



The following information is also available on [www.psaydn.org](http://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/August 2009

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### THE SPOTLIGHT!

*Uncertain Times 2009: Recession Imperiling Afterschool Programs and the Children They Serve*, a recent survey on the state of afterschool programs released by the Afterschool Alliance, finds that afterschool programs are serving a high need population; struggling to maintain their funding; and are worried about how the recession will affect future funding. Nearly all respondents to this web-based survey say that more children in their communities could benefit from afterschool programs, if programs were available. 69 percent report that funding is less than secure for the next 1 to 2 years and 83 percent report funding is not secure for next 3 to 5 years. [Read the summary of results.](#)

### PSAYDN UPDATE

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

#### **A Continuum of Learning: PA Supports the Power of Afterschool**

The Northeastern Pennsylvania Afterschool Regional Summit, *A Continuum of Learning: Pennsylvania Supports the Power of Afterschool*, was held at the Boys and Girls Club of Northeastern PA on May 28, 2009. This summit was one of many afterschool events sponsored by PSAYDN across the state to connect community leaders and raise awareness on the importance of afterschool and youth development programs for Pennsylvania's children, youth and families. To be updated on future PSAYDN, visit [www.psaydn.org](http://www.psaydn.org).

#### **PSADYN Director Opportunity**

Interviews are being conducted and resumes are being accepted for Pennsylvania Statewide Afterschool/Youth Development Network (PSAYDN) Director. For a complete job description and information on how to apply, go to [www.center-school.org](http://www.center-school.org) and click on employment. Cover letters and resumes should be sent to [cscresume@csc.csiu.org](mailto:cscresume@csc.csiu.org)

## PROMISING PRACTICES – PROVEN STRATEGIES

Learn about what is going on locally and nationally.

### Pennsylvania

#### **Recession Hurting Pennsylvania's Afterschool Programs and the Children and Families They Serve**

In a report released by the Afterschool Alliance, afterschool program leaders across the state say they are being forced to increase fees and reduce staffing, activities and hours to cope with budget cuts and rising costs. Nearly all Pennsylvania respondents highlighted reported that said that the recession is affecting their communities, and report that they are seeing higher food prices and more families struggling to provide for children. Afterschool programs are unable to offer as much help as children need because their budgets are down. The report also emphasized that many struggling communities that need afterschool programs are unable to access quality afterschool programs in their community. To read the summary of results for Pennsylvania, please [click here](#).

### Around the Country

#### **One Hundred Mayors Join National Challenge to Improve Child and Family Well-Being**

One hundred mayors from across the country have joined together as part of a new initiative called the Mayors' Action Challenge for Children and Families. Under the Challenge, mayors set specific, measurable, locally-defined goals and targets to help children and families in four key areas: Providing opportunities to learn and grow; ensuring a safe neighborhood to call home; promoting healthy lifestyles and a healthy environment; and supporting financially fit families in which children can thrive. The Challenge was created to promote city leadership and accountability, while encouraging mayors to build on innovative local strategies developed in recent years. At a time when the ability of cities to act is constrained by tight budgets, mayors have shown they are determined to help struggling families meet their needs and ensure that young people reach their full potential. To read more about this challenge or participating mayors, please [click here](#).

## RECOMMENDED READING

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

#### **Financial Strategies to Support Citywide Systems of Out-of-School Time Programs**

This strategy guide, made possible by support from The Wallace Foundation, describes several options that city officials may consider for supporting and sustaining local programs. These options include: creating dedicated, local funding streams; making better use of existing funding streams; maximizing state and federal funding sources; and strengthening collaborative efforts. [Download this Guide](#).

#### **Expanded Learning Time: the New Normal**

In parts of the country and New York City, expanded learning days are beginning to look like the new normal in local schools. With support from the president and the U.S. Secretary of Education, the "ELT" movement continues to gain momentum. In an essay published in New York Nonprofit Press, TASC President Lucy N. Friedman describes how a pilot initiative to expand learning time by 30 percent in 10 New York City schools is showing the way toward a seamless learning day that increases academic time, but also brings rigor and structure to enrichments such as arts and hands-on science. [Read More...](#)

### **Surrounded by Support: Partnerships between Communities and Schools Connect Students with the Services They Need**

American Educator's most recent issue, *Surrounded by Support: Partnerships between Communities and Schools Connect Students with the Services They Need*, spotlighting Community Schools! Community school leaders: Richard Rothstein, Ira Harkavy, Jane Quinn, Joy Dryfoos, Marty Blank, and more, assert that coordinated partnerships between communities and schools is key to offering services to youth, families, and communities. To read this issue, please [click here](#).

### **The Quality Imperative: A State Guide to Achieving the Promise of Extended Learning Opportunities**

A new report by the National Governors Association Center for Best Practices (NGA Center) and the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) highlights the positive impact high-quality Extended Learning Opportunities (ELOs) have on student success and offers state leaders a blueprint to ensure ELO effectiveness. [Read Report](#).

### **Letter to Secretary Duncan on Stimulus Package Issues**

The Center on Education Policy (CEP) sent a letter to U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan outlining the major issues raised in a forum on the Economic Stimulus Package regarding the early implementation of the economic stimulus package as it affects states and school districts. To read the letter, please click here. To read the transcript of the CEP's forum, please [click here](#).

### **A Vision for the Future of American Education: How the Recovery Act Can Help State Leaders Realize It**

This paper from the C.S. Mott Foundation provides an overview of New Day for Learning as well as specific information on how state leaders, advocates and policymakers can guide policy to create a New Day for Learning for the young people of their state. To read this paper, please [click here](#).

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

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

- The [Scholars in Service to Pennsylvania Summer Institute](#) will be held on July 14-15, 2009 at Indiana University in Indiana, PA. This institute will bring together community service and service-learning professionals from across the state. The institute is designed to focus on building skills and techniques for volunteer training, group facilitation, and student development. Scroll down for the agenda.
- The [Teaching and Learning in Out-of-School Time Summer Institute](#) will be held July 24–26, 2009 at Arcadia University in Glenside, PA. *Out of School Time* offers opportunities for learning that are distinctly different than the school day. Turning those opportunities into dynamic, effective programming requires a special set of skills, whether applied to extended day, afterschool, before school, or summer programming.
- The [2009 Governor's Institute for Educators: Improving Academic Success through Positive School Culture](#) will be held July 26 – July 31, 2009 at Bloomsburg University in Bloomsburg, PA. This institute will challenge school teams to examine the quality of the learning environment in their school to determine if the current culture supports and promotes academic achievement. The Institute is funded by the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

- The PSAYDN Annual Retreat will be held on August 6, 2009 at the Holiday Inn in Grantville, PA. For further details, please visit [www.psaydn.org](http://www.psaydn.org) or contact Kirsten Urso at 717-763-1661 Ext. 153 or by email at [kurso@csc.csiu.org](mailto:kurso@csc.csiu.org).
- The Parent Teacher Association is hosting its annual [2009 Commitment to America's Children Gala](#) which is being held September 30, 2009 in Chicago, IL. The gala is a celebration exceptional and distinguished service to the nation's communities by supporting education and children. During this distinctive evening, Honorees will be presented with PTA's Commitment to America's Children Award recognizing them for dedication and leadership on behalf of children, families, and schools.

## ADVOCACY CORNER

Sustain afterschool funding by getting involved – Here's a tip to help steer you in the right direction.

The *American Recovery and Reinvestment Act* (ARRA) includes many resources for afterschool. Afterschool Programs have great opportunities to benefit from the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act (ARRA). The bill not only provides additional dollars to initiatives that already support afterschool but also offers new supports for children and families that have potential to support afterschool efforts. There may also be opportunities to impact education policy for the long-term. [Visit the U.S. Department of Education's website to learn more about how it will impact your program.](#) For more information on afterschool programs and the ARRA, please [click here](#).

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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