



MEDIA ADVISORY
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Parents, Students, Educators to Honor Members of Congress, Afterschool Champions & Innovators from across Country

Food Network star Tyler Florence, Providence Mayor David Cicilline and former U.S. Secretary of Education Richard W. Riley will join hundreds of parents, children, educators, lawmakers and advocates from around the nation on Wednesday, May 14 at a “Breakfast of Champions” at which the Afterschool Alliance will present the first-ever MetLife Afterschool Innovator Awards and honor several Afterschool Champions. The “Breakfast” is an annual event organized by the Afterschool Alliance as part of the *Afterschool for All Challenge*. This year it is being held jointly with the National League of Cities. The “Breakfast of Champions” will be at:

**8 AM Wednesday, May 14
G50 Senate Dirksen Office Building
Washington, D.C.**

WITH

*Providence Mayor David Cicilline
Food Network star and acclaimed chef Tyler Florence
Former U.S. Secretary of Education Richard W. Riley
Clifford M. Johnson, Institute for Youth, Education, and Families, National League of Cities
Afterschool Alliance Executive Director Jodi Grant*

EXPECTED

*Senators Barbara Boxer (D-CA), Thad Cochran (R-MS), Ben Nelson (D-NE) & Jack Reed (D-RI)
Representatives Patrick Kennedy (D-RI), Dale Kildee (D-MI),
Nita Lowey (D-NY) & Ralph Regula (R-OH)*

The Afterschool Champions who will be honored are:

California: San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom

Colorado: Maxine Quintana, Denver Mayor’s Office for Education and Children

Georgia: Savannah Mayor Otis Johnson

Idaho: Boise Mayor David Bieter

Kentucky: Linda Robinson, Kentucky Department of Education

Maryland: Kacy Conley, YMCA of Central Maryland, Baltimore

Michigan: Grand Rapids Mayor George Heartwell

Minnesota: St. Paul Mayor Christopher Coleman

Missouri: State Representative Danie Moore

Nebraska: Omaha Mayor Mike Fahey
New Hampshire: State Senator Kathleen Sgambati
New York: NYC Commissioner, Department of Youth & Community Development Jeanne Mullgrav
North Carolina: Charlotte City Council Member James Mitchell
Pennsylvania: State Representative Jake Wheatley
South Carolina: Columbia Mayor Bob Coble
West Virginia: Morgantown Mayor Ron Justice

The MetLife Afterschool Innovators who will be honored are:

California: LA's BEST
Nebraska: Lincoln Community Learning Centers
New York: The After-School Corporation
South Dakota: The Native Youth Club

Also at the breakfast, three young people will talk about why afterschool programs are so important to them and their families. They are:

Brandon Brown, Milwaukie, Oregon
Jamia Gary, Lakeland, Florida
Jaida Morgan, Seattle, Washington

T-Mobile sponsored the trips for Brown and Morgan, and Bright House Networks sponsored Gary's trip.

Following the "Breakfast of Champions," advocates will meet with members of Congress to urge them to increase federal afterschool funding next year and reject the President's proposal, which would cut the federal afterschool budget by \$281 million and convert 21st Century Community Learning Centers into a risky voucher system. If Congress agrees to his proposal, 300,000 students would lose access to afterschool programs.

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The Afterschool Alliance is a nonprofit public awareness and advocacy organization working to ensure that all children and youth have access to quality afterschool programs. More information is available at www.afterschoolalliance.org.