

## EXTENDED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

### Resource List

Compiled by the Division of State Services & Technical Assistance  
Council of Chief State School Officers

\* Note: This list represents a sample of some the resources available to educators, program providers and other youth serving organizations which can be helpful in initiating, enhancing or expanding afterschool programs. It is not exhaustive nor does the list imply endorsement by the Council of Chief State School Officers.

### ➔ **Organizations and Assistance Centers**

**Academy for Educational Development Center for Youth Development & Policy Research.** [www.afterschool.org](http://www.afterschool.org)

Organization which focuses on public education, research, policy formation and technical assistance aimed creating infrastructure in support of positive youth development. The Center's recent activities include a Youth Mapping Project and the development of a Promising Practices Bank of Afterschool Programs

**Afterschool Alliance.** [www.afterschoolalliance.org](http://www.afterschoolalliance.org)

Is an alliance of public, private and non-profit groups committed to raising awareness and expanding resources for after-school programs.

**Afterschool.gov.** [www.afterschool.gov](http://www.afterschool.gov)

A clearinghouse of federal resources that support out-of-school time providers, programs and advocates.

**Harvard Family Research Project** [www.hfrp.org](http://www.hfrp.org)

As part of its Out-of-School Time Learning and Development project, works in partnership with other organizations to build the field focusing on out-of-school time for students ages 5-13. The project focuses on using research and evaluation to improve the quality, accessibility and sustainability of out-school-time programs.

**American Youth Policy Forum.** [www.aypf.org](http://www.aypf.org)

A non-profit professional development association which hosts policy forums and field trips for policymakers focused on education and youth development issues at the local, state and national levels. AYPF also publishes a variety of reports on issues in youth development.

**Americorps.** [www.cns.gov](http://www.cns.gov)

Americorps members are volunteers who serve in organizations like Habitat for Humanity, Boys and Girls Clubs and other local and national organizations. They serve as mentors and tutors in many after-school programs that target at-risk youth.

**Aspira Association, Inc.** [www.aspira.org](http://www.aspira.org)

A non-profit organization established in order to promote the positive development of Puerto Rican/Latino and other minority youth through community-based programming. Aspira organizations are located in New York, New Jersey, Illinois, Pennsylvania, Florida and Puerto Rico.

**Big Brothers/Big Sisters of America.** [www.bbbsa.org](http://www.bbbsa.org)

Is the nation's oldest and largest youth-mentoring organization which has over 500 programs in all fifty states. The organization pairs adult volunteers with children who are primarily from single-parent homes.

**Boys and Girls Clubs of America.** [www.bgca.org](http://www.bgca.org)

Organization offers numerous programs and services in order to promote and enhance the development of boys and girls. Project Learn is an after-school program established by the Boys and Girls Club in collaboration with JC Penney and the After-School CAN DO Initiative, which focuses on reinforcing the skills and knowledge learned during the school day through Ahigh-yield@ learning activities.

**California Tomorrow.** [www.californiatomorrow.org](http://www.californiatomorrow.org)

Organization which researches issues of access and equity in afterschool programming. Their goal is to provide promising practices regarding effective policies and strategies in the after-school field related to improving access to after-school programs for low-income youth and minorities.

**The Finance Project.** [www.financeproject.org](http://www.financeproject.org)

The Finance Project is a non-profit organization established in order to improve outcomes for children, families and communities by developing and disseminating information, knowledge, tools and technical assistance for improved policies, programs and financing strategies. The Project's publications include working papers, resources guides, issue notes, reports and strategy briefs.

**Foundation for Excellent Schools.** [www.fesnet.org](http://www.fesnet.org)

The Foundation for Excellent School's goal is to improve student performance in low-income schools by helping schools to build the capacity to improve, collaborate with the community and network with other FES schools. FES schools create community learning centers as part of their school improvement plans which offer a variety of after-school, evening and weekend activities to their students.

**National Association of Elementary School Principals.** [www.nasep.org](http://www.nasep.org)

Association provides a variety of resources for principals on afterschool including research materials, articles, resource guides including the creation of standards for Quality School-Age Childcare in cooperation with the US Department of Education, NSACA and NIOST.

**National Governors Association (NGA).** [www.nga.org](http://www.nga.org)

The Center For Best Practices examines innovative state practices that expand and enhance Extra Learning Opportunities, (ELO), to assist states in mapping out current resources. The NGA has a database on their website in which they list all of the Extended Learning Opportunities currently available in the 50 states.

**National Institute on Out-of-School Time (NIOST).** [www.niost.org](http://www.niost.org)

Located at the Center for Research on Women at Wellesley College, the institute's initiatives are concentrated in primarily three areas: (1) Research, Evaluation and Consultation, (2) Policy Development and Raising Public Awareness and (3) Training and Curriculum Development in order to promote the importance of children's out-of-school time.

**National League of Cities (NLC).** [www.nlc.org](http://www.nlc.org)

The Institute for Youth, Education and Families, (YEF), was launched in January 2000 within the NLC to focus on strengthening the capacity of municipal leaders to enhance the lives of children, youth and families. The YEF institute is developing the capacity to support the work of municipal leaders in addressing the needs of children and youth primarily by providing technical assistance and training to municipal leaders, conducting research and analysis on related issues, and providing and synthesizing information.

**National Network for Childcare, (NNCC).** [www.nncc.org](http://www.nncc.org)

Shares knowledge about children and childcare from the vast resources of land grant universities with parents, professionals, practitioners and the general

public.

**National School-Age Child Care Alliance (NSACA).** [www.nsaca.org](http://www.nsaca.org)

National membership organization which represents the entire array of public, private, school and community-based providers of before and after school programs. The organization has created a nationally recognized system of program accreditation. NSACA publishes the School-Age Review; conducts an annual National Conference and has created a Public Policy Network that collects data and provides public policy updates.

**The National Youth Development Information Center (NYDIC).**  
[www.nydic.org](http://www.nydic.org)

Provides practice-related information about youth development to national and local youth-serving organizations.

**School-Age Notes.** [www.afterschool.com](http://www.afterschool.com)

Develops and provides information, technical assistance and resources for starting and advocating new after-school programs.

**Schools of the 21st Century (21C).** [www.yale.edu/bushcenter/21C](http://www.yale.edu/bushcenter/21C)

Started in 1987 at the Yale Bush Center. 21C's are school-based or school-linked childcare and family support programs. The programs serve children from birth through age 12. Schools are linked to community resources in order to foster an environment that values children.

**Voyager Expanded Learning.** [www.voyagerlearning.com](http://www.voyagerlearning.com)

Voyager is comprised of more than 130 public school educators, researchers, state commissioners of education, college presidents and curriculum writers. The organization's key partners are the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of Natural History, the Discovery Channel and NASA. Voyager builds partnerships with school districts and teachers in order to deliver multi-age or grade specific curriculum within extended day or extended year programs that are specifically designed to improve the academic performance of at-risk children.

**Dewitt Wallace-Reader's Digest Funds.** [www.wallacefunds.org](http://www.wallacefunds.org)

This organization seeks to create opportunities for youth to enrich themselves through better schools, community activities and participation in the arts. Dewitt-Wallace supports the adaptation of numerous extended-service schools models in communities across the country including: Beacon schools. Bridges to

Success schools and Community Schools.

**YMCA of USA.** [www.ymca.net](http://www.ymca.net)

The YMCA's goal is to build strong kids, families and communities. YMCA sites offer numerous programs for youth including tutoring, art & humanities programs, alternative schooling, substance abuse prevention programs, etc.