

# 2024 Afterschool for All Challenge

Taking the Challenge from Afar



Afterschool Alliance

# Agenda

- What is the *Afterschool for All Challenge*?
- How can you take action from outside Washington DC?
- The Policy Issues and “Asks”: 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC; Child Care; Youth Workforce Dvlpt.; STEM
- Leveraging social media to take action
- QUESTIONS!



**1**  
Week

**All 50**  
States

**Hundreds**  
of afterschool advocates in  
meetings

**Thousands**  
Raising their voices in support of  
afterschool and summer programs

# Why & How to Participate

- Establish a relationship with elected officials and staff; and yourself as a resource
- Get afterschool and summer learning on the radar
- Emphasize the impact of afterschool and summer learning
  - - Increase federal support through 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC
  - - Support funding for CCDBG for school-age programs
  - - Support older youth through WIOA and STEM
  - - Encourage participation in Afterschool Caucus and Lights On Afterschool



# The Context

- FY 2025 Appropriations decisions happening now – spending caps are in place
- Partisanship still dominant – election this November
- WIOA reauthorization passed House, Senate HELP Committee

# Reaching Out



- District/State meetings and calls
- Site Visits
- Email and Social Media

# Tips for Effective Advocacy

- Be flexible!
- Staff are an important audience
- Courtesy and friendliness are key
- You are the expert
- Stay on task and make the ask

***Remember you are building a relationship!***

# Tell the Afterschool Story

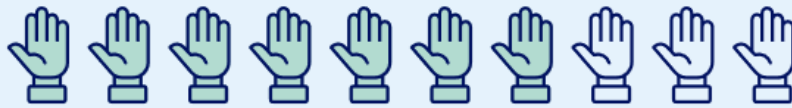
- Impact of afterschool and summer programs – challenges, successes, the need to sustain investments
- 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC – critical infrastructure for quality and in high demand
- CCDBG – vital for school age care and additional resources are needed
- WIOA and STEM
- Afterschool Caucus – Join to show support
- Participate in Lights On Afterschool and/or visit a program





# 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers

## AMONG STUDENTS ATTENDING A COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTER:<sup>4</sup>



**7 in 10** improved their engagement in learning

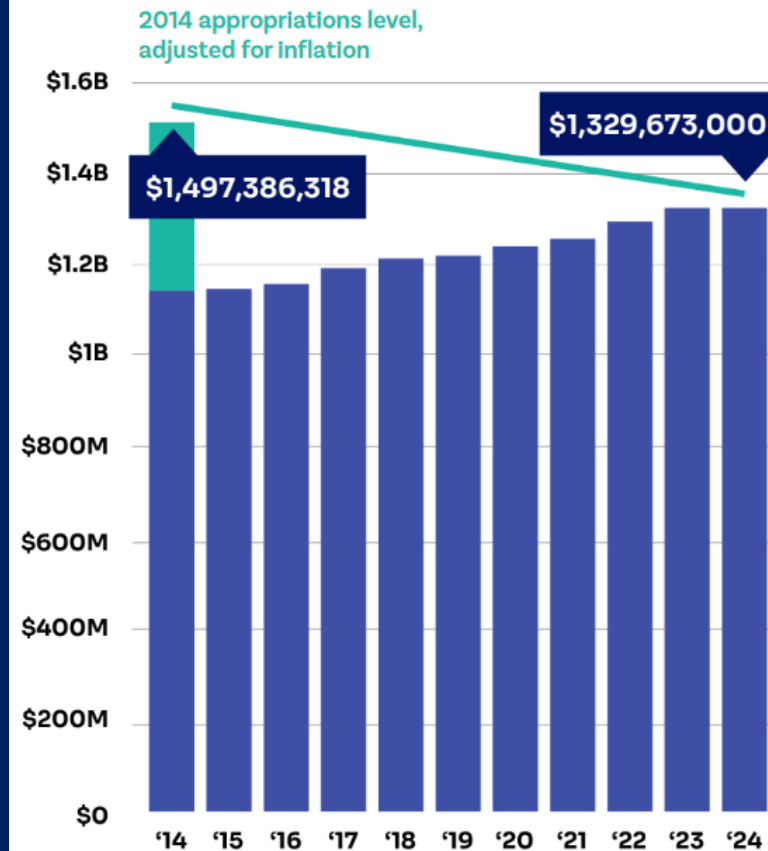


**More than half** who had a GPA below 3.0 the previous year improved their GPA



**Approximately 2 in 5** demonstrated growth on their state assessments in reading/language arts or math

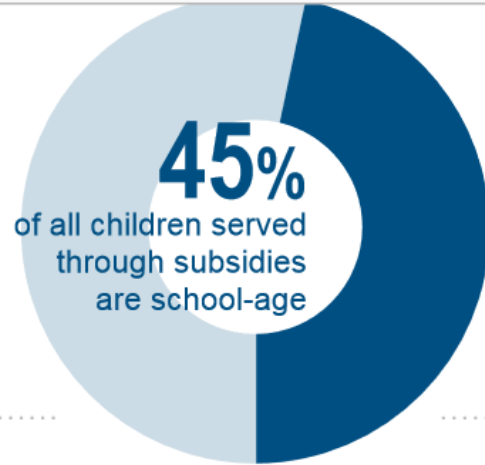
## FUNDING FOR 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTERS





# CCDBG

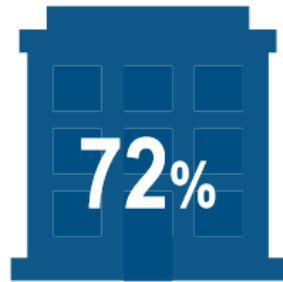
## School-Age Children (5 through 12 years old) Served Through Subsidies



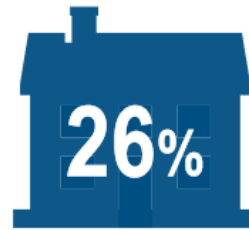
**\$454**

average monthly subsidy for  
school-age child care

Average of  
**784,889**  
school-age  
children served  
each month



served in  
child care centers



served in family  
child care



served in child's  
own home

45% of  
children  
served  
through  
subsidy are  
school-age

# Youth Workforce Development Matters

- **Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) - HB 6655**
  - Invests in Labor Department job training and other programs
  - Proposed changes address opportunity youth and how to serve them
  - Bipartisan bill passed the House in Spring 2024
  - Senate HELP Committee working on WIOA reauthorization with goal of passing Committee and Senate this year
- **Youth Workforce Readiness Act (YWRA) - S. 454/HB 3416**
  - Establishes a competitive grant through the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment & Training Administration for eligible national, youth-serving out-of-school time organizations providing youth workforce readiness programs for youth between the ages of 6 to 18.
  - Programs will focus on four overarching pillars that support youth workforce readiness.



# Support Informal STEM Education

## Maintain Funding for the National Science Foundation and its STEM Education Directorate

- In FY2024 the NSF had a 15% cut to its STEM Education Directorate
- As the bipartisan CHIPS and Science Act is implemented nationwide, investments in STEM education and workforce development are more important than ever
- Funding for NSF and the STEM Education Directorate should be maintained



# Lights On Afterschool and Afterschool Caucus

**Join the Afterschool Caucus!**

**Visit a program on or around  
Lights On – October 24, 2024**



# Available Resources

- **Digital Action Toolkit**
- **Site Visit Toolkit**
- **State-specific data**
- **21<sup>st</sup> CCLC, CCDBG, WIOA, STEM**
- **Sample talking points**







Photo credit: 50 Afterschool Networks

# Social Media Tips



# Using Social Media

- ✓ Send messages to your members via [3to6.co/Congress](https://3to6.co/Congress)
  - Enter your name, email, and zip code
  - Customize draft language or send as is
  - Tweet away!

Please enter a zip code to continue.

**Tweet a Mighty Tweet!**

113 characters remaining

I want every kid and family to have access to afterschool programs. #AfterschoolWorks to keep kids safe, inspire them to learn, and give working parents peace of mind.

**Tweet**

# Using Social Media

- ✓ Find member's social handles via [3to6.co/lookup](https://3to6.co/lookup)
- ✓ Sample social posts available on Digital Action Toolkit:
  - For every child in an afterschool program, 4 more are waiting to get in. [@InsertRepHandle](#), keep afterschool strong in [STATE]! #AfterschoolWorks
  - Thank you [@InsertRepHandle](#) for investing in afterschool and summer programs that are so critical for kids in [STATE] today! Sadly, there are still nearly 25 million children left out. Please expand investments in afterschool in [STATE] so our kids can thrive! #AfterschoolWorks
- ✓ Don't forget to use #AfterschoolWorks
- ✓ Encourage your followers to express support for afterschool







Questions? Reach out to Erik:  
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