

## **PSAYDN: Afterschool & Youth Development Issues and Trends Survey Results - August 2006**

In August, PSAYDN distributed a survey to its members about afterschool and youth development issues and trends. We received a 50% response rate, with 220 survey respondents. The following is a summary of PSAYDN member opinions on the current state of afterschool and youth development services and supports in Pennsylvania:

**(1) Please rate each of the major issues and trends that impact afterschool and youth development programs:**

**ACCESSIBILITY--cultural, social, and geographic access (including transportation) to afterschool and youth development programs.**

97% of respondents indicated that this was very important (86%) or important (11%).

**AVAILABILITY--the balance of supply and demand of afterschool and youth development programs for all age groups and across communities.**

98% of respondents indicated that this was very important (74%) or important (24%).

**COST TO FAMILIES**

97% of respondents indicated that this was very important (75%) or important (22%).

**QUALITY--technical assistance, staff professional development, and accountability of afterschool and youth development programs.**

98% of respondents indicated that this was very important (78%) or important (20%).

**SUSTAINABILITY--funding and program administration of afterschool and youth development programs.**

98% of respondents indicated that this was very important (83%) or important (15%).

**(2) The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania should:**

**\*A. Regulate basic health and safety requirements for afterschool and youth development programs (e.g. youth vaccination requirement)?**

66% of respondents indicated that this was very important or important; 27% reported it was somewhat important.

**\*B. Conduct a statewide survey of afterschool programs to evaluate the supply and demand of programs across the state.**

74% of respondents indicated that this was very important or important; 21% reported it was somewhat important.

**\*C. Initiate a pilot project to fund and help coordinate community-based planning for afterschool and youth development programs to ensure that children and youth are provided a wide array of afterschool opportunities.**

86% of respondents indicated that this was very important or important; 9% reported it was somewhat important.

**(3) Please rank the priority of the issues below related to the quality of afterschool and youth development programs. The following list is in order of priority as identified by survey respondents:**

- Sustainability and finance assistance
- The development of a set of guiding principles that can be adapted by program type and purpose
- A set of core competencies for staff
- An evaluation and accountability system
- Professional development resources
- Comprehensive technical assistance resources
- A career lattice/ ladder for staff

**(4) Please rank the importance of the use of public and private sector funding for afterschool and youth development programs. The following list is in order of priority as identified by survey respondents:**

- Start-up funding
- Funding for program development
- Funding for staff compensation/ development
- Funding for capital expenses
- Funding for education, recognition and retention awards for staff