

City Leaders Supporting Afterschool

*Supported by the
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***Bela Shah Spooner
Principal Associate, Afterschool Initiatives
Institute for Youth, Education and Families
National League of Cities
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National League of Cities (NLC) & Institute for Youth, Education and Families (IYEF)



- IYEF founded in 2000 as an “action tank” to provide resources, technical assistance and peer networking.
- IYEF program areas:
 - Afterschool/Expanded Learning Opportunities
 - Early childhood
 - Education (K-12 and postsecondary access)
 - Family economic success
 - Disconnected youth
 - Youth participation/leadership
 - Combating child and youth obesity
 - Gang prevention
- IYEF connects cities with state-level efforts to impact policy and funding through the C.S. Mott Foundation’s Statewide Afterschool Network efforts... [i.e. South Carolina Afterschool Alliance](#)

Education not an “official” Mayoral Responsibility , but ...

- 1) Education/skills = workforce and college preparedness & readiness = jobs = income = economic stability = home ownership = tax revenue for city \$\$\$
- 2) Education = healthy choices & positive behaviors (less city resources for services) = job stability = tax revenue



Involvement in Afterschool Makes Sense for City Leaders

- Park and Recreation Departments
- Libraries
- Arts Commissions
- Museums
- Community Police Officers
- Outreach Programs in Fire, Police, Public Works, Health and Environment Offices
- Workforce Investment Boards



Afterschool Aligned with City Priorities

- Build Workforce/ Economic development
- Help working families
- Strengthen Public Safety/Cost of Policing/Crime Prevention
- Reduce time for risky behaviors
- Ensure the health and well-being of communities
- Support academic achievement
- Increase youth civic participation, pride and service
- Develops character, talents, interests of young people



City Leadership for Afterschool

Charlotte, NC – Increased public will and partnerships led to new financial resources and new afterschool programs.

- ❑ Councilmember led effort to survey middle school students to determine need.
- ❑ Engaged neighborhood leaders to build public will.
- ❑ Used crime prevention slant to convince city leaders.
- ❑ \$60,000 from city council & school board match developed middle school afterschool program
- ❑ Brought in \$450,000 in WIA funds for entrepreneurship programs in AS settings.
- ❑ Ongoing with support from Police Chief to expand to 3 middle schools.

Fort Worth, TX – Formed intermediary organization and generated new dollars to sustain program from sales tax. Improved program quality by creating standards

- ❑ Crime prevention \$.01 sales tax passed, 10% of funds raised directed to afterschool (\$1.4 million). Joined with \$1.1 million from school district to create Fort Worth After School (FWAS). Ongoing.
- ❑ FWAS Coordinating Board consists of top city/school leaders.
- ❑ Created local afterschool standards. FWAS conducts trainings/professional development opportunities for providers.

City Examples continued

Grand Rapids, MI – Identified local resources and gaps in services and afterschool needs

- ❑ Mayor and school board president lead effort and formalized their alliance through a MOU that created a city-school committee.
- ❑ Surveyed providers more than 700 providers, conducted gap analysis, and GIS mapped neighborhoods.
- ❑ The committee's work improved communication, developed high quality standards, created an online family resource guide, a 211 number, and the ELO network of providers.

Denver, CO – Conducted a community assessment & mapping resulting from the development of a citywide vision

- ❑ Mayor's Office of Education and Children convened community to develop a citywide vision for afterschool.
- ❑ Surveyed over 600 providers to find out about programming and needs.
- ❑ Created searchable online program locator tool hosted by city's website.



City Examples continued

Boise, ID – Mayor established Mayor’s Council on Children & Youth. Completed a youth mapping process and developed neighborhood-based programming.

- ❑ **New Council evaluated afterschool need. Determined disinvestment areas of city through GIS mapping. City agencies formed team to compile all youth services.**
- ❑ **Developed the Boise After3 website (www.after3.org) launched to help parents access age-specific programs.**
- ❑ **Public engagement campaign brought neighborhood-based services via Mobile Recreation program. Opened three branch libraries. Partnership with the Boise School District for two new school-based community centers.**

Florence, SC – Mayor’s Coalition to Prevent Juvenile Crime focused on afterschool strategy

- ❑ **Former Mayor Willis created broad-based high-level stakeholder group committed to afterschool. Put organizational resources on the table, but no dollars.**
- ❑ **Opened four teen centers with 3 basketball centers open until 10:30pm. Created summer camp for alternative school students. Job skills training for 230 high school students, secured jobs for 177. Credit Recovery at 3 high schools (365 students enrolled 437 credits earned).**

Lessons Learned

1. Municipal leaders have an **array of opportunities** to advance the afterschool agenda
2. Engaging residents and key stakeholders takes **time and a** commitment to developing a **community-wide vision**
3. **Municipal officials** are well-positioned to **build trust** and support among schools and afterschool providers
4. Developing **standards** must be a **collaborative process**, involving providers and the broader community
5. Ensuring coverage in underserved communities requires **new investments and effective outreach** to parents
6. **City leadership** is essential to ensure funding and develop plans for long-term sustainability
7. **Good data** is invaluable in making the case for community support



Afterschool Policy Advisors' Network (APAN)

- **Mission:** APAN is a national peer learning network of municipal leaders to promote high quality afterschool opportunities for all children and youth.
- **Goal:** To help municipal officials and their senior staff promote afterschool opportunities in their cities and nationally by sharing resources, research, tools and strategies, policies, and best practices.
- **Membership:** Includes over 350 cities in 46 states with 900 members. Ongoing recruitment. Sign up at www.nlc.org/iyef
- **APAN Online Community:** <http://apan.nlc.org>

The Mayor's Action Challenge for Children and Families – Sign up!

The Challenge promotes city leadership and innovation and calls on mayors to set specific, measurable, locally-defined goals and targets to ensure that all children have:

- ❑ Opportunities to learn and grow;
- ❑ A safe neighborhood to call home;
- ❑ A healthy lifestyle and environment; and
- ❑ A financially fit family in which to thrive.



More information available at: www.mayorsforkids.org



First Lady Michelle Obama's Let's Move Cities and Towns!

www.letsmove.gov

***Sign up and choose action in each
of the four pillar areas:***

- Help Parents Make Healthy Family Choices
- Create Healthy Schools
- Provide Access to Healthy and Affordable Food
- Promote Physical Activity

Contact NLC Staff

Bela Shah Spooner

Principal Associate, Afterschool Initiatives

Institute for Youth, Education, and Families

National League of Cities

shah@nlc.org

202-626-3057



Lane Russell

Associate, Afterschool Initiatives

russell@nlc.org

202-626-3008

