



MORE STATES FUNDING AFTERSCHOOL

For several years, federal funding for the 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) initiative has been eroding. The resulting shortfalls are taking a well documented toll on afterschool programs in America. According to the Afterschool Alliance's recent survey, three in four afterschool programs are operating at or above capacity, and 87 percent of providers say children in their communities who need afterschool programs don't have access to them. While efforts continue to convince Members of Congress and the President to more adequately fund afterschool, several states are increasing their support.

The most visible – and most significant – success story at the state level is California, where the rollout of Proposition 49, the groundbreaking ballot initiative adopted by Golden State voters in 2002, is set to increase the state's contribution to afterschool programs to \$550 million. This will put the state much closer to making afterschool available for all children who need it.

No other states have made a similar commitment, but many are increasing their support for afterschool. Among them are the following:

- **Connecticut**, with leadership from state Speaker of the House James Amann, added \$4.4 million in new funding for afterschool programs to its budget. It will supplement the almost \$3 million the state provides to priority school districts for extended day programs and the almost \$8

million from the federal government's 21st CCLC.

- **Georgia** made a total of \$14 million available to its Division of Family and Children Services in the Department of Human Resources for grants to school and community-based afterschool programs. The funding includes an allocation of \$10 million from its federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funds and \$4 million in state revenues.
- In 2005, the **Illinois** legislature earmarked \$12.2 million in new funding for specific afterschool programs across the state. The state increased this funding to \$24 million in the budget passed for FY2007.
- **Massachusetts** resumed its funding for afterschool with its most recent budget, renewing a funding stream that had dried up after 2001. The legislature approved \$1 million for afterschool, \$50,000 for the state afterschool network, and \$6.5 million for extended day programs – a pilot program to extend the school day by 25 percent (300 hours) for all students in participating schools.
- The **New Jersey** legislature approved Gov. John Corzine's proposal to provide \$15 million for afterschool grants, administered by New Jersey After 3, a public-private partnership in the state.
- **North Carolina** created a new funding stream from which afterschool programs within its borders can draw. The state's most recent budget includes \$113 million in new money from which local education agencies may draw funds for various initiatives including afterschool programs and transportation to and from them.
- **Ohio** also allocated TANF funding to afterschool. Last May Gov. Bob Taft

signed an executive order allocating \$20 million in 2007 to 2009 TANF money for afterschool.

- **In Pennsylvania**, Gov. Ed Rendell created the Educational Assistance Program (EAP), for which afterschool programs are eligible. Modeled after a program he championed while mayor of Philadelphia, EAP funds tutoring in reading and mathematics for students in low-performing school districts. In 2003-04, its inaugural year, the state provided \$38 million in funding, which was used to serve almost 35,000 students in 82 academically challenged school districts. By 2005-06 the program was receiving \$66 million in annual funding and had expanded to support tutoring in 175 school districts.
- **South Carolina** expanded its existing support for homework centers and afterschool programs, adding \$3.8 million to the budget for the coming fiscal year. At the same time, the legislature earmarked \$250,000 for the South Carolina Afterschool Alliance (not affiliated with the national Afterschool Alliance) to provide technical assistance to afterschool programs around the state. The organization plans to produce a model of voluntary quality standards for out-of-school-time programs, as well as develop a directory of sources for technical assistance.
- **Tennessee** increased its funding for afterschool in June, revising an existing law that allocated half of all unclaimed prizes from the state's lottery to afterschool programs, so that now all unclaimed prizes will go to afterschool. That should amount to approximately \$18 million in the coming year.

Budget requests for new or additional funding are expected in 2007 in New Mexico, where Gov. Bill Richardson is proposing \$7.5 million for afterschool programs and another \$5 million for tutoring and mentoring in his

FY 2008 budget; Washington; and Wisconsin, where the state superintendent has requested \$5 million for afterschool programs in FY 2008.

Afterschool leaders at the federal, state and local levels are working hard to convince even more states to increase funds for afterschool programs in 2007. *The Afterschool Advocate will continue to update readers on state activities, and keep them informed about cities that are supporting afterschool programs next year.*



PROFILES OF SUCCESSFUL POST-21st CCLC SUSTAINABILITY

The Finance Project's Out of School Time Project has released, *Sustaining 21st Century Community Learning Centers: What Works for Programs and How Policymakers Can Help*. The new report on 21st Century grantees' efforts to sustain themselves after their grants expire is based in large part on focus groups and interviews with current and former grantees, and with state administrators. The report offers up a series of policy options for easing 21st Century grantees' transition away from federal support. *The report is available online at http://www.financeproject.org/publications/sustaining_21cclc.pdf.*

The report includes three profiles of afterschool programs' successful efforts to sustain their funding. Featured are the Claremont, New Hampshire school district, which focuses on a strong programmatic vision and diverse funding sources; the Columbine Elementary School, in Denver, Colorado, which maintains its extended day program through strong and diverse partnerships; and the North Carolina Northwest Three Afterschool Consortium, a *Profiles continued on page four...*

FUNDING NEWS

The Afterschool Alliance has numerous resources on its website to help afterschool providers, including tips on initiating new relationships with funders and businesses, and on identifying funding opportunities. The website hosts a sizeable database of funding sources that is searchable by funding agency, uses of funds, eligible applicants, and more, located at www.afterschoolalliance.org/funding_data.cfm. Providers will also find other links, publications, success stories and tips. *For more information, visit www.afterschoolalliance.org/funding_main.cfm.*

GRANTS/AWARDS AVAILABLE

Grants to Support Afterschool Programs and Community Development

Ameriquet Mortgage Company is sponsoring up to 75 Create Your Legacy grants of \$15,000 each for youth-led projects to improve afterschool programs and their communities. Applicants should submit a proposal for \$10,000 to improve an afterschool program and one for \$5,000 for a community development project. Youth should play an active role in developing the proposals. The deadline is January 15. *For more information, visit <http://www.ameriquetcares.org/1SignaturePrograms/CreateYourLegacy.shtml>.*

Coming Up Taller Awards

The National Endowment for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities are seeking applications for the Coming Up Taller Awards. The awards focus national attention on exemplary programs fostering the creative and intellectual development of America's youth. Fifteen awardees will receive \$10,000 in addition to national recognition for their program. The deadline for applications is January 31. *For more information, visit <http://www.cominguptaller.org/awards.html>.*

Grants for STEM Instruction

The American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics Foundation is offering grants for educators to present science, math and technology to students via hands-on activities with the goal of developing a future generation of aeronautics and aerospace engineers, scientists, pilots and space explorers. Grants of \$200 are administered to programs on a rolling basis with a total of up to \$1,000 per program per year. Grants submitted for consideration for the upcoming quarter should be received by January 31. *For further information, go to <http://www.aiaa.org/content.cfm?pageid=216>.*

Awards for Volunteerism

The Points of Light Foundation, the Corporation for National Service and the Knights of Columbus are accepting nominations for the Daily Points of Light Award, which honors people and organizations engaged in exemplary volunteer and community service work. Nominations are accepted year round, but reviewed on a quarterly basis with the next review session deadline on February 15. *For more information call 202/729-8184 or visit <http://www.pointsoflight.org/awards/dpol/nominate.cfm>.*

Profiles continued from page two...
three-county consortium that works collaboratively in rural Appalachian schools systems.

The profiles are available in the report and separately at <http://www.financeproject.org/irc/ost/21stCenturyCommunityLearningCenters.asp>. Nineteen previously posted sustainability profiles are available at <http://www.financeproject.org/irc/ost/profiles.asp>.



INCREASE AFTERSCHOOL FUNDING, ALL 14 WOMEN SENATORS TELL PRESIDENT

On December 11, a bipartisan group of all 14 women Senators wrote to President Bush urging him to increase funding for the 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) afterschool initiative in his Fiscal Year 2008 budget proposal, due to be presented to Congress next February. The 21st CCLC initiative has been flat-funded for six years, and subjected to several across-the-board cuts. To date, none of the increases authorized by the *No Child Left Behind Act* have been realized.

The women Senators' letter says, in part, "The 21st CCLC program has been level funded for six consecutive years. If this trend continues, it will become more difficult for the 21st CCLC program to meet the needs of the children currently served, and it will prevent the program from growing to reach more children. For these reasons, we urge you to propose an increase in funding for this vital program so that more children can receive the proven benefits of quality afterschool programs."

An Afterschool Alliance study released in late 2005 found that 26 states could not make any new grants to afterschool programs that year because of inadequate federal funding,

and experts say most states struggled to fund afterschool programs again in 2006.

Senators Barbara Boxer (D-CA) and Susan Collins (R-ME) were the lead sponsors of the letter, and Senators Maria Cantwell (D-WA), Hillary Rodham Clinton (D-NY), Elizabeth Dole (R-NC), Dianne Feinstein (D-CA), Kay Bailey Hutchison (R-TX), Mary L. Landrieu (D-LA), Blanche L. Lincoln (D-AR), Barbara Mikulski (D-MD), Lisa Murkowski (R-AK), Patty Murray (D-WA), Olympia Snowe (R-ME), and Debbie Stabenow (D-MI) signed on.

"America's families rely on afterschool programs to keep children safe and provide them with opportunities to learn and grow," said Afterschool Alliance Executive Director Jodi Grant. "Like most Americans, the women Senators want every child to have the chance to be inspired at an afterschool program, rather than being unsupervised and at risk for becoming involved in crime, gangs, substance abuse, and sexual activity each afternoon. Afterschool programs are a sound investment, even at times when budgets are tight. We urge President Bush to listen to the women Senators, and to the nation, and increase funding for the afterschool programs our children urgently need."



AFTER SCHOOL HOURS A WORRY FOR WORKING PARENTS

As many as 2.5 million parents are overly stressed by Parental Concern about After-School Time (PCAST), and are likely to bring their concerns to the office, according to a new study by the Women's Studies Research Center at Brandeis University and Catalyst. The study, *After-School Worries: Tough on Parents, Bad for Business*, also finds that PCAST concerns are intensified for parents who have more responsibility for childcare in the household, work longer hours and whose

children are older (in grades six through 12) or spend more time unsupervised.

The study finds that PCAST makes mothers and fathers less productive at work and contributes to employee stress which can cost businesses \$50 to \$300 billion annually in lost productivity, according to the American Institute of Stress. The study also found that both men and women are vulnerable to the negative consequences of PCAST, which potentially affects one-third of the U.S. workforce.

“Our findings show that PCAST can be very toxic to employee attitudes, work performance and well-being. However, companies can help all employees – not just parents – perform at their most productive level without breaking the bank. By giving employees greater job control and a results-oriented ‘agile workplace,’ companies can benefit their bottom line as well as their employees,” explained Karen Gareis, a social psychologist at the Women’s Studies Research Center and a lead researcher on the study.

The study notes that creating work programs and policies that reduce afterschool care stress are not costly to implement and generate a wealth of rewards. Three out of four survey respondents said that the flexibility to arrive at work later, leave work earlier or take off part of a workday when necessary can significantly reduce general levels of PCAST.

Researchers recommend that companies, among other things:

- Develop an “agile workplace” where employees have greater freedom in focusing on goals and results, and can access flexible work programs, such as flex-time and telecommuting;
- Invest in community services that support afterschool programs and advocate for these programs on a national level; and
- Better publicize existing company afterschool supports to parents so that

they can fully take advantage of the flexibility offered by the company.

The study cites several effective programs already in place that are generating positive results for both companies and employers including the “Results-Only Work Environment” at Best Buy, Safeway’s “Championing Change for Women,” and UBS’s “Managing Flexible Working Course” for company managers.

The study was based on a survey of 1,755 employed parents who work at one of three Fortune 100 companies across the country. Citigroup, Fannie Mae and Pfizer corporations sponsored the research. *To view the full report, visit www.catalyst.org.*



NEARLY ONE IN FOUR GA SCHOOL CHILDREN UNSUPERVISED

A new report from the Georgia Afterschool Investment Council (GAIC) finds that more than 350,000 of Georgia’s school-aged children – almost a quarter of the total population – are unsupervised after school and during vacation periods. *The Current State of Afterschool in Georgia: Building a Strong Foundation* also finds that, while excellent afterschool and summer programs exist statewide, the number of programs is not sufficient to meet the need.

The new study notes that most afterschool programs serve children in elementary and middle schools, while many older youth are unserved, and finds that rural communities may be underserved. Georgia parents say their highest priorities are easy accessibility, affordability and safety. According to the report, to best address these concerns communities must develop comprehensive approaches to afterschool with collaboration from both the public and private sectors.

The report offers a strategy for coordinating funding and creating statewide standards for afterschool care and policies. The GAIC will conduct forums around the state to share its findings and strengthen state-local cooperation.

The Current State of Afterschool in Georgia results from the collaboration of 40 youth development and educational leaders from across the state, including Voices for Georgia's Children, Georgia PTA, the Georgia Department of Education and the Georgia Department of Human Resources. *The report is available at <http://afterschoolga.org/OurWork/TheGeorgiaAfterschoolReport.aspx>.*



IN THEIR OWN WORDS...

“We need to continue making sure kids have productive things to do after school. Last year we stepped up and authorized \$800,000 to expand after-school programs. I hope that we as a city can be aggressive in applying for the recently approved \$550 million statewide for afterschool programs from Proposition 49. Our city share should be in the ballpark of \$7 million, which could provide a lot of afterschool opportunities.”

-- Sacramento City Council member Kevin McCarty, *Sacramento Bee*, November 23, 2006

“One way community members can step in [to reduce gang violence] is to be an active, good role model in their child's life or volunteer as a big brother or sister in organizations such as the Boys & Girls Clubs or coach an athletic team. If time is a problem, then how about contributing financially to afterschool programs or athletic activities? By providing these positive, alternative activities, studies have shown that these kids are less likely to be involved in gang activities.”

-- California State Senator Jeff Denham, *The Californian*, December 7, 2006



IN THE NEWS

Louisiana – Afterschool students in New Orleans' KID smART program and throughout the public school system received very special gifts this holiday season from caring children throughout the country – LEGO bricks. Youth, parents, teachers and afterschool programs sent in a total of 1,665,200 bricks, including a match from LEGO Systems. One Cub Scout troop in Raleigh, North Carolina, led by third-grader Dixon Dubow, solicited help from the local community and sent more than 45,000 bricks. LEGO Systems devised the donation program to help children involved in the reconstruction of New Orleans, in the aftermath of hurricane Katrina, according to *Business Wire*. *To learn more about the program, visit http://www.legobuildersoftomorrow.com/be_donate.html.*

Missouri – Parents in Kansas City have been rallying in protest after learning that the school board decided not to continue the \$1.4 million it had been providing for community-generated afterschool enrichment programs at 15 Local Investment Commission (LINC) sites. The school board instead wanted to use those funds for tutoring programs designed to boost the district's academic performance. After a tense board meeting attended by parents and students, on December 13 board members put the decision on hold until they meet with LINC staff and commissioners, reports the *Kansas City Star*.

Nebraska – The *Omaha World-Herald* reports that the city of Omaha is soliciting input from parents and program providers on how best to spend a \$2 million grant from the federal government for expanding afterschool programs. Providers and youth agencies are

being asked to complete surveys identifying strengths and weaknesses and the city is conducting a phone survey of parents. Parents can also fill out questionnaires by visiting the mayor's website www.ci.omaha.ne.us. The city plans to distribute the federal afterschool funds in the spring.

North Carolina – Girls in Waynesville Middle School's "Girl Talk" afterschool program have been learning about dating violence and how to spot the warning signs of an abusive relationship. As part of the program, the girls recently participated in a karate self-defense course that emphasized the need for both physical skill and emotional strength to confront a difficult situation. According to the *Asheville Citizen-Times*, the girls are preparing a dating violence presentation in the spring for schoolmates and community members.

Ohio – The JCPenney Afterschool Fund spread holiday cheer to many low income children in the YMCA of Greater Cincinnati's afterschool programs, according to the *Community Press*. 550 local students received \$50 JCPenney gift cards to purchase clothes, shoes and school supplies. The YMCA also received the single largest JCPenney Afterschool Fund grant this year – \$173,280 to be used for afterschool scholarships.



RESOURCES

Federal Resources for Afterschool

The Child Care Bureau recently updated and redesigned the website "Afterschool.gov" to better serve providers. The new site includes resources on federal funding, activities for children and youth, field reports on afterschool, and best practices for health, safety, disaster responses and youth

development. To access the resources, visit www.afterschool.gov.

Guide for SES Evaluations

The Department of Education's Center on Innovation and Improvement has released an updated version of the guidebook, *Evaluating Supplemental Educational Service Providers: Suggested Strategies for States*. The new version highlights Tennessee resources that can be replicated elsewhere, including a checklist for reviewing SES provider applications, guidelines for monitoring SES providers, and strategies for preparing for SES monitoring visits. The guide is available at <http://www.centerii.org/ses.html>.

Measuring Successful Outcomes

Child Trends recently released a report for practitioners, funders and researchers on measuring outcomes in out-of-school time programs. The report looks at educational achievement, cognitive attainment, health and safety, social and emotional development, and self-sufficiency and provides tools providers can use to measure successes. The report is available at <http://www.childtrends.org/files/outcomesrtrrb.pdf>.

Working with Undocumented Immigrant Youth

The National Collaboration for Youth and the National Juvenile Justice Network released a new policy brief. *Undocumented Immigrant Youth: Guide for Advocates and Service Providers* gives advocates and youth service agencies background to help them collaborate successfully with juvenile justice and immigration advocates to better understand the special needs of these youth. The brief is available at www.nassembly.org/ncy/documents/ImmigrationBrief.pdf.

Making Microbiology Fun and Accessible

The American Society for Microbiology unveiled a new version of its website,

“MicrobeWorld,” that incorporates audio and visual podcasts and science-related news. The features include the documentary *Intimate Strangers: Unseen Life on Earth* and a half hour program on microbes in Yellowstone National Park. The site also includes lesson plans, experiments and tools for teachers. *To view the site, go to <http://www.microbeworld.org>.*

Teaching Biotechnology

The Biotechnology Institute offers a free bi-annual online magazine, *Your World: Biotechnology and You* for students in grades seven to 12 to help them understand the chemistry behind biofuels. Back issues are available online. The website also includes teachers’ guides for lab experiments and links to other biotechnology related sites. *To access the magazine, visit http://www.biotechinstitute.org/resources/your_world_magazine.html.*

For California Providers

Act 4 After School provides numerous resources for afterschool providers in California, including information on the upcoming funding for high school afterschool programs under the California 21st Century High School After School Safety and Enrichment for Teens (ASSETs) program. *For further information, go to <http://www.act4afterschool.net/>.*



MANY YOUTH HAVE NO SAFE PLACES

A new report by America’s Promise finds that 69 percent of six to 11 year-olds and 58 percent of 12 to 17 year-olds do not have safe places. America’s Promise says a safe place is one of the five components that a child must have in order to enjoy a healthy and happy childhood that leads to a successful transition to adulthood. The other four

components, or “promises,” are caring adults, healthy starts, effective education and opportunities to help others.

Every Child, Every Promise: Turning Failure Into Action is the first study to comprehensively measure the presence of five essential resources that correlate with a child’s success in youth and adulthood. The report notes that children experiencing multiple resources or “promises” have a greater likelihood of success. Young people experiencing at least four of the five “promises” fare much better than those receiving zero or one “promise” in the realm of academic success, social competence, civic participation and use of violence.

The study also finds that only 40 percent of 12 to 17 year-olds participate in high quality afterschool activities, and almost 40 percent of teens do not have parents actively involved in their education. An additional 40 percent of young people doubt they will be able to realize their dreams and 70 percent say they need more help. According to the study, 34 million school-age children are pessimistic about their chances of success.

The study is the first in a biennial series of reports to examine the state of America’s youth and the environment communities provide young people to develop in. Among other things, the report recommends that communities involve all sectors in youth development, provide early and continual investment in children, strengthen the economy through young people, and focus attention on young people who are most underserved. Above all, the report serves as a call to action for communities to strengthen the resources that America’s youth need in order to live up to their full potential. *To read the report, go to <http://www.americaspromise.org/OurWork.aspx?id=208>.*



SUMMER OF SERVICE ACT

Senators Christopher Dodd (D-CT) and Thad Cochran (R-MS) and Representative Rosa DeLauro (D-CT) introduced the Summer of Service Act in both houses of Congress. The bill would create a competitive grant program enabling states and localities to give students making the transition from middle to high school a chance to participate in a structured community service program over the summer months.

It would provide \$100 million in the first year for grants to local schools and community organizations to engage middle school youth in structured community service activities. Students would receive \$500 in education awards after completing 100 service hours over the summer. The bill will be reintroduced in 2007. *For more information, visit*

<http://www.icicp.org/index.php?tg=articles&idx=More&topics=385&article=765>.



INSPIRATION AFTERSCHOOL AND BEYOND

Academy Award winning actor Denzel Washington has compiled inspirational recollections from 70 well-known leaders in politics, sports, entertainment, journalism and business about individuals who positively affected their lives when they were young. Included are stories from Jimmy Carter, Bill Clinton, Whoopi Goldberg, Jackie Joyner-Kersey, Cal Ripken, Gloria Steinem, and Bob Woodward. The stories are all part of Washington's new book, *A Hand to Guide Me*, which highlights the importance of mentoring youth.

Washington is national spokesperson for the Boys & Girls Clubs of America, and *A Hand to Guide Me* was released as the organization celebrates its centennial.

Proceeds from sales will benefit the Boys & Girls Clubs of America. *More information on the book is available at* <http://www.bgca.org/news/denzelbook.asp>.



SHOPPING FOR AFTERSCHOOL THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

Afterschool advocates will be pleased to know that singer Josh Groban is doing his part to support afterschool. All net profits from sales of his new CD "Awake," sold at JCPenney stores, will be donated to the JCPenney Afterschool Fund. *For more information, visit*

<http://www.jcpennyafterschool.org/merchandise.html>.



YOUTH GENERATING INTERNATIONAL AWARENESS ONLINE

Global Kids, Inc. and Gamelab recently collaborated to create an online game for youth that demonstrates the challenges many children in other countries face when trying to complete their education while struggling with poverty. The game, *Ayiti: The Cost of Life*, is based in Haiti and follows a Haitian family of five as they attempt to attend school, work, and make ends meet. Each player assumes the lives of the family members and navigates through several years while balancing the goals of education, staying healthy, making money and achieving happiness. The development of the game was sponsored by Microsoft's U.S. Partners in Learning Mid-Tier Grants Initiative.

Youth in the Global Kids Playing for Keeps program learned from Gamelab professionals about game design, media literacy and the game development process.

Because they studied the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights, they chose to adapt the topic of poverty as an obstacle to education as the video game format. The resulting game is available free online as a serious learning tool with lesson plans for youth workers. *For more information, visit www.thecostoflife.org.*

AFTERSCHOOL FOR ALL: PROJECT 2010

Happy holidays from *Afterschool for All: Project 2010*! With your help, the list of *Afterschool for All: Project 2010* partners more than doubled this year – but there is still more work to do. Have you visited the *Afterschool for All: Project 2010* website lately? Check regularly for daily tallies of new partners, and see who in your region has pledged support for afterschool for all youth. *Visit the site at: www.afterschool2010.org*

There are 5,562 partners this month. New partners include: The Atlanta Tuskegee Airmen, Inc., Atlanta Public Schools, the Annie E. Casey Foundation – Atlanta Civic Site, Korean Women’s Association, Consulate General of Mexico, Georgia Department of Education, and the New York City Housing Authority.

Contact Marie Coichy with questions and comments about Afterschool for All: Project 2010 at mcoichy@afterschoolalliance.org or 212/548-0309.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS...

February 7 - 10, 2007

In partnership with the U.S. Department of Education’s 21st Century Community Learning Centers Program, Foundations Inc. is sponsoring the 10th annual Beyond School Hours Conference in Greensboro, North Carolina. World renowned poet Dr. Maya Angelou will deliver the keynote address on

February 8. The conference will include seminars and workshops on professional development, funding and programming strategies. Participants will learn more about current research, curriculum, evaluations and program improvement. *For more information and to register, visit <http://www.foundationinc.org/events/conference/beyond10/default.asp>.*

February 19 - 22, 2007

The National At-Risk Educational Network (NAREN) is sponsoring the 4th annual NAREN Conference in Panama City, Florida. Topics include youth empowerment and engagement through extracurricular activities. *For more information and to register, visit <http://www.atriskeducation.net/news/conferences.html> or call (920) 907-8337.*

March 4 - 7, 2007

The Georgia Southern University College of Education and Continuing Education Center will host the 18th annual National Youth-at-Risk conference in Savannah, Georgia. The conference offers more than 100 presentations on educational tools, strategies and best practices. *For more information and to register, go to <http://ceps.georgiasouthern.edu/conted/yar2007.html> or call 912/871-1755.*

March 20, 2007

The National Partnership for Quality Afterschool Learning and Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory will host a pre-conference event to the National Afterschool Association's Annual Conference in Phoenix, Arizona. The keynote speaker for the pre-conference will be Mindy DiSalvo, Ed.D., DeKalb County School System, Decatur, GA, who will be presenting on “Sustainability: Putting the Pieces Together.” This keynote will be followed by state meetings to let Arizona, California, Nevada, and Utah afterschool program leaders discuss how to implement sustainability ideas in their states. *To register for the March 20 pre-conference,*

visit


www.sedl.org/afterschool/registration2007NAAPre.html.

 **March 21 - 23, 2007**

The National AfterSchool Association will host its 19th annual afterschool conference, the largest afterschool gathering in the world, in Phoenix, Arizona. *For more information and to register, visit <http://www.naaconference.org/> or call (800) 606-0061.*

 **March 27 - 31, 2007**

The Youth Leadership Council is sponsoring the 18th annual National Service Learning conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The conference will draw approximately 3,000 participants from across the country and the world, and offers more than 200 workshops. *For more information and to register, visit <https://programs.regweb.com/metro/NYLC2007/registration/> or call (800) 366-6952.*

 **April 23 - 24, 2007**

The Afterschool Alliance will host the 2007 *Afterschool for All Challenge*, including the *Breakfast of Champions*, in Washington, D.C. Events will be held at the Hilton Washington Hotel. *Check future Advocates and the Alliance website, www.afterschoolalliance.org, for details in '07.*

More information on upcoming conferences and events is available at www.afterschoolalliance.org/states/calendar_main.cfm.

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 by 2010. 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.
