



## **GIVE AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS A STRONGER VOICE!**

Are there students in your community who would benefit from an afterschool program, but don't have one available? Is your program serving low-income, special needs and limited English proficiency students? Does your program rely on public or private funds, and how secure is your funding going forward?

Afterschool providers around the country are answering those questions and more in an effort to give policy makers, the media and the public a more complete picture of the state of afterschool programs in America today. The Afterschool Alliance is conducting the online survey, and counting on afterschool program leaders across the nation to participate by August 25.

"Lawmakers ask us every day for data on afterschool programs – from how many students they serve, to what services they provide to children and parents, to how accessible and adequate government funds are," said Afterschool Alliance Vice President for Research and Policy Jen Rinehart. "Through this survey, we hope to get more comprehensive data than we have had in the past – data that will shed light on whether we are meeting the nation's need for afterschool programs, and what services programs do and don't provide."

The survey results will be shared with federal, state and local lawmakers, foundation and business leaders, journalists, and the *Afterschool survey continued on page two...*

## **NEARLY A MILLION CA TEENS UNSUPERVISED AFTER SCHOOL, PUTTING PUBLIC SAFETY AT RISK**

Three in ten California teens are unsupervised after school three or more days each week, and these students tend to engage in more high-risk behavior than students who are supervised. Those are among the findings from a new poll conducted by Opinion Research Corporation for Fight Crime: Invest in Kids California. More than three in four respondents said that afterschool activities help kids stay safe and out of trouble.

For the study, researchers conducted telephone interviews with 604 middle and high school students, 12 to 17 years of age. They found significant unmet demand for afterschool programs. For instance, more than one-third of respondents said there are not enough supervised afterschool activities in their areas that interest them. Of these, 77 percent said they would likely participate if interesting afterschool activities were available.

*CA poll continued on page two...*

### **LIGHTS ON 2006**

On Thursday, October 12, at thousands of events around the country, Americans will rally for the afterschool programs that keep kids safe, inspire them to learn and help working families. To register your event or to get tips on how to plan it, engage sponsors, interest lawmakers and the media – and much more – please visit [www.afterschoolalliance.org](http://www.afterschoolalliance.org).

*Afterschool survey continued from page one...* public, with a preview released after Labor Day and more comprehensive results released in conjunction with *Lights On Afterschool* in October.

*To complete the survey, which will take approximately 15 minutes, go to <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.asp?u=55232423346>. Give afterschool programs a stronger voice – today!*



*CA poll continued from page one...*

According to the study, teens who are unsupervised after school three or more days per week are:

- About three times as likely as other teens to have done something in the past year that could have gotten them arrested.
- More than twice as likely to have smoked marijuana in the past year.
- More than five times as likely to have used drugs other than marijuana in the past year.
- More than twice as likely to have hung out with gang members in the past year.
- More than five times as likely to have been recruited by a gang in the past year.

At a news conference to release the findings, Pasadena Police Chief Bernard said that afterschool programs are essential to community safety, “Law enforcement leaders know that afterschool activities help prevent juvenile crime by giving kids a supervised alternative to hanging out on the streets. When these programs are not fully funded, local law enforcement loses one of its most powerful anti-crime weapons.”

*To read the study, visit [www.fightcrime.org/releases.php?id=205](http://www.fightcrime.org/releases.php?id=205).*



## SURVEYS GAUGE TEEN VIEWS

The Boys & Girls Clubs of America and Junior Achievement (JA) recently took the pulse of America’s teens. The Boys & Girls Clubs survey found that the majority of youth feel that education is an important part of their future, while the JA Worldwide survey found that teens are interested in afterschool programs that offer opportunities for college scholarships.

The Boys and Girls Clubs surveyed youth 13 to 18 years of age, exploring their concerns, insights and recommendations. “Youth Report to America” is one of the largest national surveys conducted by youth, of youth, for youth, incorporating the views of 46,000 teens in communities across America. The survey was developed and administered by youth members of the TEENSupreme Keystone Clubs – leadership and service clubs for teens 14 to 18.

Keystone Club members across the country surveyed teens in their communities and found out what mattered most to them in terms of their futures, relationships, the issues facing them, and their views on America. Three in four said college is necessary to meet their career goals. Asked what they can do to make life better for future generations, the most popular answers were finishing school and becoming more involved with their communities. Teens also said that peer pressure and fitting in cause them the greatest stress, and that crime and peer pressure are the biggest problems in their communities.

*For a full view of the survey, go to [www.bgca.org/youth/index.html](http://www.bgca.org/youth/index.html).*

The JA Worldwide poll found that nearly two-thirds of teens who participate in afterschool programs do so at their schools, and nearly one in five attend a program based at a church or place of worship.

*Surveys continued on page four...*

## FUNDING NEWS

### **BUILDING SUPPORT FOR YOUR *LIGHTS ON AFTERSCHOOL* EVENT**

How did a collaborative of afterschool providers in Evansville, Indiana recruit sponsors from the business community to defray the costs of a massive *Lights On Afterschool* event?

What strategies did the Arizona School-Age Coalition and its partners use to convince an organics store, the state department of education, and several municipalities and school districts to support its *Lights On* event, and how were sponsors recognized for their support?

What gifts did the South Carolina Afterschool Alliance give to its *Lights On Afterschool* sponsors, and how did the Alliance craft a proposal to win support from Home Depot's founder?

The answers to those and other questions, and a wealth of information on fundraising, are available on the Afterschool Alliance's website in the constantly-updated Funding and Sustainability section. Visit [www.afterschoolalliance.org/funding\\_main.cfm](http://www.afterschoolalliance.org/funding_main.cfm) often for information and updates. The section also includes Ten Tips for Getting and Keeping *Lights On Afterschool* sponsors, and 32 Ways to Give Sponsors Exposure.

### **GRANTS AVAILABLE**

#### **Grants Promoting Literacy**

The Starbucks Foundation is awarding grants of \$5,000 to \$20,000 to programs working with youth ages six to 18 that integrate literacy with civic action. Programs that apply must emphasize literacy and promote youth voices through reading, writing and creative media/arts or environmental literacy, and encourage youth to take an active role promoting a sustainable environment in their own communities. Letters of Inquiry will be accepted through September 1. *For information, visit [www.starbucks.com/aboutus/grantinfo.asp](http://www.starbucks.com/aboutus/grantinfo.asp).*

#### **Grants Promoting Family-Oriented Literacy Programs**

The Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy is offering grants of up to \$65,000 for programs that support instructional literacy for children, reading programs for parents and primary caregivers and intergenerational reading activities. Applications will be accepted through September 8. *For information, call 202/955-6183 or visit [www.barbarabushfoundation.com/nga.html](http://www.barbarabushfoundation.com/nga.html).*

#### **Grants in Tennessee**

The Tennessee Department of Education will use \$14 million from unclaimed lottery prizes to help agencies develop quality afterschool programs. The Lottery Education Afterschool Program will make grants to community- and faith-based organizations, and other public and private agencies, for afterschool programs and test-preparation pilot projects. The deadline for applications is September 12. *Details are available at:*

<http://Tennessee.gov/education/learningsupport/afterschool/index.shtml>.



*Surveys continued from page two...*

The vast majority of teens surveyed by JA (94 percent) said they would be more likely to participate in afterschool programs that offer opportunities for college scholarships. Respondents also indicated that they are interested in programs that help them perform better in school (76.8 percent), develop leadership skills (76.4 percent) and teach them how to work with money and budgets.

The JA Worldwide poll was conducted by Newton Research and included the views of 1,200 youths 13 to 18 years of age. *For further information, visit [www.ja.org/about/about\\_newsitem.asp?StoryID=355](http://www.ja.org/about/about_newsitem.asp?StoryID=355).*



## **HFRP EXPANDS EVALUATION DATABASE**

The Harvard Family Research Project (HFRP) has added new summaries of ten out-of-school-time program evaluations to its already exhaustive database, and updated six existing summaries with new information.

*The resulting write-ups are available online at*

*<http://www.gse.harvard.edu/hfrp/projects/afterschool/evaldatabase.html>. The 16 summaries cover evaluations of afterschool and summer programs at the state, local and program levels.*

Separately, HFRP is conducting a survey of its database users. The survey asks for no information that would identify the user. HFRP says it would like to hear from both current users and those who are interested in using the database in the future. *The survey is online at*

*<http://poll.icommons.harvard.edu/poll/taker/pollTakerOpen.jsp?poll=1-4844-19645>.*



## **IN THEIR OWN WORDS...**

“[The increase in violent crime rate noted in the FBI’s violent-crime index] should be a loud wake-up call for the country to get back to doing what worked in the 1990s. When you look back at the 1990s, we were expanding police forces and pouring more money into afterschool programs. Now, we’re seeing just the reverse.”

-- James Alan Fox, criminal justice professor at Northeastern University in Boston, *USA Today*, June 13, 2006

“I am proud to have supported legislation that funds Boys and Girls Clubs across the country, and I always look forward to learning what new activities they have to offer.”

-- Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison (R-TX), *Dallas Morning News*, June 25, 2006

“The successes that we achieve today cannot be sustained tomorrow unless our children receive the best education possible. A sustainable community requires that we learn how to grow our own educated workforce. We are proud of innovative programs like the ‘5 By 5 Project,’ which offers free cultural experiences to Denver’s Head Start families. In the Lights On After-School Initiative, we have worked with the DPS Foundation and United Way to provide afterschool programs, improving attendance, grades and test scores.”

-- John W. Hickenlooper, Mayor of Denver, Colorado, in the State of the City Address, July 12, 2006

“Research shows, and our own experiences here in Newburgh demonstrate, that young people are at the greatest risk of getting into trouble in the after-school hours, while their parents or guardians are at work... By providing children with an alternative to roaming the streets after school, we are providing them with an opportunity to unlock all of their potential that will lead to a

successful and meaningful life as members of their community.”

-- Rep. Maurice Hinchey (D-NY), *US Fed News*, July 24, 2006

“Through afterschool education programs for Spokane’s students, we can also improve graduation rates and make new, promising opportunities available to at-risk students.”

-- Senator Maria Cantwell (D-WA), *US Fed News*, July 25, 2006



## AFTERSCHOOL FOR ALL: PROJECT 2010

*Afterschool for All: Project 2010* celebrates a new milestone this month with 3,400 partners. New partners include Maine Governor John Baldacci, Maine First Lady Karen Baldacci, the First Tee, and the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater. We need your help to continue building support for afterschool in the community. *Don't forget to ask your friends, colleagues and neighbors to become a Project 2010 partner at:*  
<http://www.afterschool2010.org/join.cfm>.

As you know, *Lights On Afterschool* is fast approaching on October 12. It provides a great opportunity to get your community involved in *Project 2010*. For example, you can set a *Project 2010* community challenge and hold a signing ceremony at your local *Lights On* event. *For tips and ideas on how to incorporate Project 2010 in your Lights On event, go to:*

[www.afterschoolalliance.org/lights\\_on/project\\_2010.cfm](http://www.afterschoolalliance.org/lights_on/project_2010.cfm).

Thank you for supporting *Afterschool for All: Project 2010!* To share your success stories, contact [mcoichy@afterschoolalliance.org](mailto:mcoichy@afterschoolalliance.org).



## IN THE NEWS...

**California** – By a vote of 15 to 1, the State Assembly Appropriations Committee passed SB 638 on August 9, reports the California School-Age Consortium. Among other things, the bill will raise the daily per-child rate for afterschool programs from \$5 to \$7.50, provide grants rather than reimbursements to programs, and grandfather 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers grantees into the group of programs that will receive After School Education and Safety Act funds. The full Assembly is expected to vote on the measure in the next few weeks.

**California** – Powered by a grant from the Pacific Forest and Watershed Lands Stewardship Council, eco-friendly, alternative fuel minivans will transport students from the Jefferson Union High School District to afterschool programs and outdoor activities. Students will receive “green” transportation to after school outdoor community service initiatives, leadership programs centered on the environment, camping adventures, and other outdoor excursions, reports *Inside Bay Area*. Jayne Battey, executive director of the Stewardship Council, says partnerships like this represent “strategic investments in organizations that share our mission of helping to build healthy kids and create future stewards of the outdoors.”

**Illinois** – High school students are taking a grassroots approach to exploring their community’s needs with Movers and Shakers, a program created by Homework Hangout and sponsored by the Summer Youth Works Project. Students are traveling door-to-door to conduct surveys in their hometown of Decatur, asking residents their opinions on problems facing the community and possible solutions, reports the *Herald & Review*. Participants develop their own questionnaires, choose a sample that is representative of Decatur, conduct the survey, and analyze the

data. They will create a publication with proposed solutions for the community.

**Maine** - The Compass Project, an afterschool program that teaches at-risk youth to build boats, encourages students to remain on course and go full steam ahead. Sponsored by the Alternative Learning Program in Westbrook and supervised by professional boat builders and volunteers, participants construct dories – traditional 21-foot rowing boats – in a cooperative and confidence-building atmosphere. Once the dories are completed, the community celebrates the students' accomplishments by featuring the boats in Portland's community rowing program, reports *Education Daily*. To learn more, visit [www.compassproject.org](http://www.compassproject.org).

**Massachusetts** - Emagine, a revolutionary afterschool program started by Boston Public School Teachers and alumni of Harvard's Graduate School of Education, focuses on academic proficiency, family and community support, and habits of successful behavior, while incorporating students' passions into the mix. Emagine offers tutoring after school and throughout the summer and provides workshops that guide students through the college application process. The results are telling. Despite the freshman class' 37 percent dropout rate, founder Oliver Sicat is sending every one of his Emagine kids to college, reports *People* magazine. For more information about this program, visit [www.emagine.us](http://www.emagine.us).

**South Carolina** - As director of the Hispanic Initiative for the Old 96 Girl Scout Council, Marisela Mendez engages Hispanic girls in afterschool programs with the goal of attracting more minorities into scouting, reports the *Greenville News*. Through concerted outreach efforts, Mendez has

earned the trust of Hispanic parents and her close relationship with the growing Hispanic community has helped her recruit more than 200 Hispanic girls. Mendez is also training Hispanic women to be troop leaders. Reflecting on her work, Mendez said, "When you work for girls, you work for the future women, mothers, citizens of tomorrow."

**Tennessee** – Rhodes College's Storm Water Environmental Education Project (SWEEP) is engaging students from Rhodes and Cypress Middle Schools in science and environmental education in the afternoons. The program's activities range from sampling and testing water from various sites, to building models of Memphis' storm drainage system, to creating posters for Earth Day. SWEEP is sponsored by grants from the Environmental Protection Agency, Associated Colleges of the South, HUD and a Congressionally Directed grant, reports the *Commercial Appeal*. SWEEP has sparked eighth-grader Roderick Moore's interest in environmental studies; the program prepared him to attend Teton Science School in Jackson Hole, Wyoming this summer to learn more about the natural world.

**Texas** – The fifth annual Children's Mock Trial Experience lets kids be the judge as they participate in a courtroom drama designed to expose youth to the legal system. Participants are students involved in Rhoads Terrace, Larry Johnson, and Eloise Lundy recreation centers' afterschool programs. Youth play the judge, jury, attorneys and witnesses; the program helps them learn how to peacefully resolve disputes. Sponsors include Dispute Mediation Services, Youth Conflict Resolution Center, the Association for Conflict Resolution, and Sheikha Hobeiche Mediation Services, reports the *Dallas Morning News*.



## RESOURCE

### New Books for Afterschool Programs

The Lisa Libraries donates new books to afterschool programs working with children in poor and underserved areas. *For eligibility requirements and more information on the program, visit [www.lisalibraries.org](http://www.lisalibraries.org).*



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS...

### August 16 – 17, 2006

After School Counts! will host the Off to a Good Start annual conference in Columbus, Ohio. The conference will include breakout sessions, networking, resources, a vendor fair and the Hannah Dillard awards luncheon honoring best practices in afterschool. *For information and to register, visit [www.edcouncil.org/programs/afterschool.htm](http://www.edcouncil.org/programs/afterschool.htm).*

### September 14 – 15, September 28 - 29, 2006

The America's Promise Alliance will host regional forums to share best practices and encourage greater collaboration within communities to see that all young people have the fundamental resources they need to succeed. The regional forums will take place in Charlotte, North Carolina on September 14 – 15 and Indianapolis, Indiana on September 28 – 29. Another forum will be held in Denver, Colorado in October. *For information and to register, visit [www.americaspromise.org/100Best/regionalforums.cfm](http://www.americaspromise.org/100Best/regionalforums.cfm).*

### September 20 – 22, 2006

The North Carolina Center for Afterschool Programs (NC CAP) will host its annual statewide summit, "SYNERGY: Windows of Opportunity," at the Joseph S. Koury Convention Center in Greensboro. *For information, visit [www.nccap.net/about/conference.cfm](http://www.nccap.net/about/conference.cfm).*

### October 23 – 24, 2006

The Bridge from School to Afterschool and Back: Responsive Rich Relevant conference will be held in Vancouver, Washington. The conference, the only one of its kind for administrators, educators and policy makers in the afterschool field, will include sessions on childhood obesity, family literacy and English language learners. *For more information and to register, visit <http://schoolsoutwashington.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=page&sectionid=60>.*

### October 23 – 25, 2006

The Southwest Educational Development Laboratory's National Partnership for Quality Afterschool Learning will host a regional training Mid-South Region Fall Afterschool Training Roundup: Building High-Quality Afterschool Programs in Oklahoma City. The event will offer opportunities for afterschool leaders to network and learn through professional development opportunities. *For further information and to register, visit [www.sedl.org/afterschool/registration/2006\\_roundup.html](http://www.sedl.org/afterschool/registration/2006_roundup.html).*

### November 19 – 25, 2006

The Alliance for Children and Families and the Annie E. Casey Foundation will sponsor National Family Week celebration. Afterschool programs are invited to participate along with hundreds of groups and thousands of individuals across the country to promote the premise that children live better lives when families are strong, and families are strong when they live in communities that connect them to economic opportunities, social networks and services. *For more information, visit [www.nationalfamilyweek.org](http://www.nationalfamilyweek.org).*

### November 29 – December 2, 2006

The National Community Education Association will hold its Annual Conference at the Nugget Hotel in Reno, Nevada. *Please visit*

[www.ncea.com/meetingsandconferences.aspx](http://www.ncea.com/meetingsandconferences.aspx)  
for information and to register.

 **December 4 – 7, 2006**

The National Association of Workforce Development Professionals, the Great Lakes Employment Training Association and the National Youth Employment Coalition are sponsoring the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual National Youth Development Symposium in Chicago, Illinois. Last year's symposium drew more than 600 workforce development, youth development, and education professionals from across the country. The symposium is currently accepting workshop proposals in the following areas: engaging, educating and employing youth. *Applications are due by August 14 and are available at [www.nawdp.org/2006YouthSymposiumCallForProposals.doc](http://www.nawdp.org/2006YouthSymposiumCallForProposals.doc). For further information, visit [www.nawdp.org/youthsymposium.htm](http://www.nawdp.org/youthsymposium.htm).*

***More information on upcoming conferences and events is available at [www.afterschoolalliance.org/states/calendar\\_main.cfm](http://www.afterschoolalliance.org/states/calendar_main.cfm).***

**USE A4A FOR DISCOUNT ON SCHOOL SUPPLIES**

The Afterschool Alliance is happy to announce a partnership with Discount School Supply to give 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.discountschoolsupply.com](http://www.discountschoolsupply.com). Or mention it when you call 1-800-627-2829 to place an order.

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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](http://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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The *Afterschool Advocate* is produced for the Afterschool Alliance by PR Solutions, Inc., Washington, DC;  
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