

January 2011

Welcome to **TakeTen!**, the e-monthly designed to bring you important news on afterschool and youth development, and inspiring program ideas. Inside this issue:

- Recognizing Afterschool Champions: Nominations are Due February 4
- The Statewide Youth Worker Survey Continues: Complete the Survey to Enter Drawing for an Apple iPad!
- Preparing for College, Career and the Workforce: Best Practices, Resources and Funding Strategies
- Teens 4 Good Harvest Real Business Experience in Philadelphia Gardens
- GEAR UP: A Snapshot of the Federal Program and What's Happening in Pennsylvania
- Showcasing Summer Learning through the National Summer Learning Association's Excellence in Summer Learning Awards
- Legislative Update: Governor Corbett takes office and Federal FY2011 Budget Update



Pennsylvania Statewide Afterschool/Youth Development Network (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, call (717) 763-1661 or email psaydn@csc.csiu.org.

The Spotlight

Afterschool Champion Nominations are Due!

PSAYDN is seeking nominations for Afterschool Champions to be honored on March 8, 2011 at the PSAYDN Annual Meeting and Reception in Harrisburg. Is there a special person in your community – a public official, a local business person, a media representative or a parent who has supported your afterschool, summer or weekend program? Is there a legislator who has attended your events or a program volunteer that has built a great connection with the community? Please tell us about them today!

Winners will be recognized among out-of-school time leaders and stakeholders from across the state at the PSAYDN Annual Meeting and Reception, and will be featured in TakeTen! and on the PSAYDN website.

Please submit completed nomination forms to Jill Uhler by email juhler@csc.csiu.org or fax (717) 763-2083. For questions or additional information, call (717) 763-1661 ext.190 or email juhler@csc.csiu.org.

Nominations are due Friday, February 4, 2011.

[Click here](#) to complete the form.



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News & Grants

News

Child/Youth Worker Survey – Your Response Matters

Complete the Survey today and Enter the Drawing for an Apple iPad!

PSAYDN and the Philadelphia Out-of-School Time Professional Development Project (OST PD Project) continue to be invested in the professional growth of child/youth workers in the state of Pennsylvania and ask that **all** staff working directly with K-12 children and youth, during non-school hours in the state of Pennsylvania, complete the Child/Youth Worker Survey.

If you are a direct service worker, please [click here](#) to complete our survey.

Survey data will assist us in making the case for increased funding and in developing career pathways, so that ultimately, *you can earn a living wage, receive stable benefits, and be recognized as professionals for the valuable work that you do.*

Survey respondents will be entered in a raffle drawing to receive an Apple iPad, courtesy of the OST PD Project! Your name will not be connected to your survey answers and will not be shared with or distributed to other organizations.

Help Us Increase Survey Response at Your Next Meeting

To increase the response rate for the survey, PSAYDN can provide hard copies of this survey for your next meeting or OST conference for youth workers to complete. PSAYDN will collect the paper surveys and enter the data. To order hard copies, please contact Kacy Conley at (717) 763-1661 ext 210 or kconley@csc.csiu.org. For data analysis purposes, please include an estimate of the number of youth workers in your network.

The survey deadline is Tuesday, February 15, 2011.

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News & Grants

2011 Excellence in Summer Learning Awards – Apply Today

It may be winter, but now is the time to think about summer excellence. The 2011 National Summer Learning Association's Excellence in Summer Learning Award application is available online now **and due Friday, February 11**. At the national conference, award winners will receive national media exposure and be able to showcase models of excellence in school-community partnership programs, transition programs and STEM programs among applicants.

All programs that apply will receive detailed written feedback on their program, highlighting both strengths and opportunities for improvement based on the National Summer Learning Association's quality standards. All programs that apply will also be recognized publicly by the Association and will be catalogued into a database of innovative program features to be used in national trainings and presentations.

[Click here](#) for the application.

For questions or additional information, contact Larry Smith, Program Quality Manager, at (410) 856-1370 or lsmith@summerlearning.org.

Grants

The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation provides workforce development grants in northeast Pennsylvania. The Foundation aims to build economic self-sufficiency through child/family development and youth education, so that those assisted are able to participate in society as self-supporting adults in the Greater Scranton area. The Foundation funds Early Childhood Education, K-12 Education, and Out-of-School Time (OST) with a focus on at-risk youth. Programs should provide youth with consistent direction, motivation, and support from caring, competent adults and provide quality OST opportunities that promote academic gain, career/entrepreneurship exploration, and/or personal development through academic, arts or sports programs. The Foundation also supports mentoring from formal volunteer mentors and appropriate youth professionals to foster proper emotional and personal development of youth by capable role models. Letters of inquiry and applications are accepted in an ongoing basis. For more information about the foundation, [click here](#).



Best Practices & Strategies

Pennsylvania

Teens 4 Good Harvests Entrepreneur Experience in Philadelphia

Teens 4 Good, a program of the Federation of Neighborhood Centers, is a youth entrepreneurship produce and nutrition business that transforms vacant lots into urban gardens/farms, improving access to healthy food for communities, creating meaningful jobs for at-risk youth and empowering youth to become healthy responsible young adults and leaders who give back to their communities.

Started in 2005, Teens 4 Good fosters creativity through converting negative, blighted empty lots into positive urban green spaces and farms. Local teens care for the farms and manage the business of farming. Teens receive hands-on experience in agriculture, entrepreneurship, budgeting, leadership and community relations.

“Teens 4 Good provides youth with the opportunity to build 21st Century skills through engaging in social entrepreneurial activities that help build the sustainability of their communities through developing a model local food system that eliminates income and place barriers to accessing fresh, affordable local produce,” says Diane Cornman-Levy, executive director of Federation of Neighborhood Centers.

The produce gardens throughout the city grow a variety of fruits, vegetables and herbs that are sold at area farmers markets and to restaurants. To read more, visit [Teens 4 Good](#).

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Best Practices & Strategies

Nationwide

GEAR UP – Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs

GEAR UP is a federal grant program designed to increase the number of low-income students who are prepared to enter and succeed in postsecondary education. GEAR UP provides six-year grants to states and partnerships to provide services at high-poverty middle and high schools. The services include tutoring, mentoring, teacher training, curriculum enhancement, summer programs, college visits, counseling, and parental involvement activities. GEAR UP funding can also be used to provide college scholarships to low-income students.

In Pennsylvania, GEAR UP supports nearly 14,000 students in the Harrisburg, Allentown and Philadelphia School Districts through partnerships with the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA) and the two school districts. PHEAA administers the GEAR UP scholarship on behalf of the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education (PASSHE).

[Click here](#) for more information about GEAR UP.



Recommended Reading & Listening

Finding Resources to Support Workforce Development Services for Youth

First published in 2006 by the Finance Project, *Finding Resources to Support Workforce Development Services for Youth* still provides valuable data, resources and strategies to develop partnerships and programs that keep youth connected to school and their community, and successfully transition them to young adulthood and the workforce. [Click here](#) to download the report.



Podcasts from the National Conference on Science and Technology in Out-of-School Time Now Available

Sponsored by Time Warner Cable as part of its Connect a Million Minds Initiative and organized by the Coalition for Science After School and Project Exploration, the September 2010 conference held in California brought together nearly 300 national and local stakeholders involved with science education during out-of-school time. Attendees included youth and OST program service providers; leaders of non-profit, science institutions and community-based organizations; representatives from K-12, community colleges and higher education; and researchers and policy-makers tracking regional and national trends in innovation, science and workforce development. Sessions covered everything from evaluation to engagement and featured academic, professional and programmatic perspectives. To download free podcasts from the sessions, [click here](#).



Upcoming Events

**Promising Practices-Proven Strategies
2011 Extra Learning Opportunities
(ELO) Conference
Continuing the Legacy, Shaping the Future
March 8-10, 2011; Harrisburg, PA**

The conference will focus on advancing the systems that support and promote collaboration and youth success and on key elements of high-quality extra learning opportunities: Academic Achievement; Child Well-being and Resiliency; Community and Family Involvement; Financing; Global Learning; Management and Administration; Policy and Advocacy; Quality Programming; Research, Evaluation and Knowledge Base; Staffing and Training. These key elements will provide the backdrop for participants to learn about the development, implementation and sustainability of a vision of learning that is shared and supported by schools, youth, parents and the community at-large. [Click here](#) for more information and online registration.

When registering for the ELO Conference, be sure to select the PSAYDN events, which are being held in conjunction with the conference.

PSAYDN Events

**6th Annual Meeting and Reception
March 8, 2011; Harrisburg, PA**

Held in conjunction with the ELO Conference, the annual meeting and reception will highlight the work of PSAYDN, recognize Out-of-School Time (OST) champions, and feature student performances. PSAYDN members, OST stakeholders, community leaders, public officials, youth and parents attend the event to learn about PSAYDN's goals and celebrate high-quality OST initiatives and programs in the state. [Click here](#) for information and online registration.

**Quality Forum
March 9, 2011; Harrisburg, PA**

Held in conjunction with the 2011 ELO Conference, the Quality Forum will feature rotating poster sessions on the four core areas of the PSAYDN Statement of Quality: Structure & Management, Positive Connections, Safety & Health, and Activities. The Forum attracts out-of-school time (OST) program leaders and stakeholders for networking, refreshments and discussion on the latest research, activities and resources in the realm of quality. [Click here](#) for information and online registration.

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Upcoming Events

Other State & National Events

2011 National AfterSchool Convention **April 16-19, 2011; Orlando, FL**

The National AfterSchool Association's 23rd annual national convention will bring afterschool professionals together for the most comprehensive professional development opportunities available for afterschool professionals anywhere in the United States. There will be over 200 member-led workshops and special training opportunities, the latest in resources, important vendors and exhibits, interaction with young scientists at the NAA Science Fair, and opportunities to network and interact with your colleagues from across the country and around the globe. For more information and to register, [click here](#).



LEGACY Summit at BOOST **April 27-30, 2011; Palm Springs, CA**

The LEGACY Summit at BOOST unites professionals supporting older youth in the out-of-school time hours. Being a champion for teens creates a legacy that endorses their academic needs, helps them to explore career interests, shares tools to create a peaceful culture of inclusion and acceptance, encourages them to make healthy lifestyle choices in relationships, nutrition and physical activity and supports meaningful participation in the world. For more information, [click here](#).

Pennsylvania Homeless Children's Initiative **Statewide Conference** **April 28-29, 2011; Valley Forge, PA**

The Pennsylvania Homeless Children's Initiative Statewide Conference *Meeting the Challenge: Educating Homeless Children in Pennsylvania* will be held April 28-29, 2011 at the Radisson Hotel Valley Forge in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania. For more information, [click here](#).

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Upcoming Events

10th Annual Afterschool for All Challenge May 16-17, 2011; Washington, D.C.

The Challenge attracts thousands of afterschool leaders, advocates, educators and local and state officials to Washington, D.C. to discuss the hottest issues in afterschool, meet with Members of Congress and celebrate afterschool. For more information, [click here](#).

Communities in Schools 2011 Learning Lab March 30-April 1, 2011; Seattle, WA

The Seattle Learning Lab experience, *Community School Collaboration: Bridging Practice and Policy*, is designed for both practitioners and policy makers. The Lab will explore the reciprocal relationship between practice and policy in the community schools movement. Participants will learn how to plan, organize and implement their community schools strategy. They will explore the development of policies at the state, city, district and school levels to support and sustain community schools work. Local practitioners will develop skills to inform and influence policies that support site-based and systems-level practice. [Click here](#) for more information.

The After-School Institute (TASI) Eastern Regional Conference on After-School May 12-13, 2011; Baltimore, MD

The TASI conference will showcase regional programs and focus on Embedding Core Academic Content in Enrichment Activities Policy & Practices to Create Capacity; Partnerships & Sustainability; Integrating Youth Development Principles; and Merging Research & Practice to Improve Quality. For more information, go to www.afterschoolinstitute.org. To download the Save the Date flyer, [click here](#).



Advocacy Corner

Governor Corbett Takes Office

On January 18th, Tom Corbett was inaugurated as Pennsylvania's 46th Governor. Prior to inauguration day, Governor Corbett appointed members of his cabinet, including Gary Alexander as Secretary of Public Welfare and Ronald Tomalis as Secretary of Education. Alexander previously served as Rhode Island's Secretary of Health and Human Services, while Tomalis worked for the U.S. Department of Education under President George W. Bush and as Executive Deputy Secretary of Education under former Governor Tom Ridge.



Update on the Federal FY 2011 Budget

An omnibus federal spending bill reported on in last month's Advocacy Corner was not considered in the Senate in late-December. The bipartisan plan fell apart after a number of Republicans balked at supporting the omnibus spending bill because it included billions of dollars of earmarks. It was replaced at the last minute with a measure freezing spending at 2010 levels across departments until March 4.

Work on the FY 2011 budget is one of Congress' top priorities. Congressional Republicans are expected to demand large spending cuts in domestic non-security programs – perhaps even a roll-back to 2008 funding levels. Now is the time to show your Congressmen your programs, how they benefit children and youth, and ask that they protect investments in afterschool.

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Advocacy Corner

Pennsylvania State Legislature New Committee Chairs Appointed

House and Senate leadership released the names of committee chairs for the 2011-12 legislative session. Relevant to afterschool issues, chairs include:

	Majority Chair	Democratic Chair
House		
Children and Youth	Rep. Dennis O'Brien (Philadelphia)	Rep. Louise Williams Bishop (Philadelphia)
Education	Rep. Paul Clymer (Bucks)	Rep. James Roebuck (Philadelphia)
Human Services	Rep. Gene DiGirolamo (Bucks)	Rep. Mark Cohen (Philadelphia)
Senate		
Aging and Youth	Sen. Kim Ward (Westmoreland)	Sen. Leanna Washington (Philadelphia)
Education	Sen. Jeff Piccola (Dauphin)	Sen. Andrew Dinniman (Chester)
Public Health and Welfare	Sen. Pat Vance (Cumberland)	Sen. Shirley Kitchen (Philadelphia)