



The following information is also available on www.psaydn.org.

Take Ten!

Welcome to *Take Ten!* - A monthly bulletin designed to keep you informed. We invite you to take 10 minutes a month to update yourself with what's going on in the network and the afterschool/youth development field.

September 2007

Contents

[The Spotlight!](#) [News](#) [Promising Practices- Proven Strategies](#)
[Recommended Reading](#) [Upcoming Events](#)

THE SPOTLIGHT!

Lights on Afterschool! (LOA) – On October 18th, join PSAYDN and afterschool supporters across the country to celebrate the Afterschool Alliance's 8th Annual *Lights on Afterschool!* This year the Afterschool Alliance expects more than 7,500 communities and one million Americans to celebrate the power of afterschool. Supporters and providers are encouraged to engage community leaders, policymakers, parents, children and youth and the media to get the word out— *Afterschool programs: keep kids safe; inspire learning; and help working families!* To register your event or find out more about *Lights on Afterschool!*, visit www.afterschoolalliance.org.

PSAYDN UPDATE

Stay informed – Here's what's going on.

- **Turning the Lights on Afterschool** – On September 11th, PSAYDN and the Afterschool Alliance held an online learning session to assist afterschool supporters in Pennsylvania prepare for the 8th Annual *Lights on Afterschool!* event this October 18th. The online session provided participants with tips and tools for successful event planning while PSAYDN supplied participants with a *Lights on Afterschool!* starter-kit which included posters, pens, notepads and blinking bulbs. For more information about PSAYDN or to view the archived session, visit www.psaydn.org. PSAYDN's next step includes supporting the Pennsylvania Department of Education's *Lights on Afterschool!* rally on October 17th at the Capital. For more information about the rally, please visit the 21st Century Community Learning Centers' website in early October at www.21stcclc.org.

- **National Network of Statewide Afterschool Networks** – In late September, PSAYDN will attend, the National Network of Statewide Afterschool Network, *2007 Network Lead Meeting* in Washington, DC. This meeting is funded by the C.S. Mott Foundation and held annually to give network leaders the opportunity to promote their state efforts as well as seek advice from other network leaders. PSAYDN will join over 100 leaders from 32 states to discuss common issues and differences and develop a shared vision to better promote the power of afterschool and benefit all children and youth throughout the country. For more information about the National Network of Statewide Afterschool Networks, please visit www.statewideafterschoolnetworks.net.

PROMISING PRACTICES – PROVEN STRATEGIES

Learn about what is going on locally and nationally.

Pennsylvania

In late August, the Pennsylvania Key, an organization that promotes and provides professional development support for early childhood education, announced its first set of awardees of the Pennsylvania School-Age Professional Credential; this is the first of its kind in the state. This credential is one of the components of Pennsylvania's Early Learning Keys to Quality, a system supporting continuous quality improvement among early learning programs and professionals. The credential program allows educators to expand their knowledge in afterschool care environment as well as increase professionalism in afterschool education. Credentialed individuals will have undergone 120 hours of coursework, evaluations by families and professionals and an interview process that examines their portfolio and resource files; a rigorous process that will open doors for their professional future and ensures high-quality programming for Pennsylvanian children. To learn more about the credential program, please [click here](#).

Around the Country

Massachusetts - The Program in Education, Afterschool & Resiliency (PEAR) is a collaborative program between Harvard Medical School/ McLean Hospital and the Harvard Graduate School of Education established to address the growing need for high-quality afterschool programs. On September 18th of 2007, PEAR hosted an online forum entitled *Summertime: Confronting Risks, Exploring Solutions*. The forum discussed issues surrounding the learning loss in students and offers possible solutions through the joint efforts of teachers, afterschool providers, and mentors. For more information about the forum, visit www.pearweb.org.

RECOMMENDED READING

Check-out these recent articles, research, and reviews on afterschool and youth development issues.

- **Understanding the Market for Arts Education in Afterschool Settings** – This publication discusses the importance of educating children and youth in the arts and examines the impact of arts education on afterschool programs. To read the publication, [click here](#).
- **Leveling the Playing Field: The Promise of Extended Learning Opportunities and Supports for Youth** – This brief discusses the benefits of Extended Learning Opportunities (ELO) and their role in linking schools with community organizations to assist students in connecting school curriculums to the real world. To read the report, [click here](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mark your calendars; you don't want to miss these events.

- **10/1/07 First Monday Series: Introduction to Logic Models** – The Center for Schools and Communities is pleased to offer a live, one-hour online professional development session on Monday, October 1, 2007 from 9:00 a.m. until 10:00 a.m. The session will focus on the logic

model as a valuable tool for organizations to use as an aid in understanding the scope of their work. To register for the event, visit www.21stcccl.org.

- **10/12/07 Continuum of Learning: PA Supports the Power of Afterschool** – Join PSAYDN at the Northeastern Regional Afterschool Summit in the Lehigh Valley for a unique opportunity to come together and strategize how we can continue to increase awareness on the importance of afterschool programs. The Summit will be held at Northampton Community College in Bethlehem, PA. For more information, visit the PSAYDN website at www.psaydn.org.
- **10/18/07 Lights on Afterschool** – The Afterschool Alliance invites you to join a nationwide celebration to voice the importance of afterschool programs. For more information about *Lights on Afterschool!*, please visit www.afterschoolalliance.org.
- **10/22/07 – 10/23/07 The Bridge from School to Afterschool and Back: Inspiration Improvement Innovation** – Schools Out Washington's conference will focus on improving the effectiveness of afterschool programs and will be held at the Vancouver Hilton and Conference Center. Please visit <http://schoolsoutwashington.org> to register.
- **10/30/07 – 10/31/07 Youth Services Academy** – Join the Pennsylvania Partners at the Holiday Inn Harrisburg-Hershey in Grantville, PA to “tune in” to issues regarding today's youth. For more information, visit www.papartners.org.

—

The **PSAYDN** is a collaborative effort among state, regional and local partners. Its purpose is to promote sustainable, high quality out-of-school time youth development programs through advocacy and capacity building to enhance the welfare of Pennsylvania's children, youth and families.

To learn more about PSAYDN, please contact:

Pennsylvania Statewide Afterschool/Youth Development Network

Phone: 717.763.1661

E-mail: psaydn@csc.csiu.org