocated to implement a three-point plan:

1. Police and community leaders must track down gang members, provide close supervision of high-risk kids and ensure that any future gang violence is met with swift consequences combined with collaborative services to help children get off drugs, stay in school and find a job.

2. Communities must have in place intensive programs to intervene with troubled kids and equip families to better manage their children's behavior.

3. Communities should start early to help atrisk kids succeed and stay away from crime. Child abuse prevention, high quality prekindergarten programs, anti-bullying and afterschool programs are proven to cut crime.

*For a copy of the full report, visit www.fightcrime.org.* 

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## **POLICY UPDATE:** HR 4473, Educational Opportunity For the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Act

On June 3, House of Representatives Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-CA), Congressman George Miller (D-CA) and Ranking Democrat on the Appropriations Committee David Obey (D-WI) introduced H.R. 4473, a Fiscal Year 2005 Department of Education appropriations bill called the "Educational Opportunity For the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Act." The bill is co-sponsored by Rosa DeLauro (D-CT), Steny Hoyer (D-MD), Jesse Jackson, Jr. (D-IL), Patrick Kennedy (D-RI), Nita Lowey (D-NY), and Lucille Roybal-Allard (D-CA). It would provide \$71.3 billion in Fiscal Year 2005 discretionary funds for the Department of Education.

The bill fully funds the No Child Left Behind Act, investing \$14 billion more than the President's recommended education budget for Fiscal Year 2005, and \$15.7 billion more than was appropriated in Fiscal Year 2004. In order to pay for this increase, the bill calls for cutting in half the tax cut for 200,000 individuals who earn more than \$1 million.

Specifically, the Democratic appropriations bill would provide full funding for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers, doubling the afterschool program's current appropriation to \$2 billion. It would be the only programs to receive such an increase. Other programs to receive increases include: \$20.5 billion for Title I grants, which is \$7.2 billion more than Bush's budget; \$3.2 billion in Teacher Quality State Grants; \$308 million for comprehensive school reform, which is eliminated in the Bush budget; \$12.3 billion for IDEA, which is 22 percent more than last year's funding level.

The bill would increase the Pell Grant maximum to \$4,500 and calls for \$1.4 billion for Vocational Education grants, which is a 60 percent increase over last year's funding level. It also restores all the program eliminations recommended by the Administration's plan. It may face stiff opposition from Republicans.

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## IN THEIR OWN WORDS...

"Every year, nearly 7,000 children and teens die of alcohol-related injuries in the United States. More than one-third of children begin drinking before age 13. More than one in ten fourth-graders has been drunk. In fact, in Kentucky, 39.3 percent of students in grades 6, 8, 10 and 12 have used alcohol in the past year... While we press for a national strategy,

there is a great deal we can all do to prevent drinking among the young people we know best -- our own. Parents can support their children's involvement in afterschool programs, clubs and sports to keep them engaged in productive activities after school and during school breaks. Teachers, principals, PTA members and others can run alcohol-education programs in schools, as many already do. Community members can support or create programs and clubs that offer children safe, fun and educational activities. Community leaders can send a message to young people that underage drinking is illegal and dangerous. We observe National Alcohol Awareness Month every year in April, but we cannot put this issue on the back burner at any time. We need a nationwide, ongoing daily commitment to the prevention of underage drinking. Let's resolve to work together throughout the year to keep our children safe and sober."

> - Editorial by Kentucky First Lady Glenna Fletcher, *Lexington (KY) Herald Leader*, June 1, 2004

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## IN THE NEWS...

**National** - Birth rates for adolescent girls in the U.S. are higher than in any other industrialized country, finds a Save the Children report released in May. The report, *State of the World's Mothers*, also finds that in some remote rural communities, adolescent birth rates are higher than in many developing countries. In response, Save the Children urges the Bush administration and the U.S. Congress to expand support for in-school and afterschool literacy programs, particularly in the most underserved rural areas of America. For more information on the report and Save the Children, visit www.savethechildren.org.

**National** – On May 24, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger announced that actor/action

#### Afterschool Advocate

hero Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson is his choice to serve as National Spokesperson for After-School All-Stars (ASAS), a national provider of afterschool programs for children. Johnson's role will include acting as the organization's ambassador and visiting ASAS programs across the nation to encourage and inspire children to strive for the best. The mission of ASAS is to provide comprehensive out-of-school programs that keep children safe and help them achieve in school and in life. To this end, ASAS engages middleschool children in activities and on-going relationships that increase confidence and encourage success.

California - For the second year in a row, three-fourths of California voters say the governor and state legislature should continue funding youth safety programs at current levels, even if less money is available for other programs. Six in ten voters say they would be willing to pay higher state taxes, if necessary, to maintain funding for violence prevention and youth-safety programs. These are among the findings from The California Wellness Foundation's latest poll released in early June in conjunction with a statewide videoconference on preventing youth violence. "Even during these tough budget times, it is critical that young people have places to go where they feel safe, and where they can participate in adult supervised activities, especially between the hours of 3 p.m. and 6 p.m., when they are at the greatest risk of becoming victims of violence," commented Los Angeles County Sheriff Leroy D. Baca. For more information on the poll, visit www.preventviolence.org.

**California** – On June 7, the Los Angeles Metropolitan Transportation Authority board unanimously voted to restore funding to the Immediate Needs Transportation Program, reports the *Los Angeles Times*. Through the program, more than 30,000 people a month receive free bus passes and taxi vouchers to senior centers, hospitals and afterschool programs.

**California** – On May 26, Vero Salon, a local hair salon in Oakland, sponsored a daylong cut-a-thon and donated \$25 from each haircut to the Cantare Can Vivo afterschool program, reports the *Alameda Times-Star*. Students from the music program performed throughout the day. The free afterschool program serves approximately 60 elementary school students.

**Florida** – Three Oaks Elementary School received the "Living and Learning Award" from Keep Lee County Beautiful for its afterschool environmental program, reports the *Fort Myers News Press*. Students in the afterschool program helped clean up the 20acre campus and created butterfly gardens, walking trails and bird sanctuaries. Last year, the school received a "School Yard Habitat" certification from the National Wildlife Federation.

**Indiana** – On May 28, the Indiana Court of Appeals ruled that it is unconstitutional to require parents of public school students to pay mandatory fees for counselors, librarians, nurses and afterschool programs, reports the *Indianapolis Star*. Many local schools have had to charge fees to defray the costs of deep budget cuts. The ruling is expected to be appealed to the Indiana Supreme Court.

**Minnesota** - Most youth-serving nonprofits in Minnesota report that recent declines in funding have forced them to reduce or eliminate programs and services to support the well being and healthy development of thousands of youth in the state, according to a new report by the Minnesota Council on Foundations. Nonprofits are concerned that the cuts are creating more idle time out of school, fewer interactions with positive adult role models and more negative societal behaviors. Youth development funders and nonprofits believe the most serious funding

#### Afterschool Advocate

gaps are for afterschool programming, general operating support, transportation, prevention and early intervention programs, and family support programs, particularly parenting programs. For a copy of the full report, *Supporting Minnesota's Youth: The State of the State's Youth Development Funding*, visit the Council's web site at www.mcf.org and select "Trends & Analysis."

**Nevada** – Students at ten of the Washoe County 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers sites are painting plastic cows to help raise funds for their afterschool programs, reports the *Reno Gazette-Journal*. The cows will be auctioned off during the Food Bank's World Music Series concerts in July and at several art galleries and museums.

**New Jersey** – On May 26, Governor James McGreevey launched NJ After 3, the public/private partnership corporation he proposed in his State of State speech, to strengthen existing quality afterschool programs and expand access to quality programs for all New Jersey's children. The Governor expects the legislature to approve funding for the corporation, reports the *Philadelphia Inquirer*. For more information on the Governor's initiative, visit www.state.nj.us.

New York - On June 8, Mayor Michael Bloomberg and Schools Chancellor Joel Klein teamed up with Real Simple Magazine to launch "Get Organized New York," a citywide initiative that will benefit New York City's libraries and afterschool sports programs. "Get Organized New York" invites New Yorkers to donate goods from their homes and places of work to be sold at a tag sale in Central Park on October 16 and 17 and at a celebrity auction on October 13. All proceeds will go to the Fund for Public Schools, a non-profit organization affiliated with the New York City Department of Education. The Fund's mission is to raise awareness of the needs of the city's public

schools and to increase private sector involvement in public education. For more information, visit www.getorganizednewyork.com.

New York – Students at 13 YMCA afterschool programs in Monroe County are exercising more and eating healthier thanks to Fit for the Future: An After-School Childhood Obesity Initiative, reports the *Rochester Democrat and Chronicle*. Preferred Care, the YMCA of Greater Rochester and New York City's Family Cook Productions are participating in the initiative that includes physical activities each weekday, cooking lessons and healthy living discussions.

Pennsylvania - Half of Pennsylvania's rural children live in low-income families and twothirds of the state's school-age children have all available parents in the labor force, finds The State of the Child in Pennsylvania - 2004, a new study from Pennsylvania Partnerships for Children. The report offers a blueprint for policy makers and provides detailed data that underscore the challenges facing the state in giving children the tools needed to succeed in life. Among the suggestions to improve conditions for Pennsylvanian children, the authors recommend that all school-age children have access to effective afterschool and youth development programs. For a full summary and information on ordering The State of the Child in Pennsylvania - 2004, visit www.papartnerships.org.

**Utah** – On June 1, the Salt Lake City School District proposed that the Governor increase property taxes to help purchase computers for schools, fund reading initiatives and restore funding for afterschool programs that had been cut by the federal government, reports the *Salt Lake Tribune*. There will be a public hearing on August 3 before the tax increase is enacted.

**Virginia** – On June 7, the Virginia Tobacco Settlement Foundation (VTSF) awarded the Giles County Partnership for Excellence Foundation a \$43,125 grant for its afterschool program and a teacher training program, reports the *Roanoke Times & World News*. Established in 1999 after a court settlement between the Virginia General Assembly and tobacco companies, VTSF's mission is to lead a statewide effort to reduce and prevent the use of tobacco products by youth in Virginia. For more information about VTSF, visit www.vtsf.org.

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# **PROFILE: A TEENAGER WHO CARES**

Unlike most students her age, Debra Japko wanted to forgo getting a present for her 19<sup>th</sup> birthday and decided she would rather have her mother make a donation to a worthy cause. In high school, Debra enjoyed participating in sports and a jazz band after school and was alarmed to hear about the number of afterschool programs in New York that were forced to close due to lack of funding. As her birthday approached, Debra decided to search the Internet to find an organization that focused exclusively on afterschool programs. She was impressed by the Afterschool Alliance web site and in April of this year, Debra's mom sent the Alliance a check for \$200 in her daughter's name. Debra just completed her first year at Skidmore College and is spending the summer taking classes at Villonova University in Pennsylvania and learning to play the guitar.

"What a wonderful surprise it was to receive this donation from a teenager," said Afterschool Alliance Executive Director Judy Y. Samelson. "It speaks volumes about the unselfishness of some of our young people and their desire to give back. No contribution to the Alliance is as meaningful as one from a young person who was inspired by afterschool; contributions from individuals like this are so very appreciated, needed and put to good use helping others. I wish many others could be so inspired."

If you are interested in making a contribution to the <u>Afterschool Alliance Afterschool for All</u> fund, contact Leslie Aguirre, 810 239-3449.

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## RESOURCES

Research and Practice: A Two-Way Street Conference Proceedings from the National AfterSchool Association Leadership Day, Research and Evaluation Track

Due to great interest in the topic, Harvard Family Research Project and the Forum for Youth Investment have prepared a summary of the conference proceedings from the National AfterSchool Association 2004 Leadership Day - Research and Evaluation Track (February 26, 2004). The report provides an overview of the panel sessions, including summaries of speakers' remarks, presentation slides, contact information for each panelist, and a list of the key resources cited during the day. Since the primary goal of the session was to provide an opportunity for meaningful, shared dialogue between researchers and practitioners, the summary begins with a presentation of the key research questions that practitioners posed to panelists throughout the day.

Summaries are provided for each of the panel discussions: Research and Practice Perspectives on Out-of-School Time Programs and Participation; Getting Inside the Black Box: How and Why After School Programs Work; and What Research and Practice Tell Us About Participation and Retention.

Page 9

Research and Practice: A Two-Way Street conference proceedings can be found online at:

www.gse.harvard.edu/hfrp/projects/afterscho ol/conference/nsaca-2004.html or www.forumforyouthinvestment.org/resspeech. htm#nsaca04feb.

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

## A July 12 - 16

The National Institute on Out-of-School Time is hosting its Summer Seminars 2004 for afterschool program professionals from July 12 – 14 at the John Hancock Conference Center in Boston. The training will include seminars on: Effective Management, which will focus on the administrative components of a quality afterschool program; and Leadership and Technical Assistance for a Changing Afterschool Landscape, which will help guide programs through successful improvement. Program supervisors, directors, consultants, technical assistance providers, school coordinators and 21st Century Community Learning Centers personnel are encouraged to attend. For more information, visit www.niost.org/training/sumsem04.html.

## July 15 - 16

The After-School Corporation (TASC) is hosting its third Promising Practices Conference, "Partners in Quality: Effective Practices in After-School," on July 15 and 16 in New York City. The conference, which is generously sponsored by The Citigroup Success Fund for Promising Practices and held in partnership with New York University, will allow afterschool advocates and professionals from across the country to share ideas and learn about best practices. TASC will share the lessons learned at the conference with a broader audience in the afterschool field, through its new web site and through other ongoing dialogue. Those interested in attending the conference should

contact Fred McIntosh, TASC Senior Policy Analyst, via email at fmcintosh@tascorp.org or by phone at 212/547-6955.

## July 22-23; August 5-6

The U.S. Department of Education is sponsoring two Summer Institutes, one in Los Angeles, California on July 22 - 23, and one in Washington, DC on August 5 - 6. There will be a pre-conference session for 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC Project Directors held in the afternoon on the day prior to the Summer Institute. This year's focus will be on ensuring that all programs provide exciting and effective content enrichment, and the conference will feature high-quality reading, mathematics, science, arts, technology, and homework/tutoring programs. The program is open to current grantees (including new State-administered grantees), former 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC grantees that are still operating afterschool programs, and other interested afterschool providers. For more information or to register online, visit www.synergyentinc.com/21stcentury/index.ht m.

## October 14

Be sure to join afterschool advocates across the country for the fifth annual *Lights On Afterschool!* on October 14. Be part of this effort to save afterschool programs imperiled by funding cuts and underscore the need for quality afterschool programs for all children. To learn more about how to participate and to register your event, visit www.afterschoolalliance.org/loa\_2003/index. cfm. Help turn the lights on at afterschool programs!

## November 4 – 6

The California School-Age Consortium is hosting its National Middle School Conference, "Take Your Job and Love It!" at the Cathedral Hill Hotel in San Francisco from November 4 to 6. The conference will provide information, activities and ideas on engaging youth in afterschool programs and empowering staff to plan programs that middle school youth will love. For more information, visit www.calsacconference.org.

## ANNOUNCING A CALL FOR SCHOOL BOARD NOMINATIONS

Is your school board a champion of your district's extended-day programs or your local afterschool programs? Does your board collaborate with other local organizations and agencies to promote the success of children and youth beyond the regular school day? The National School Boards Association (NSBA) is looking for school districts with strong school board leadership and collaboration practices that support afterschool programs. Success stories will be shared in upcoming publications and featured at NSBA's 2005 Annual Conference.

The nomination form is available on the NSBA website through the Extended-Day Learning Opportunities (EDLO) Online Resource Center at www.nsba.org/edlo. The deadline for submissions is **JUNE 25, 2004**, so nominate your district today!

## FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

The Department of Education has announced priorities, selection criteria and requirements

for applications for Safe Schools/Healthy Students funding. This program provides Federal financial assistance to school districts and communities to implement an integrated, comprehensive community-wide plan designed to create safe and drug-free schools and promote prosocial skills and healthy childhood development in youth. These applications are for FY 2004 funding. Basic information is below. Please refer to the Federal Register announcements for complete details:

## **Deadline for Transmittal of Applications:** July 9, 2004.

**Deadline for Intergovernmental Review:** August 9, 2004.

Estimated Available Funds: \$42,000,000. Estimated Range of Awards: Up to \$1,000,000 per year for LEAs or consortia in rural areas and Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) schools; up to \$2,000,000 per year for LEAs or consortia in suburban areas; and up to \$3,000,000 per year for LEAs or consortia in urban areas.

#### **Estimated Average Size of Awards:** \$2,000,000 per year. **Estimated Number of Awards:** 20.

For more information on the criteria and requirements, please visit:

http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/14m ar20010800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2004/04-12074.htm For a copy of the application, visit:

http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/14m ar20010800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2004/04-12075.htm

The Afterschool Alliance is a nonprofit public awareness and advocacy organization supported by a group of public, private, and nonprofit entities working to ensure that all children and youth have access to afterschool programs by 2010. 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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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