A media outreach newsletter published by the Afterschool Alliance

Volume 8, Issue 6, June 28, 2007

FEDERAL AFTERSCHOOL FUNDING ADVANCES

For the first time in years, Congress is poised to increase funding for 21st Century Community Learning Centers – but it is unclear how large an increase America's children and families will see.

Key appropriations subcommittees in both the House of Representatives and the Senate marked up the relevant section of the fiscal year 2008 budget this month, and both proposed increases in afterschool funding. But the House Subcommittee proposed a significantly larger increase than did the Senate Subcommittee.

The House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services and Education voted to put an additional \$125 million into the 21st Century Community Learning Centers budget, which would fund the initiative at \$1.106 billion next year. This 12.7 percent increase would bring it to its highest funding level yet, providing afterschool opportunities for an additional 125,000 children and youth.

The Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies passed a smaller increase, recommending \$1 billion in afterschool funding next year. Afterschool Alliance Executive Director Jodi Grant called the Senate vote "a disappointment. After five years of flat funding and across-the-board cuts, this is a step in the right direction – yet it only restores afterschool funding to the level we had six years ago, when the same dollars bought much more than they do today. If it stands, this funding level will leave millions *Funding continued on page four...*

STUDY CALLS FOR STRONGER ROLE FOR ARTS IN AFTERSCHOOL

A new study of the role of arts in afterschool programs, drawing on data from a nationwide survey of 21st Century Community Learning Center grantees, concludes that state and local arts organizations need to take a stronger role in initiating partnerships with afterschool programs.

The publication of the study was a joint project of Americans for the Arts and the Afterschool and Community Learning Network, from authors Terry K. Peterson, Director of the Afterschool and Community Learning Network and Board Chair of the Afterschool Alliance; Associate Professor Scott Shanklin-Peterson, Director of the Arts Management Program of the School of the Arts at the College of Charleston; and Jennifer May, a PhD candidate in Educational Psychology at the University of South Carolina.

The authors surveyed a stratified random sample of 21st Century grantees. They found that afterschool providers strongly support including arts programming in their afterschool curricula. When asked to identify the most effective methods of incorporating the arts, respondents gave the highest marks to two approaches: providing workshops, field trips, story telling experiences, and development of plays; and providing musical instruments and individual or group lessons as an introduction to skills and genres of music.

A second tier of approaches, described by the authors as "rated highly," included Arts continued on page four...

OUTREACH

A Decade of 21st Community Learning Centers

The 8th annual *Lights On Afterschool* is set for October 18 this year. Organized by the Afterschool Alliance, it will include rallies, celebrations, forums and other events taking place at schools, city centers, shopping malls and other venues all across the country. This year, *Lights On Afterschool* will kick off a year-long celebration of the tenth anniversary of the 21st Century Community Learning Centers federal afterschool initiative. *Register today at*

http://www.afterschoolalliance.org/lights_on/index.cfm and check regularly for updates!

Advocacy Makes a Difference

Never doubt that a phone call to a lawmaker can make a real difference! Afterschool providers and supporters have been mobilizing more effectively than ever in recent months. They have had a real impact building congressional support for an increase in 21st Century Community Learning Centers funding, convincing Senators to co-sponsor the Improving 21st Century Community Learning Centers Act of 2007, and urging Members to join the House and Senate Afterschool Caucuses.

Led by state networks, Afterschool Ambassadors and dedicated advocates, the afterschool field is making its voice heard with activity in Arizona, California, Idaho, Iowa, Mississippi, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, West Virginia, Wisconsin and elsewhere.

In June, one state network convinced its state Attorney General and Superintendent of Schools to write a Senator to encourage him to support an afterschool funding increase – and he did. Another state network convinced the mayors of the state's largest cities to contact their Senators on behalf of 21st Century Community Learning Centers appropriations.

One advocate convinced her Governor to press one of the state's Senators to endorse the Improving 21st Century Community Learning Centers Act of 2007. Two Afterschool Ambassadors and one business leader in Mississippi convinced Senator Thad Cochran to co-sponsor the bill. Nationwide, organizations supportive of afterschool crashed one Senate office's email several times in one day with requests to be listed as endorsers of the same bill.

Another afterschool advocate called to encourage her Representative to join the House Afterschool Caucus, and learned during the call that the husband of the aide she was talking to runs a 21st Century Community Learning Center program. The staffer subsequently convinced her boss to join the House Afterschool Caucus.

"It can be intimidating to pick up the phone and call the office of a Senator or Representative, but that call can have a tremendous impact," Afterschool Alliance Executive Director Jodi Grant said. "Often you get what you are asking for and, even when you don't, there can be long-term benefits from making a personal connection and providing valuable information about how important afterschool programs are to voters in his or her district or state."

More calls are needed! Advocates should call Members of Congress to remind them that years of funding freezes and across-the-board cuts are taking a painful toll, and that communities need greater federal investment in afterschool programs!



FUNDING NEWS

The Afterschool Alliance has numerous resources on its website to help afterschool providers, including tips for initiating relationships with funders and businesses, and for identifying funding opportunities. For information, visit www.afterschoolalliance.org/funding_main.cfm.

GRANTS/AWARDS AVAILABLE

Grants for Graffiti Abatement

Keep America Beautiful's Graffiti Hurts Program is offering grants of up to \$2,000 for communities to initiate or expand graffiti prevention programs or to undertake one-time projects to help reduce graffiti vandalism. Applications are due June 29. *For more information, visit http://www.graffitihurts.org/grant_program/index.cfm*.

Grants for Positive Youth Development

The US Department of Health & Human Services Administration for Children and Families is sponsoring the Compassion Capital Fund Communities Empowering Youth Program. Organizations that have a history of providing alternatives to gang involvement, youth violence, and child abuse and neglect and will focus on building organizational capacity, sustainability and effectiveness may apply. Applications are due July 10. For more information, visit http://www.acf.hhs.gov/grants/open/HHS-2007-ACF-OCS-IC-0141.html.

Grants to Increase Participation in Nutrition Programs

Share Our Strength is offering grants from its Great American Bake Sale to support efforts to increase participation among low-income children in afterschool and summer meal programs, especially programs that utilize U.S. Department of Agriculture reimbursement. Grants are available for \$5,000 to \$15,000. Applications are due July 13. For more information, visit http://gabs.strength.org/site/PageServer?pagename=GABS_grants.

Awards for Youth Philanthropy

The Association of Fundraising Professionals is accepting nominations for the William R. Simms Award for Outstanding Youth in Philanthropy. The award honors a young person or group of young people who help their community by volunteering, creating charitable programs, or serving as leaders in philanthropy. Applications are due July 15. *For more information, visit www.afpnet.org/national_philanthropy_day_and_afp_awards/afps_awards_program.*

Grants for Exploration of Japanese Culture

The Japan Foundation's Center for Global Partnership is offering grants to programs in Midwestern and Southern states to increase awareness and understanding of Japan. Grants of up to \$5,000 are available. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis for projects conducted between now and December 31. *For more information, visit*

http://www.cgp.org/index.php?option=article&task=default&articleid=326.



Funding continued from page one... of children and families without the quality afterschool programs they urgently need."

"We applaud the House of Representatives for listening and increasing afterschool funding by \$125 million, and urge the Senate to do the same," Grant added. "As the appropriations bills work their way through Congress, we will do everything possible to increase funding for afterschool. America's children and families deserve it."

Senators Supporting Community Learning Centers

On June 6, Senators Chris Dodd (D-CT) and John Ensign (R-NV) introduced a bill to enhance afterschool program quality and sustainability, address the childhood obesity epidemic and encourage volunteerism. The bipartisan Improving 21st Century Community Learning Centers Act of 2007 is co-sponsored by Senators Daniel Kahikina Akaka (D-HI), Susan Collins (R-ME), Robert Menendez (D-NJ), Thad Cochran (R-MS), Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI) and Robert P. Casey Jr. (D-PA).

"Afterschool programs ensure that students have a safe place to go when parents are at work but the school day has ended," Senator Ensign said. "These programs do more than that. They provide an environment that promotes education, physical exercise and other key activities that help children excel in all areas of life."

Afterschool advocates across the country are encouraging their Senators to support the new bill, telling them that the proposed legislation would help give children continued access to high quality programs that are well integrated into their communities.

"America's families rely on afterschool programs to give their children the opportunity to be engaged in high quality learning activities that will enhance their children's success in school and in life," Senator Dodd said.

The bill is designed to reauthorize 21st CCLC and eventually be folded into the larger

No Child Left Behind legislation. It was endorsed by numerous national organizations, including the Afterschool Alliance, American Association of School Administrators, American Heart Association, Big Brothers Big Sisters of America, National Recreation and Park Association, Save the Children, and the YMCA of the USA.

Afterschool advocates from across the nation spoke out on these important federal developments. Read about it in the Outreach section, page two.



Arts continued from page one...
exploring a different arts area each month,
working with local folk and traditional artists,
and creating a mentoring program in the arts
area of the students' interest. Other
approaches deemed very useful included
working with visual artists to create a mural,
showcasing student work publicly outside of
school, and creating a summer institute with
emphasis on one area of the arts.

The authors identified a scarcity of resources, time, community contacts and information as significant barriers to a strong role for the arts in afterschool programming. They conclude that local and state arts organizations need to initiate partnerships with afterschool programs to facilitate arts education.

They write, "Leadership by local and state arts agencies and cultural organizations is critical to meet this afterschool interest and demand; otherwise, the cultural community risks missing a generation of artists and audience members as afterschool programs continue to provide educational and recreational activities devoid of artistic content."

"Afterschool providers have so many irons in the fire," Terry Peterson said in an interview. "We can't expect them to be experts in the arts, nor familiar with the local arts community. They'd love to expose their students to the arts, but want and need help

navigating the arts world. That's exactly the expertise that state and local arts organizations bring to the equation. So afterschool providers need to seek out and forge partnerships with local and state art councils and organizations to provide hundreds, even thousands of children in their communities with hands-on learning experiences in and through the arts. At the recent national convention of Americans for the Arts, we urged the local arts organizations to also reach out to afterschool leaders — because afterschool and the arts is a win-win partnership for the positive development of our children and youth."

The study, Understanding the Market for Arts Education in Afterschool Settings, is available on the Americans for the Arts website at http://www.americansforthearts.org/pdf/services/arts_education/petersonartseducationspecialpublication.pdf



FUNDING CUTS IN NY THREATEN AFTERSCHOOL FOR THOUSANDS

The Afterschool Advocate thanks The After-School Corporation for this story.

The contracts for New York State's first cohort of 21st Century Community Learning Centers programs will terminate at the end of this school year despite advocacy efforts to find state funds to save programs from closing.

In late February, the New York State Education Department, which administers the 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) initiative, decided that it would not issue a much anticipated request for proposals to continue funding its first cohort of programs. New York State's Education Department cited a lack of federal funding as the reason behind its decision.

The decision to not release the RFP for the first cohort jeopardizes the continued operations of 207 afterschool programs throughout the state serving more than 34,000 young people. Approximately 3,400 jobs at these sites are also in jeopardy.

Advocates were only partially successful in finding state funds to fill this gap. The New York State budget for the next school year included \$7.5 million for 21st CCLC programs and an additional \$6.425 million in new money for large urban school districts for afterschool programs. The nearly \$14 million in funds for afterschool falls short of the \$30 million total need to save programs.

Programs have begun informing parents of closures as the State Department contemplates "no-cost" extensions which would let programs use unspent funds to remain open until the end of October.



SIX STATES TO EXPAND AFTERSCHOOL, SUMMER LEARNING

Colorado, Iowa, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Ohio and Rhode Island were recently awarded \$50,000 grants to expand and improve afterschool and summer learning programs for students. The grants are part of the Supporting Student Success initiative, sponsored by the Council of Chief State School Officers, National Conference of State Legislatures, National Governors Association for Best Practices (NGA Center) and the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation.

"Governors recognize that learning doesn't stop when the school bell rings," said Raymond C. Scheppach, NGA Center Executive Director. "That's why they are teaming up with afterschool experts and others to develop innovative policies on expanding learning opportunities."

The six winners of the competitive grants will use the funding to develop, adopt and

implement state policies that better integrate afterschool, summer and extended day and extended year programs into state education systems. Each state will focus on improving or expanding different aspects of its current out of school time opportunities, including: recovery of high school dropouts; expanding afterschool for middle and high school students; developing state of the art systems to coordinate funding and align standards and evaluations; and expanding science, technology, engineering and math education.

To learn more about the Supporting Student Success initiative, go to http://www.nga.org/portal/site/nga/menuitem. 9123e83a1f6786440ddcbeeb501010a0/?vgne xtoid=d4402213e62a0110VgnVCM1000001a 01010aRCRD.



SCHOOL'S OUT, TIME FOR SUMMER LEARNING

The U.S. Department of Education's *News Parents Can Use* television show features several award-winning summer learning programs, examines techniques to avoid the "summer slide" in academics, and gives parents and communities tips to encourage learning throughout the summer. It will be broadcast on PBS stations throughout the month of June. Featured in the program are Summer Scholars in Denver, Colorado; SuperKids Camp in Baltimore, Maryland; and SummerBridge in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

In addition to the PBS broadcast, the show will be available in its entirety online at www.connectlive.com/events/ednews. For more information, visit http://www.microsociety.org/conference/index.htm.



IN HER OWN WORDS...

"Youth-serving organizations have a long history of engaging young people in projectbased learning and experiential education. At our best, we operate from a strengths-based perspective and know how to build on young people's interests and knowledge. Because youth participation in our programs has always been voluntary, we have learned how to respond to the challenge of appealing to what children and teens want and need. The long-term nature of our work has often enabled us to promote the very work habits – such as planning, goal-setting, teamwork and project completion - that are central to successes in school and in adulthood. Youth workers have a lot to offer this debate." -- Jane Quinn, Assistant Executive Director for Community Schools, Children's Aid Society in New York City, on the relationship between extended day and afterschool, Youth Today, May 2007



IN THE NEWS...

Maine – For many Biddeford area middle and high school students, the afterschool hours include a stop at the Community Bicycle Center where youth can conduct maintenance on their own bikes or work on bicycles the shop has received as donations. Center staff members teach the mechanics of bicycle maintenance, and its mentors encourage youth to participate in community service activities. "Community service is a big part of what we do," Andy Greif, program director, told the Portland Press Herald. "A program like this is a non-traditional way of reaching kids... If they aren't here, they're just roaming around in the afternoon." To learn more, visit www.communitybike.net.

Minnesota – In early June, Governor Tim Pawlenty signed the E-12 Budget Bill into

law, allocating \$5.375 million over two years for afterschool community learning opportunities grants. Laura LaCroix-Dalluhn, Executive Director of Youth Community Connections, credited advocates across the state for pressing for the legislation, offering special thanks to the McKnight Foundation, which offered the state a pivotal challenge grant for afterschool.

New Jersey – Middle-schoolers at School 9's afterschool epidemiology club in Montclair spent a recent afternoon with professors and students at Montclair State University (MSU) studying nutrition and human physiology. The students rode stationary bikes, calculated body fat percentages and prepared a healthy meal. "What's nice about this is, it's real," MSU Associate Professor Mark Kaelin told the *Herald News*. "It's real to them and it's how scientists do their work." Students in the program are learning scientific reasoning and critical thinking.

Oklahoma – A Broken Arrow teen is using dance to help younger students. Ricci Poorman, first runner-up in the Miss Oklahoma's Outstanding Teen pageant, is teaching students in Leisure Park Elementary's B & A Connections afterschool program to perform ballet, jazz, tap and hiphop, as well as the history behind each dance form. Program Director Kelle Nicholas said Poorman has inspired many children to take up dance. She told the *Tulsa World*, "It's just been a powerhouse for the kids. A lot of them have never been exposed to dancing."

Pennsylvania - One afterschool program in downtown Philadelphia is serving as a model in demonstrating the success of public-private partnerships for afterschool. Nearly two dozen of Philadelphia's top law firms and health care companies collaborate with the Bridges Program, giving at-risk youth opportunities to learn in actual workplaces and gain hands-on experience. The 19 teenagers graduating from the program in

early June have already obtained jobs at hospitals and law firms and some are financing college with money earned at those jobs, reports the *Philadelphia Inquirer*. For more information, visit www.bridgesprogram.org.

Virginia – Students at Verona Elementary School's afterschool program have joined with Augusta Parks and Recreation to help the department's Ride with Pride program, which offers a therapeutic horsemanship program for physically challenged children. Under the guidance of Parks and Recreation directors, students in the afterschool program learned to make blankets for the therapy horses. For their good work, the students were invited to the stables during the summer for free pony rides, according to the *Daily News Leader*.



STUDY: COMMUNITY-WIDE COLLABORATION ON AFTERSCHOOL CREATES RICHER OPPORTUNITIES

A new research brief from Policy Studies Associates concludes that afterschool services in individual communities would benefit from stronger coordination among programs. Researchers Deborah Lowe Vandell of the University of California-Irvine; Kim M. Pierce, B. Bradford Brown and Daniel Bolt of the University of Wisconsin-Madison; and Elizabeth R. Reisner and Ellen M. Pechman of Policy Studies Associates, write, "[A]fterschool providers tend to make plans focusing solely on their own organizations and immediate partners and on the expected progress of their own enrolled participants. It has been all too rare for providers to collaborate in community-wide efforts to create after-school safety nets for all youth in a community. Yet this study suggests that failing to encourage such collaboration is a missed opportunity for protecting and

supporting youth during the after-school hours."

The brief, "Charting the Benefits of High-Quality After-School Program Experiences," draws on the authors' multi-year examination of afterschool, reflected in their August 2006 "Study of Promising After-School Programs: Examination of Longer-Term Outcomes after Two Years of Program Experiences," published by the Wisconsin Center for Education Research (WCER), at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. The brief is available online at http://www.policystudies.com/studies/youth/P romising%20Programs%20policy%20paper.p df. For more information on the WCER study, visit http://www.wcer.wisc.edu/childcare/.

Strengthening Afterschool for Older Youth

In time for the reauthorization debate over the No Child Left Behind Act, a new policy brief from the American Youth Policy Forum pulls together a number of policy proposals aimed at strengthening afterschool programs across the nation. Included are ideas aimed at developing the capacity of the afterschool system; defining, building, measuring and improving program quality; ensuring access for disadvantaged youth, especially older youth; determining desired outcomes and collecting data for program evaluation; and connecting afterschool to the broader education reform discussion. Many program ideas are in line with the Afterschool Alliance's suggestions for legislators – increasing the 21st Century Community Learning Centers initiative's current threepercent state set-aside limit for capacity building and evaluation, and encouraging programming for older youth, for example.

"Strengthening Afterschool for Older Youth through Policy and Practice: A Policy Brief" is available online at http://www.aypf.org/programs/briefs/Aftersch oolPolicyBrief2007.pdf.

a a a a a

CALIFORNIA UPDATE

The William T Grant Foundation recently released a report detailing the development of Proposition 49, the nation's largest state funded afterschool expansion. Written by Joseph Ames, the report looks at the period from summer 2005 to late summer 2006, when legislation was implemented to release the funds to thousands of new and existing afterschool programs statewide.

Ames credits the success of Proposition 49 to four key elements and advises advocates and policy makers in other parts of the country to be sure to set the proper groundwork for afterschool expansion before moving ahead. Ames found that California was successful in its efforts because:

- Advocates knew the current state of afterschool in the state and planned accordingly;
- Advocates secured "buy-in" from multiple sectors early-on, including partners from outside the education system;
- Advocates combined in-state expertise with outside observations and maintained clear communication between all stakeholders; and
- Advocates built consensus about quality standards and had realistic expectations regarding monitoring programs and improving quality.

To view the report, "California's Afterschool Expansion: The planning for implementation of Proposition 49 and considerations for planners in other states," visit

http://www.wtgrantfoundation.org/usr_doc/C alifornia_Afterschool_Expansion.pdf.

TAKE ACTION FOR YOUTH

Congress passed the Federal Youth Coordination Act last year, which established a council comprised of all leaders of federal departments and young people themselves. The council is tasked with creating an unprecedented national youth agenda out of the current jumble of 339 disjointed federal efforts involving youth. Last year, Congress failed to authorize any funding for the council to initiate its work. Youth advocates can urge their Members of Congress to draft the necessary legislation to fund the council by sending them a message through the Youth Policy Action Center. To do so, please go to www.capwiz.com/mobilize/issues/alert/?alerti d=9784226 & type=CO.



AFTERSCHOOL FOR ALL: PROJECT 2010

Have you visited the Afterschool for All: Project 2010 website lately? Don't forget to go to the website for a tally of new partners and to see who in your region has pledged support for afterschool for all youth. Visit it at www.afterschool2010.org.

New partners who have pledged their support for the goal of 'afterschool for all' include Channel One in Central Falls, Rhode Island; the Florida Department of Health; the Georgia Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics; and the Georgia Division of Public Health.

Contact Afterschool for All: Project 2010 with questions and comments via email to mcoichy@afterschoolalliance.org or via phone at 212/548-0309.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS...

July 8 - 11, 2007

Microsociety will hold its 15th annual national conference, Real World Learning: Education for the 21st Century, in Tucson, Arizona. The conference will feature Real World After School: A Special Series, addressing how effective afterschool activities enhance school day academics while exploring real-life situations that make education relevant. *For more information*,

http://www.microsociety.org/conference/index .htm.

July 9 - 13, 2007

The National Institute on Out-of-School Time will sponsor its annual Summer Seminars at the John Hancock Conference Center in Boston, Massachusetts. Seminars include Links to Learning for Middle School; Organizational Development Tools for Strategic Thinking and Planning; Intensive Seminar for System Builders; and Learning How to Use SAYO: The Survey of Afterschool Youth Outcomes. For more information, go to http://www.niost.org/training/sumsem07.html.

July 17 – 19, 2007

The U.S. Department of Education and the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, in conjunction with the National Partnership for Quality Afterschool Learning at SEDL (Southwest Educational Development Laboratory), will sponsor the 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) 2007 Summer Institute in Miami, Florida. 21st CCLC grantees and other practitioners will explore innovative ideas for serving youth, including academic enhancement, English-language learning, afterschool and students with disabilities, STEM, arts enrichment afterschool, sustainability, and numerous other topics. For more information, visit http://www.sei2003.com/21stcentury/.

October 18, 2007

The 2007 *Lights On Afterschool* will take place with rallies at afterschool programs across the country. Sponsored by the Afterschool Alliance, *Lights On Afterschool* is the only nationwide event celebrating afterschool programs. *For more information*, *visit*

http://www.afterschoolalliance.org/lights_on/index.cfm.

October 20, 2007

The Arizona Center for Afterschool Excellence will host the 2007 Afterschool Conference in Mesa. The conference will feature more than 30 workshops, including site management, physical activities, behavior management and discipline, public policy and advocacy and program evaluation. For more information, call 602/279-7100 or visit www.azafterschool.org.

October 22 - 23, 2007

School's Out Washington will sponsor The Bridge from School to Afterschool and Back Conference in Vancouver, bringing together innovative leaders dedicated to improving the effectiveness of afterschool programs. Keynote speakers will include Colleen E. Almojuela, former Executive Director of the Respecting Ethnic and Cultural Heritage Center, and Dr. Deborah Lowe Vandell of the University of California, Irvine. For information and to register, visit http://schoolsoutwashington.org/index.cfm?fu seaction=page§ionid=60.

November 2 - 3, 2007

The New Jersey School-Age Care Coalition will host its annual conference for afterschool, The Creative Spirit of Afterschool, in Princeton, New Jersey. For more information and to register, visit http://www.njsacc.org/news.html#conferences.

November 7 - 10, 2007

The National Guild of Community Schools in the Arts will host the 2007 Conference for Arts Education in Los Angeles, California. Workshops include Integrating Arts and Academics, Planning Effective and Sustainable Partnerships, Effective Grant Writing, Community Arts Education in Small Towns and Rural Communities, and more. Early registration ends July 31. For more information and to register, visit http://www.communityartsed.org/.

** And mark your calendars now for the 2008 "Afterschool for All Challenge," May 13th and 14th in Washington, D.C.!

More information on upcoming conferences and events is available at www.afterschoolalliance.org/states/calendar_main.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.discountschoolsupply.com. Or mention it when you call 1-800-627-2829 to place an order.

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.