NAA AfterSchool Leaders, Revised QSA Tool, and More!
October 2018

New QSA Tool & Upcoming Webinars!

The Network for Youth Success released the newly revised Quality Self-Assessment (QSA) Tool, Third Edition this month. This self-assessment tool is designed to offer practical insight on the self-assessment process to aid in your quality improvement and planning efforts. It is designed around ten elements of quality and contains an all new Informal STEM Learning Supplemental Element created in partnership with the PEAR Institute. The updated tool incorporates recent research and best-practices and has been shortened where possible for ease of use.

While use of the tool is required for programs funded through the 21st Century Community Learning Centers and Advantage After School Program funding streams, and recommended for programs receiving Empire State After-School Program and Extended School Day funding, it is designed to be relevant and reasonable for all programs. The web tool and its accompanying resources are provided at no cost to allow all programs access.

Access the New QSA Tool

The QSA Tool is available in many forms. The guidebook, including the full tool, is available on our website here. The QSA section of the website also includes each element along with suggested resources to help with improvement. Finally, to include stakeholders in your self-assessment process, the tool is available in downloadable spreadsheets.

Learn to Use the New QSA Tool with Free Webinars

An Introduction to the Quality Self-Assessment (QSA) Tool, Third Edition
October 18, 1:30 – 2:30 pm EST
Register now

A Year with the QSA Tool, Third Edition for Self-Assessment Leaders
November 7, 1:00 – 2:00 pm EST
Register now

In Person Opportunities
NAA Seeks Next Generation of AfterSchool Leaders

Do you know someone under the age of 30 who is an afterschool champion and a believer in the power of afterschool? NAA is looking to honor these individuals for the Next Generation of AfterSchool Leaders 2019!

They’re specifically looking for individuals who:

- Are active in the afterschool community, including but not limited to NAA and its state affiliates.
- Demonstrate the NAA Core Competencies.
- Posses passion for their work as an afterschool leader; have a clear purpose in their efforts to support their program and their peers; and show persistence in their work to grow as a leader in the field of afterschool!

**LEARN MORE & NOMINATE A LEADER**

Those selected will be featured in the Winter 2019 issue of *AfterSchool Today* magazine. They will also receive a free NAA Executive Membership, free 2019 Annual Convention Registration, and recognition at the 2019 Convention!

**Nominations will be accepted through October 18, 2018.**

**Spotlight**

**Aperture Education**

The mission of **Aperture Education** is to ensure that all members of school and afterschool communities, both children and adults, have the social and emotional skills to be successful, productive, and happy. They achieve this by providing teachers, administrators, parents, and students with accurate and actionable data about their social and emotional strengths and needs. Aperture Education pairs this data with research-informed strategies and resources leading to improved outcomes. The organization very much runs like a not-for-profit, as it is keenly aware that 99.9% of their clients are not-for-profit or non-profit.
We spoke to Karen DeChant Ross, a Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Account Executive at Aperture Education, about her role and the importance of programs like Aperture to the expanded learning field. Karen had previously been working in college and career readiness for her local community college, Central Piedmont Community College. Her work surrounded training and providing resources to the headquartered companies in Charlotte, NC, and she was familiar with the afterschool, summer, and expanded learning time organizations based there. Karen worked with a number of foundations and health organizations, and her experience parlayed into a position with Aperture Education, heading up the OST/Afterschool team and focusing on providing resources to this sector in the area of social and emotional development. Karen says she fell in love with the notion that you can help organizations focus on these skills, provide resources to help the children grow, and be able to actually measure that growth and showcase it to funders and leadership. It’s a unique position, and she feels honored to have been offered this job.

Aperture’s key product line is the Devereux Student Strengths’ Assessment, a strength-based assessment of social and emotional skills for grades K-8th. Typically, assessments for these age levels were solely focused on in-school teachers and school psychologists. The development of the DESSA was uniquely focused on including afterschool, making it a unique approach to SEL and to afterschool. They firmly believe that all afterschool programs are social and emotional programs. Creating a space where a child can feel safe, satisfied, and cared for is the very beginning of teaching social and emotional skills, giving the children a place to begin to grow in self-management, social awareness, and optimistic thinking. Additionally, Aperture Education is one of the only research-backed, evidence-based, strength-based, universal screener, and progress monitor for SEL with the DESSA-mini. It is an 8-question form that can be used to screen a population to figure out where that child is in regard to their SEL skill development. Karen urged that Aperture Education feels really lucky to be able to say they have that tool.

Karen told us that her favorite part of her job is that Aperture Education really is mission driven. Karen says that they “really are focused on all children and adults having the SEL skills to become successful happy adults.” She added that having a full time Research & Development Team is huge. She can call them on the phone or Skype and ask all kinds of statistical and psychology-based research questions and get answers in a snap.

Register for the 2018 Rochester Regional Training Institute!
Saturday, November 10, 2018
Radisson Hotel Rochester Airport 175 Jefferson Rd, Rochester, NY 14623

REGISTER NOW!

High-Quality Professional Development

- Six OCFS training hours
- Variety of topics
- Appropriate for supervisors, teachers, and frontline staff working with school-age children
- Networking opportunities
- Buffet lunch

For More Information:
Visit our Regional Institute Webpage

Scholarships
Scholarship funding to participate in this training may be available through the Educational Incentive Program (EIP). For more information or to apply for a scholarship, please visit www.eceto.pdp.albany.edu. You may also contact EIP at eip@albany.edu or 800-295-9616. If you have received an EIP, please sign it and mail it to the Network along with your registration.
For any questions or to register via check or EIP, please contact Erin@networkforyouthsuccess.org.

Now Accepting Proposals for the 2019 Annual Conference!
Friday, May 10, 2019 to Saturday, May 11, 2018
Saratoga Embassy Suites in Saratoga Springs, NY

This event brings in over 200 afterschool professionals (administrators, executive directors, directors, teachers, and frontline staff) from across the state. We are accepting proposals in the following topics, but are also open to new and innovative ideas. The workshops are either 90 minutes or 30 minutes.

- Diversity and Inclusion
- Social and Emotional Learning
- Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics (STEAM)
- Guiding Children’s Behaviors
- Program Sustainability
- Program Quality Improvement
- Leadership Development for Professionals
- Family Engagement
- Trauma-Informed Care
- Arts
- Self-Care
- Movement

Submit Your Proposal Today!
All submissions are due by October 24, 2018. Selected presenters will be notified by November 30, 2018. Accepted presenters also receive free admission to the conference on the day of their presentation.

Feel free to share this RFP with your colleagues and friends!

The link to the RFP:

More information on the event:
http://networkforyouthsuccess.org/annual-conference/

To register as a participant:
Registration will begin in December!

If you have any questions, please contact Erin@networkforyouthsuccess.org.

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?

How do I Participate?
Please take our survey at bit.ly/AfterschoolProgramSurvey. 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!

Upcoming Events

10/16 and 10/17: The ECMHC Crisis of Confidence
This live webinar series is designed to support those providing early childhood mental health consultation. A crisis of confidence happens in situations in which we have stopped believing that someone or something can work (is good). The work of an ECMHC can be as heartbreaking as it is rewarding. It is imperative that ECMHCs take time to pause and reflect on the emotionally intense nature of this work and the toll it takes on our confidence. Join seasoned ECMHC, Rachel Wagner, to do just that. To register click here.

10/18: Family Child Care for School-Age Children- Exploring Quality and Access
A Webinar From the National Center on Afterschool and Summer Enrichment from 3:00 – 4:30 pm (Eastern Daylight Time). Family child care (FCC) is an important option for families of children across the age continuum, including school-age children. Families may choose family child care as a home-setting, neighborhood-based option that can serve all siblings over time. Additional reasons may include the linguistic and cultural background of the family or a need for nontraditional-hour care. The webinar includes: sharing promising practices for state systems-building that can strengthen the quality of FCC experiences for school-age children, exploring strategies, challenges, and solutions for FCC supply-building efforts for school-age children, and reviewing strategies and challenges identified by providers for supporting school-age children in mixed-age groups. Select this Web link to register for the webinar. For questions contact the National Center on Afterschool and Summer Enrichment (NCASE) team at ncase@ecetta.info.

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!

10/23: Immigrant Students in the College Process Workshop from Options Institute
Undocumented students, permanent residents, refugees, and asylees all face different challenges in applying to, getting in to, and paying for college. Guided by both legal and college access professionals, participants examine strategies and resources to help immigrant students through the
college application and financial aid processes. Key topics include identifying and understanding immigration status, adjustment of immigration status, impact of residency status on college admission and financial aid, and counseling undocumented students and students with undocumented parents through the college process. Presented in collaboration with a Legal Aid Society attorney on Tuesday, October 23 from 9-4PM at 352 West 110 Street. Register here.

10/23 and 10/30: Building Your Bounce Professional Development Learning Series
This train-the-trainer live webinar series provides participants with a copy of the Building Your Bounce Professional Development Learning Series that can be used to promote staff wellness in a variety of professional development events including staff meetings and in-service trainings. Join Neferetti and learn how you can create an overall culture of resilience. To register, click here.

10/24: Foundational Series for Line Staff: Child Abuse Identification and Prevention
Participants in this Partnership for After School Education workshop will learn physical and behavioral indicators of child abuse and maltreatment. Participants will learn when and how a report must be made, actions the reporter is mandated to take, legal protections afforded reporters, and consequences for failing to report. The workshop is from 10am-1pm in NYC. Click here for more information, how to register, and a full list of events.

10/25: Lights On Afterschool, Nationwide
One million Americans will celebrate afterschool programs at 8,000 events nationwide. It's time for Lights On Afterschool! Registration for the 19th annual nationwide rally for afterschool is open. Thursday, October 25, 2018 is a golden opportunity to make sure parents, policymakers, and community leaders understand the impact of afterschool programs in keeping kids safe, inspiring them to learn, and giving families peace of mind. The event planning kit has all the tools you need to help generate press coverage, excite the community, and inspire policymakers to invest in afterschool. Register today!

10/25: Town Hall Meeting: Examining the Business Side of Child Care
During this unique training, attorney and child care business expert Tom Copeland, and OCFS regulations expert Mark DeCicco, analyze case studies and highlight regulatory red flags with professionals from the child care community. At your site, you'll dissect the case studies and discuss your findings with your group. Then all participants around the state will tune in to hear what the experts Mr. Copeland and Mr. DeCicco have to say about the case studies and what you can do to avoid similar risky situations. The webinar is going to be packed with valuable information that will help fulfill the business maintenance responsibilities of your program. You’re not going to want to miss out, so register today! Visit the website www.ecetp.pdp.albany.edu and click “Sign Up for Webcast Training.”

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.

10/26-10/28: 2018 NAMI-NYS Educational Conference
The conference will feature national leaders in mental health research, treatment, service delivery and advocacy who will provide attendees with the tools needed to understand how the treatment of psychiatric disorders is moving forward. Key topics disseminated at the conference will include identifying various types of community-based mental health services, the importance of family engagement in recovery, how to communicate the need for treatment to people who refuse treatment or don’t recognize their illness, suicide prevention strategies, how NAMI-NYS can serve as a community partner, as well as explore key advocacy issues such as mental health housing and insurance parity. To register, follow this link.

Located at Borough of Manhattan Community College, this year's theme is "Putting Authenticity into Practice." The centerpiece is hands-on professional development to help educators bring authenticity-focused social emotional learning (SEL) into their classrooms, schools, and communities. The conference also features plenaries, networking events, poster sessions, presentations, and a screening and discussion of the documentary. Won't You Be My Neighbor? New York State educators can receive up to 16 CTLE credits by attending the conference. A limited number of guest registrations is available. Email skrauss@childrensartsguild.org for registration information. You can also find more information by downloading this flyer.

11/1: Foundational Series for Line Staff: Creating Physically Safe Spaces
In this Partnership for After School Education workshop, participants will learn how to spot safety hazards and make appropriate changes to keep youth safe. Participants will also understand safety procedures for indoor and outdoor environments, such as fire drills, evacuations, field trips and travel, and inter-agency communication; and gain a better understanding of effective communication and emergency response systems with program stakeholders, including parents, agency headquarters, and if school-based, designated building administrators. Participants will review School-Age Child Care (SACC) regulations related to safety and understand what their site's safety plan should include.
The workshop is from 10am-1pm in NYC. Registration opens on Monday, October 15 at 9:00 am. Click here for more information, how to register, and a full list of events.

11/1 and 11/8: Optimize Your Use of the DECA-C (Clinical)
This live webinar series highlights the DECA-C (Clinical): a standardized, norm-referenced behavior rating scale that evaluates behaviors related to social and emotional resilience and concerns in preschool children ages 2 through 5. It is designed to support early intervention efforts to reduce or eliminate significant emotional and behavioral concerns in preschool children. This webinar will focus on using the DECA-C as part of the DECA Program as well as its use as a stand alone tool. To register click here.

11/8: Foundational Series for Line Staff: Conflict Resolution
This Partnership for After School Education workshop will cover the basics of conflict resolution and effective communication. By exploring the roots of conflict, participants will gain new strategies not only for dealing positively with conflict, but also for helping children and youth manage conflicts. Participants will have the opportunity to practice conflict mediation skills through role-plays and active listening. The workshop is from 10am-1pm in NYC. Registration opens on Monday, October 22 at 9:00 am. Click here for more information, how to register, and a full list of events.

11/10: Rochester Training Institute, Rochester
Our Rochester Training Institute is returning and will take place Saturday, November 10th, 2018. Take advantage of the Early Bird Rate until September 30! Register Now! This includes High-Quality Professional Development; six OCFS training hours; a variety of topics, and is appropriate for supervisors, teachers, and frontline staff working with school-age children, networking opportunities, and a buffet lunch! 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! Click here for more information!

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