



After School Announcements

Bringing together those who serve Maine youth

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Dear Readers,

Thanks to great cooperation from the Department of Education, the Governor's Office, the Children's Cabinet, DHHS, and Senator Justin Alford, we have submitted an application for a planning grant for increasing Expanded Learning Opportunities (ELOs) in Maine and formally integrating them into the state education system. Also this month we submitted an application for a VISTA volunteer to help with a resource mapping project to identify Afterschool needs around the state.

The economic stimulus package has generated a lot of discussion at the national organizing level, and we've been in weekly conference calls with the Afterschool Alliance regarding portions of the funding that relate to Afterschool in any way. No direct new sources of funds exist, but there are some pieces that may have an impact, such as extra Title 1 CCDBG, and VISTA funding. Any direct opportunities that we become aware of will be sent to the listserv! Likewise, if you are aware of any clever ways to take advantage of these funds, please share them with us!

You will see we have included on the third page of this issue a piece explaining the CC-ME program. If other organizations are interested in a little exposure, we would be happy to include such profiles in coming issues. Let us know.

Deb & Cyndy

Resources

Fires in the Bathroom: Advice for Teachers from High School Students, by Kathleen Cushman, 2003. It offers practical advice to educators, based on opinions, experiences, ideas and knowledge of forty students who are from groups often seen as the "hardest to reach." They tackle a variety of problems, including classroom behavior and how to help students with learning challenges. Detailed accounts, summary lists and worksheets are spread throughout the book and designed to help teachers actually listen to their students and change their methods to best support students. Available on loan from Network office. Call or e-mail us!

The Cost of Quality Out-Of School Time Programs - Report on a national study by the Finance Project and Public/Private Ventures to provide policy makers with solid figures to work with in planning, based on data from 6 cities. While the urban bias might limit its applicability in some ways, it can provide a useful basis for cost estimating for program planning and grant writing. Available at <http://www.financeproject.org/publications/CostofQualityOST-ExecSummary.pdf>. Also an online cost calculator can be found at www.wallacefoundation.org/cost-of-quality

The YMCA Service-Learning Guide - published by the YMCA of the USA - a comprehensive guide to setting up a service learning program. Aimed at YMCAs, but most of the asset-building-based material is appropriate for any kind of youth-serving organization, especially with respect to structuring a program from ground zero. Available for loan from the Network - just call us!

In this Issue...

• **Resources:**
→ *Kathleen Cushman, Fires in the Bathroom*
→ *Wallace Found. Cost of Quality OST*
→ *YMCA Service-Learning Guide*

• **Events:**
→ *Maine Fitness Awards*
→ *NAA Convention in New Orleans*
→ *Summer Changes Everything Conf.*
→ *BOOST Conference*
→ *Afterschool for All*
→ *Supporting Military Children*
→ *Drop-out Summit*
→ *Northeast Mentoring Conf.*

Grants:
→ *Summer Food*
→ *Community Change*
→ *Youth Development*
→ *Wal-Mart Grants*
→ *Sparkplug Foundation*
→ *Youth Arts and Learning*

CC+ME Program Info

Events

Call for Nominations – due April 9 – Maine Fitness Awards – Governor’s Council on Physical Activity is accepting nominations for the 11th annual Maine Fitness Awards to recognize people involved in promoting physical activity – groups, schools, other org’s can feature their accomplishments – Award celebration May 20, 2009 at 11:00 am. KVYMCA in Augusta. FMI visit http://www.maineinmotion.org/contest_communities.asp.

April 2-4 – National Afterschool Association Annual Convention – New Orleans, Morial Convention Center – overlapping sessions with NAESP conference, site visits to New Orleans afterschool programs, networking events, workshops, exciting keynotes. At <http://www.naaconvention.org/register.html>

April 16-17 – Summer Changes Everything national conference, Hyatt Regency Chicago, hosted by the National Center for Summer Learning at Johns Hopkins. Plan, implement, support and advocate for high quality summer programming in your community. Explore knowledge and strategies for summer program leaders. <http://www.summerlearning.org/nationalconference> or 410/516-6573.

April 22-25 – BOOST Conference, Palm Springs, CA – for any and all kinds of Afterschool programs and related staff and administrators, including school and community participants with focus on professional development. <http://www.boostconference.org/registration.php>.

April 27-28 - Afterschool For All Challenge - Marriott Wardman Park in Washington, D.C.; 11 a.m. April 27 to 5 p.m. April 28. The afterschool community’s only advocacy focused conference will again feature a day of training and networking followed by a day of visits with Congressional offices. Details at www.afterschoolalliance.org.

May 13-14 – Supporting Children of the National Guard and Reserve Institute – 8:30am to 4:00pm at Augusta State Armory - Professional development for educators and professionals to reach out in a support network to children and families in Nat’l Guard and Reserve. Deadline May 1. Free. <http://www.militarychild.org>.

SAVE THE DATE (S)

July 27-28, 2009 -Maine Drop-Out Prevention Summit – UMO

October 15-16, 2009 – Northeast Regional Mentoring Conference – Marriott Providence, Providence R.I. Thursday evening reception and Friday all day.

As programs make summer staffing plans, we suggest they keep the idea of college students in mind. Many education students are eager to put new skills and passions to work but may not be aware of the opportunities in the community. You might contact the Education faculty or department office at your nearest college to see if they are interested in summer opportunities for their students, whether for credit or simply a summer job!

Grants

Summer Food Service Program – Sponsors sought. Eligible sponsors include public or non-profit private schools, residential camps, governmental units, and private non-profits. Maine Dept. of Education provides funding for meals and snacks served to children at schools, churches, playgrounds and parks during the summer months. Purpose is to ensure low-income children get meals when they have no access to school lunches. Contact Gail Lombardi at 624-6876, gail.lombardi@maine.gov or www.maine.gov/education/sfs/sfsp.htm.

Power In Numbers: Win Group Grants to Ignite Change – For youth teams that create community-change projects. **Funder:** Pepsi-Cola Co. and Do Something. **Eligibility:** Teams of young people who are at least 13 y.o. but no more than 25 y.o, sponsored by and eligible organization. **Deadline:** April 6. **Amount:** up to 10 grants of \$10,000 each.

Purpose:

To enable every child to have access to quality, inclusive, affordable after school programming that meets the needs of the child, the family and the community.

Vision:

Every school-age child in Maine will have access to quality; inclusive, affordable programs during out-of-school time that meet the needs of the child, the family and the community.

Network Goals:

- 1. Foster statewide, regional, and local partnerships through clear communication among policymakers and providers, in order to coordinate services across the state.*
- 2. Assist in securing resources needed to develop new after school programs and sustain existing programs.*
- 3. Assist with training, technical assistance and coordination to ensure that programs are inclusive, high quality, and meet the needs of children, families and communities.*

Grants, Cont.

Entertainment Software Association (ESA) Foundation grants – Support for youth programs serving young people ages 7-18 in categories of: skills & personal development, general health & welfare, risk behavior prevention, and education/multi-media-arts/technology. **Eligibility:** Non-profits. **Deadline:** April 15. **Amount:** not specified. Contact www.theesa.com/foundation/application.asp.

Wal-Mart state giving program – For projects in education, health and wellness, job training and the environment. **Funder:** Wal-Mart. **Eligibility:** Nonprofits. **Deadline:** April 17 and Sept. 18. **Amount:** Minimum grants are \$25,000. **Contact:** <http://walmartstores.com/CommunityGiving/8168.aspx?p=8979>.

Sparkplug Foundation – For a variety of programs, including music, education and teaching and grass-roots organizing. **Funder:** Sparkplug Foundation. **Eligibility:** Nonprofits. **Deadline:** May 8. **Amount:** Maximum grant is \$5,000. **Contact:** www.sparkplugfoundation.org.

Youth arts and learning – For participatory learning and student engagement with artists, teachers and excellent art in these categories: Access to Artistic Excellence, Challenge America: Reaching Every Community Fast-Track Review Grants and Learning in the Arts for Children and Youth. **Funder:** National Endowment for the Arts. **Eligibility:** Nonprofits, units of state or local government or federally recognized tribal communities or tribes. **Deadline:** June 11. **Amount:** A total of 600 grants ranging from \$5,000 to \$150,000. **Contact:** www.arts.gov/grants/apply/GAP10/LITA.html.

University of Maine Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies Child Care Plus ME

CC+ME staff would like all providers of child care in Maine to be aware of the services available to them, and to understand the collaborative consultation model that has worked so well for so many providers. They hope you will feel free to call for a further explanation as to how these services can benefit your program.

What is Child Care Plus ME (CC+ME)? Child Care Plus ME project staff from the University of Maine's Center for Community Inclusion & Disabilities Studies (CCIDS) work with child care providers throughout the state to support all children in quality, inclusive settings. The CC+ME project purpose is to build capacity in early care and school-age child care programs. Project staff works with providers to develop nurturing early childhood settings that welcome all children, including those with disabilities and challenging behaviors. An important project goal is to prevent any child from being expelled or excluded from his or her community child care setting. There is no cost to get support from CC+ ME.

What types of "technical assistance" do CC+ME staff offer? It depends on the request, but may include:

- ☐ Telephone and email consultation to answer questions, find resources and written materials or review an individual child's participation in the program.
- ☐ On-site consultation to do a program observation or discuss an individual child / family.
- ☐ Staff training around topics like building cooperative behavior.
- ☐ Early childhood mental health consultation to help program support the involvement of individual children or discuss ideas and approaches to build children's healthy social-emotional development.

Providers may contact CCIDS about any child whose developmental, emotional, physical, or behavioral health is a concern. The child does not need to have a specific diagnosis. If concerns center on a particular child, providers must have parental consent to discuss that child with CC+ME project staff.

If you have questions about how your program can support all children, including children with special needs, or if you have concerns about a particular child's behavior, health, communication, social relationships or development, please contact:

The Child Care Plus ME Project at (866) 230-4520

Or visit http://www.ccids.umaine.edu/projects/ccme/ccplusme_taflier.htm

