Expanding learning and supports for an equitable recovery

This is Afterschool in Oregon

In Oregon, afterschool programs provide expanded learning opportunities to 81,540 students and are a lifeline for working families. In Oregon, 84% of parents report that all young people deserve access to quality afterschool and summer programs. Yet, too many kids in Oregon are being left out. In fact, for every child in an afterschool program, 3 more would participate if a program were available.

Helping young people learn, grow, and thrive

Students in afterschool programs in Oregon are:

- Interacting with peers and building social skills 93%
- Getting homework help 70%
- Taking part in physical activities 90%

A 2020 evaluation of Oregon’s 21st CCLC programs by JEM & R LLC found that based on teacher reports, roughly 7 in 10 students in need of improvement made gains in their English/reading (74%) and math (72%) performance, as well as improved their relationships with adults (70%), ability to get along with other students (67%), and teamwork and collaboration skills (67%). Additionally, students reported high levels of satisfaction with their programs (82%), and among 11th and 12th graders, 71% indicated that their program helped them prepare for college or a career.

Parents in Oregon agree that afterschool programs:

- Provide opportunities to build life skills 79%
- Get kids excited about learning 71%
- Reduce the likelihood that youth will use drugs or engage in other risky behaviors 71%

Call and response: Afterschool programs stepping up during the pandemic

From the outset of the pandemic, afterschool programs have adapted and expanded their services to best meet the needs of the children and families they serve. The Rogue Valley Family YMCA partnered with four school districts in the region to host virtual learning hubs. To address staffing challenges, they trained high school seniors to support the programs. A local children’s museum supplied “grab and go” activities. In Golden Beach, Curry Public Library learning hub was created in partnership with the school district. Retired teachers provide support during the school day, and students play outside and participate in afterschool programming.

A 2021 national survey of afterschool providers finds programs continue to provide:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Academic enrichment</td>
<td>94%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time to interact with peers</td>
<td>86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical activity</td>
<td>81%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Snacks or meals</td>
<td>77%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Check-ins with student and families</td>
<td>32%</td>
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<tr>
<td>In-person services during virtual school days*</td>
<td>24%</td>
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</tbody>
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Looking toward the summer, 79% of providers will be offering summer programming.

*Among program providers that report that they are offering in-person services.
Support is strong and bipartisan

90% of parents favor public funding of afterschool programs to expand opportunities for kids in underserved communities.

90% Democrats
95% Independents
89% Republicans

A lifeline for working families

A national survey of parents in the fall of 2020 found that as the pandemic continued to disrupt school schedules, most parents were concerned about their child’s social and emotional well-being and connection to peers, as well as their own ability to continue to provide learning support and/or care for their child as virtual school and distance learning extends into 2021.

Based on the 2020 America After 3PM household survey, parents in Oregon agree that afterschool programs:

- Build positive relationships between children and adults 70%
- Keep kids safe and out of trouble 72%
- Help working parents keep their jobs 77%
- Provide working parents peace of mind 79%

A smart investment

Research spanning several states shows that every $1 invested in afterschool programs saves at least $3 by:

1. Increasing kids’ earning potential
2. Improving kids’ performance at school
3. Reducing crime and juvenile delinquency

Additionally, Community Learning Centers leverage diverse partners to meet community needs. A typical program receives $67,000 from partners to supplement its federal funding. Nationwide, partner contributions totaled more than $1 billion between 2006 and 2010.