



**MEDIA ADVISORY**  
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## **Senate Afterschool Caucus to Host Briefing on Afterschool, Summer Learning Programs' Response to Opioid, Substance Abuse on Tuesday, May 22**

*Event to Feature Experts from Alaska, West Virginia, Tennessee, Maryland*

Four experts in afterschool and summer learning programs from around the nation will speak at a congressional briefing on Tuesday, May 22, focusing on the role afterschool and summer learning programs play in combating the opioid crisis and preventing substance. These experts will discuss their work to increase resilience among young people, support positive youth development, prevent future substance abuse among youth and children, and help young people develop the skills to respond to substance abuse in their families and communities.

Mavis Nimoh of the Afterschool Leadership Circle and the United Way of Rhode Island will moderate the 75-minute briefing, scheduled for:

1:30 PM Tuesday, May 22

902 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

with

*Thomas Azzarella, Director, Alaska Afterschool Network*

*Nila Cobb, 4-H, West Virginia University Extension Specialist – Healthy Living*

*Stacey Busby, Director, Boys and Girls Clubs of Tennessee Valley*

*Tiffany Nelson, Recreation Specialist, Montgomery County Recreation, Maryland*

President Trump's FY19 budget proposal would eliminate funding for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers, the chief federal funding stream for afterschool and summer learning programs. The House and Senate rejected a similar White House proposal for the FY18 budget.

Tuesday's briefing is hosted by the Senate Afterschool Caucus, co-chaired by Senators Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) and Tina Smith (D-MN). The briefing is provided in partnership with: The Office of Sen. Lisa Murkowski, Office of Sen. Tina Smith, the Afterschool Alliance, After-School All-Stars, Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives, Big Brothers Big Sisters of America, Boys and Girls Clubs of America, Coaching Corps., Communities In Schools, Forum for Youth Investment, Girls Inc., National 4-H Council, National League of Cities, National Recreation and Park Association, and the YMCA of the USA. The briefing is open to media.

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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. More information is available at [www.afterschoolalliance.org](http://www.afterschoolalliance.org).*