



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.

July 2007

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THE SPOTLIGHT!

The Power of We - Nearly 3,000 individuals from various organizations across the nation joined leading federal and state officials and executives at the *Power of We: National Conference on Volunteering and Service* last week in Philadelphia, PA for 3 days of networking, training, and education on the importance of volunteerism and service-learning. The conference was co-convened by Points of Light Foundation and the Corporation for National and Community Service, two national organizations that are well known for supporting service-learning and connecting volunteers to volunteering opportunities. Over 130 workshops were offered covering such topics as, how to engage youth, how to incorporate service-learning in afterschool programs, and more. Governor Rendell was present to address the \$75 million increase in Pre-K Counts funding and acknowledge, as well as encourage, volunteers in afterschool programs. Other key speakers included Alma Powell, Chair of America's Promise, the Honorable George H.W. Bush, Honorary Chair of Points of Light Foundation, and Johnetta B. Cole, President of Bennett College for Women. To read more about the event, please <http://www.nationalservice.org/about/newsroom/releases.asp>.

PSAYDN UPDATE

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

- **Afterschool Matters** – This June, PSAYDN submitted a grant application to the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation for continuation funding for the Pennsylvania Afterschool Network. The grant is currently being reviewed and decisions will be announced in early fall. Continued funding will allow PSAYDN to continue to improve the lives of children by promoting the advancement of afterschool programs. PSAYDN also plans to use the funding to launch an *Innovation Project* that will lead a research phase, identify challenges, and service delivery focused on middle and high school aged youth. For more information about PSAYDN, visit www.psaydn.org.
- **Continuous Advocacy** – PSAYDN presents *Sounding a Voice for Pennsylvania Afterschool and Youth Development Programs: Tools and Resources to Continue Your Advocacy Efforts*, an afterschool toolkit designed to inform afterschool providers, advocates, and supporters about the impact of afterschool programs as well as guide readers on how to advocate for their programs. From federal and state advocacy timelines to media outreach tips, this toolkit has the essentials needed for experienced and new supporters to begin advocating. The toolkit includes three afterschool fact sheets, sample advocacy letters, suggestions on where to begin and much more. To download a copy, <http://www.psaydn.org/Documents/toolkit.pdf> or visit www.psaydn.org.

PROMISING PRACTICES – PROVEN STRATEGIES

Learn about what is going on locally and nationally.

Pennsylvania

On July 17, 2007, Governor Rendell signed a budget bill to increase public investment in Pennsylvania Pre-K Counts to \$75 million. The Pennsylvania Pre-K Counts was established by the Department of Education. The program's mission is to make quality pre-kindergarten opportunities available to three and four year old children and their

families across the Commonwealth. With \$75 million in new funding, approximately 11,000 children, in addition to the 12,000 currently enrolled, will have access to quality state-funded programs. Funding will be made available to all Pennsylvania communities through an RFP process with priority given to school districts and other providers who serve children at-risk of education failure. For more information, visit www.prektoday.org.

Around the Country

Last week, the U.S. Department of Education and the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, in conjunction with the National Partnership for Quality Afterschool Learning at SEDL, hosted the 21st Century Community Learning Centers Summer Institute in Miami, FL. The Institute offered attendees, ranging from current and former grantees to funders and policymakers across the nation, the opportunity to explore and share innovative ideas for serving youth. For information about the event, please <http://www.sei2003.com/21stcentury>.

RECOMMENDED READING

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

- **Core Principles for Engaging Young People in Community Change** – This paper looks at eight youth engagement principles organized around three core strengths that are vital to creating youth-supported changes: capacity, motivation, and opportunity. To read this paper, please http://www.forumfyi.org/Files/FINALYouth_Engagement_7.9.pdf.
- **The Quality of School-Age Care in After-school Settings** – The paper examines essential features of high-quality afterschool setting such as program quality and developmental outcomes correlations, program quality assessments, and quality –related considerations for policymakers. To read, please <http://www.researchconnections.org/location/ccrca12576>.

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

- **8/1/07 – 8/02/07 Summer Learning Institute:** This interactive institute on service-learning in afterschool programs is sponsored by Youth Service California and the Pacific Region of National Service-Learning Exchange. The event will be held at Preservation Park in Oakland California. Visit www.yscal.org for more information about the event or if you like to register, please <http://www.yscal.org/slasi2007.pdf>.
- **8/9/07 PSAYDN Annual Partner Retreat:** Next month, PSAYDN will meet to strategically plan for the upcoming year. The Retreat will be held at the Radisson Penn Harris and Convention Center in Camp Hill, PA. This is an invitation only event, please contact PSAYDN for more information or visit www.psaydn.org.
- **9/10/07 – 11/26/07 Teaching and Learning in Out-of-School Time:** The Center for Afterschool Education at Foundations, Inc. in collaboration with Arcadia University is offering a course on afterschool education with Act 48 or school credit. The course will be held at Leeds Middle School in Philadelphia, PA. For more information or to register for the course, please http://www.caceafterschool.org/events/upcoming_training.php.

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:

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