



MEDIA ADVISORY
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Members of Congress, Mayors to Join Parents, Students, Educators In Urging Congress to Increase Afterschool Funding

Columbus Mayor Michael Coleman, Providence Mayor David Cicilline and the mayors of several other cities will join more than 500 parents, children, educators and advocates from around the country on Wednesday to urge lawmakers to support funding for afterschool programs, including the federal 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) afterschool initiative. Organized by the Afterschool Alliance, the “Afterschool for All Challenge” will kick off with a *Breakfast of Champions* at:

8 AM Wednesday, May 24
Cotillion Ballroom, Marriott Wardman Park Hotel
2660 Woodley Road NW, Washington DC
WITH
Providence Mayor David N. Cicilline
Columbus Mayor Michael B. Coleman
Former Orlando Mayor Glenda E. Hood
Afterschool Alliance Executive Director Jodi Grant

The Breakfast is co-sponsored by the Afterschool Alliance and the National League of Cities, and will recognize Mayors who have been Afterschool Champions. City council members from around the nation will also attend. After the *Breakfast of Champions*, activists will meet with their senators and representatives to discuss the benefits offered by afterschool programs and to urge them to fully fund the 21st CCLC initiative, the chief federal funding stream for afterschool. The day’s events will conclude with a lunchtime rally for afterschool sponsored by T-Mobile at:

Noon Wednesday, May 24
428 Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington DC
WITH
Senator Joseph Biden (D-DE)
Senator Barbara Boxer (D-CA)
Senator Michael Enzi (R-WY)
Senator Lisa Murkowski (R-AK)
Senator Craig Thomas (R-WY)

The President’s Fiscal Year 2007 budget would freeze funding for the 21st CCLC at \$981 million, which constitutes more than \$20 million in real cuts to the funding provided in 2002. The *No Child Left Behind Act* authorizes \$2.5 billion for 21st Century Community Learning Centers next year.

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