



Jessie Havens <capacity@networkforyouthsuccess.org>

Fwd: Prevent Child Abuse NY Spotlight and Choosing the Right Apps for Kids

1 message

Emma Terwilliger <regional@networkforyouthsuccess.org>
To: Jessie <capacity@networkforyouthsuccess.org>

Tue, Aug 28, 2018 at 8:33 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Jessie** <Capacity@networkforyouthsuccess.org>

Date: Mon, Aug 20, 2018 at 9:48 AM

Subject: Prevent Child Abuse NY Spotlight and Choosing the Right Apps for Kids

To: Emma Tewilliger <regional@networkforyouthsuccess.org>

Prevent Child Abuse NY Spotlight and Choosing the Right Apps for Kids August 2018



Spotlight

Prevent Child Abuse New York: Directory of Policy and Advocacy Jenn O'Connor

Prevent Child Abuse New York is a non-profit organization originally started in 1980. This organization works to prevent child abuse in all its forms so all children may live in families that love, nurture and protect them. In doing so, Prevent Child Abuse New York promotes efforts to develop, improve, and expand quality services and effective policies to prevent child abuse and neglect and enhance child development. They assert that creating communities where families can access an array of supports and resources to address the social, emotional, and physical health of their children is the best way to combat child abuse.

We spoke to Prevent Child Abuse New York's Director of Policy and Advocacy, Jenn O'Connor, about the work she does for the betterment of New York children, families, and communities. Jenn first began her career as legislative and campaign staff back in the 1990s. Her focus turned to policy in the 2000s when she began working on mental health, maternal and child health, and then education policy. Jenn said that, "each new focus built on the others until I landed at PCANY, where I can work on the whole child and approach that work through a prevention lens."

Jenn says that when it came down to it she did not choose this path but that it chose her. The turns in her career ultimately led her to an array of policy dealing with child welfare, but she noticed there were gaps in the systems of care and then it became important to her to close those gaps, or at least connect all the right players to each other. She urged that healthcare needs to talk to education which needs to talk to social services. These connections can make a difference when it comes to policies that will positively impact children and families.

The policy work that Jenn does helps to translate what's happening in the child welfare field into effective advocacy and policies at the state level. While Jenn has not worked in a school or afterschool program directly, this work connects to the field and makes a difference by listening to the

people with the experience and expertise of that direct work and then taking it to policymakers and messaging it in a way that resonates. Jenn also added that she spends time teaching folks how to advocate with legislators--“it’s simple and fun and doesn’t have to be intimidating!”

The policy work PCANY is doing has been expanding its scope in the last few years as well. The policy work now includes advocating for programs and services that strengthen families--like child care; maternal, infant and early childhood home visiting; and reproductive healthcare. They have

also convened conversations around the traumatic impact of certain federal immigration policies and discussed what steps the State might take to better support immigrant families. Additionally, Jenn’s work has been providing a Building Resilient Communities training to school districts, law enforcement, and other professionals who come into contact with kids. Jenn added that, “we won’t decrease abuse and neglect if we don’t provide people the tools they need to care appropriately for kids. And that’s truly a community effort.”

Due to all the efforts Jenn is taking on at PCANY, and others at their organizations, policy is able to connect to the afterschool, summer, and expanded learning field in a way that promotes the safety of children, families, and communities. When asked what her favorite part of her job is, Jenn told us, “I love that no two days are ever the same. And I love that my daughter sees me at least trying to make a difference.”



Pinwheels for
PREVENTION[®]

Prevent Child Abuse
New York™

How does your afterschool program make a difference in the lives of young people?

Tell Us How!

The Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation is interested in learning more about afterschool programs in your area to better inform its grant-making. The foundation has asked Grand Valley State University to conduct a survey of afterschool programs to better understand the afterschool landscape and where funding is most needed. Can you help? Taking the survey is easy and will only take about 15 minutes of your time!



What kinds of questions will be asked?

- What geography is served by your program(s)?
- Who are the youth your program(s) reaches?
- What is special and unique about the youth you currently serve?
- When are your programs offered?
- What are the activities and outcomes of your program(s)? What aspects of your work need more support?

What can I do to make sure my organization is included?



NEW YORK
COUNTIES SERVED



Please schedule your interview today by following this [link](#)! Your work is important, and we want your afterschool programs to be included!

Questions? Want a copy of the results?
Contact Dr. Aaron Van Oosterhout, Research Manager, at (616) 331-9030 or vanoosaa@gvsu.edu.

Thank you in advance for your help!

Resource

Choosing the Right Apps for Kids

Mobile phone and tablet use by kids under the age of eight is up by 1000 percent over the past several years. With all of those apps claiming to be educational, how can parents recognize the valid apps from plain, old digital candy? A new research study provides parents with tips for making the right picks for your children.

Tablets and phones have access to thousands of apps—many for free, all claiming to be educational. But how can parents tell which ones are of value?

“Here you have these platforms that are dying for content, and the kids are virtually addicted too,” said Kathy Hirsh-Pasek, PhD, a professor of psychology at Temple University in Philadelphia. Even the most dedicated parents can’t preview thousands of apps, so most just do what they can. “I don’t think I would let her necessarily pick something on her own without me checking it out or googling it first,” parent, Jenny Ferguson, told Ivanhoe.

To help parents like Jenny be more definitive about which apps help kids learn, Hirsh-Pasek launched a study to help define the educational, in so-called “educational” apps. The study found that there are features that parents should look for. “These kind of features popped out of the literature: being active, socially interactive, and has a learning goal,” detailed Hirsh-Pasek.



Those pillars of learning are the foundation and here are the building blocks for a powerful decision-making formula: apps that encourage social interaction, exploration, and creativity. An app should engage children like a parent would. Also, the app should not be complicated or a child might lose interest.

Hirsh-Pasek said, “Take a peek at what your kid is doing. If you don’t like what you see, or it’s something common sense goes, nix, then don’t do it.”

Parents and afterschool educators can visit www.common sense media.org for more information on

choosing educational apps and providing the best e-learning experience for the kids.

Long Island Training Insitute

Long Island Providers-- join us on Saturday, September 22th from 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM at the Child Care Council of Nassau for a day of learning! Topics at the Long Island Training Institute will include STEM activities, engineering design, program quality improvement, and family engagement!

Throughout the day's four 90-minute sessions, frontline staff can earn six training hours on four afterschool topics for \$99 per person (lunch included)! This will be a practical, hands-on day of learning focused on school-age settings (K-8th). This day of training may qualify for EIP funding.



[Register Online Now*](#) or [visit our website](#) for more details.

Interested in advancing in the school-age field?
Need the qualifications to become a Site Director?

EARN YOUR SCHOOL-AGE CREDENTIAL TODAY



[Click here for the link](#)

Upcoming Events

8/8-8/9: Through My Window FREE Training, Massachusetts

Engineering curriculum Through My Window is excited to be hosting a FREE, in-person workshop for formal and informal educators who work with grades 4-8. Through My Window is a free, NSF-funded multimedia engineering curriculum for grades 4-8. The training will cover all of the Through My Window curriculum resources, including the novels, companion websites, and offline enrichment activities. Participants will leave prepared to implement in their classroom or site. The hands-on interactive training will include plenty of time for participants to explore curriculum components and learn more about engineering education. Participants will be awarded 14 PDPs for this two day training. The training will be held in Springfield, Massachusetts on August 8th and 9th, 9 am - 4:30 pm with breakfast and lunch provided on both days. You can apply [here!](#)

8/16: Devereux and Kaplan e-DECA Webinar

Does your team use the Devereux Early Childhood Assessment (DECA) Program? The online version, called the e-DECA, uses technology to ensure that staff can implement the resilience-building DECA Program efficiently and effectively. Whether your program has been using the online,

web based e-DECA platform for many years or you are just getting started, this webinar is for you and your team! Every year, Devereux and Kaplan bring new enhancements to the e-DECA, and this webinar will cover all of them on the 16th from 2-3pm ET. Use the link to [register](#) and learn all about what the e-DECA has to offer!

8/16: Rochester Terra Fairs Fellowship

Join Terra Science and Education Foundation at RMSC for a catered lunch and training on STEM Wizard. Network with other educators supporting your local Terra Regional Science & Engineering Fair while learning how to better support student projects year round. Click [here](#) for more information!

8/22- 8/23: 12th Annual Games in Education Symposium, Capital Region

The Games in Education Symposium is a two-day event focusing on the use of games and technology to supplement and inspire education in the classroom. Participants span early childhood through post secondary educators in New York's Capital District and surrounding regions who are interested in finding ways to use video games, tabletop games, and related technology to enrich and inspire interest by students in core curriculum topics. More information can be found [here](#)!

9/11- 12/18: Distance Learning SAC Credential I Prep Course

The Network offers an alternative way to gain and document skills to earn your [SAC Credential](#) if you don't live near a Host Agency that offers face-to-face classes. SACC Prep I covers Skill Areas 1-7 and helps you prepare your Portfolio and Resource File as well as share, discuss, and learn from colleagues throughout the state about the value, purpose, and process of your work. For more information and to apply for the course, go to: <http://networkforyouthsuccess.org/credential/distance-learning/>

9/22: 2018 Long Island Training Institute

Join the Network for Youth Success for a day of training! Earn 6 training hours across four topics! Lunch will be provided. This training is recommended for front-line staff in afterschool, summer, and expanded learning settings and will be held at the Child Care Council of Nassau. [Visit our website](#) for more details.

9/26: New York State SAC Credential Classes Begin, Capital Region

The Network, in partnership with the Capital District YMCA, will be offering [SAC Credential](#) classes this fall. Classes will be held at the North Albany YMCA on Wednesday nights from 6:30-9:30 PM. For more information, please contact: Alicia Salamone-Powers asalamonepowers@cdymca.org 518.463.9622 x 1320.

10/17-10/19: Community Schools Fundamentals Conference, New York City, NY

Children's Aid National Center for Community Schools presents the Community Schools Fundamentals Conference, a three-day seminar designed specifically for those new or relatively new to community schools. The Fundamentals Conference will share CA's lessons learned from over 25 years of implementation in New York City and capacity building across the country and beyond. In addition to conducting a study visit to a CA community school, participants will learn about the foundations and the "nuts and bolts" of the strategy. For more information and to register, follow [this link](#)!

10/25-10/26: 48th Annual Youth Development Training Conference, Tarrytown, NY

The Association of Youth Bureaus and The Coalition for Homeless Youth invite youth professionals to attend their Annual Youth Development Training Conference. The training conference will focus on issues and initiatives supporting positive youth development, runaway and homeless youth, and afterschool programs and services. The conference offers colleagues the opportunity to share best/promising practices, learn skill sets to assist youth in achieving their goals, and hear updates on federal, state, and local issues and initiatives impacting the youth development field. More information can be found [here](#).



2018 ROCHESTER REGIONAL TRAINING INSTITUTE

Saturday, November 10

11/10: Rochester Training Institute, Rochester

Our Rochester Training Institute is returning and will take place Saturday, November 10th, 2018. For

more information, please click [here!](#)

11/12-11/14: Summer Changes Everything, Missouri

Join hundreds of summer learning and expanded opportunity leaders on November 12-14 in Kansas City, MO for National Summer Learning Association's annual conference devoted entirely to summer learning. What to expect? The nation's top summer time leaders from across the country sharing and discussing effective learning approaches, systems building, program planning, policies, and ways to advocate for our nation's children. More information and registration can be found [here!](#)

3/5-3/18: National AfterSchool Association Convention, New York, New York

Join our community for four days of networking, learning, and inspiration. For more information follow [this link.](#)

3/16: Terra Science and Engineering Fair

Whether you want to explore Cassini's adventures around Saturn, test water quality in a local creek, or design an app to prep for your next exam, the Terra Northeast Regional Science & Engineering Fair (TNRSEF) enables you to ask questions and find answers! Students in grades 6-12 can come to SUNY Geneseo in March to celebrate all s/he has learned and perhaps even earn an award. More information can be found [here.](#)



5/10-5/11: Network for Youth Success Annual Conference, Saratoga Springs

Save the Date! Back by popular demand for one more year in Saratoga Springs! Stay tuned for more information!

Follow Us!



[Remove my name from all future email correspondence](#)

Address postal inquiries to:

New York State Network for Youth Success, Inc.

415 River Street

Troy, NY 12180

Powered By

Blackbaud eTapestry™

--

Emma Terwilliger

Network Coordinator | New York State Network for Youth Success

Formerly: AfterSchool Works! NY: the New York State Afterschool Network (ASW:NYSAN)

415 River Street, 2nd Floor | Troy, NY 12180 & 81 Prospect St, 2nd Floor | Brooklyn, NY 11201

[t] 518.694.0660 [w] www.NetworkForYouthSuccess.org [e] regional@networkforyouthsuccess.org

[tw] [@NYSYouthSuccess](https://www.facebook.com/NetworkForYouthSuccess) [fb] www.facebook.com/NetworkForYouthSuccess

Promoting young people's safety, learning, and healthy development **beyond** the traditional classroom

Empower Youth Success



2018 ROCHESTER REGIONAL TRAINING INSTITUTE

Saturday, November 10

Registration for the Rochester Regional Training Institute is Now Open!

[REGISTER HERE](#)