Afterschool Professionals Week, Board Spotlight, and More!
April 2019

Happy Afterschool Professionals Appreciation Week!
TODAY ONLY: Discount on This Year's Annual Conference!

May 10 & May 11 in Saratoga Springs, NY

As a thank you for the work afterschool professionals are doing, the Network will be discounting the cost of this year's Annual Conference today!

But get yours quick, this special offer is for TODAY ONLY!

REGISTER HERE!

Spotlight
Andy Turner, Program Leader for the New York State 4-H Youth Development Program of Cornell Cooperative Extension

Andy Turner, the Program Leader for the New York State 4-H Youth Development Program of Cornell Cooperative Extension, has been at Cornell since 2012. The State 4-H Office is part of the College of Human Ecology and College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Cornell University in Ithaca. Andy has also been a board member for the Network for Youth Success since its beginnings.

We asked Andy about what he finds most fulfilling about being a member of the board. He stated, “Board members and staff are all incredibly committed and passionate about the work. I think everyone is very clear on what the work is about and why it matters to our youth, families, and overall quality of life here in New York State.” Andy added that he feels energized and optimistic about the future after every board meeting.
Andy says his support for the Network’s mission has fueled his active involvement in the work. He remarked further, “It has been an honor to try and contribute to the mission and vision of the organization, network with the amazing partners and staff involved, and also learn more about afterschool program delivery in particular as that delivery method continues to be more and more important to the future of 4-H.”

He pointed out that the mission of 4-H is very similar to the mission of the Network in that they are both working to ensure that positive youth development principles are incorporated into programs at all levels. Andy told us, “I think a big part of the future of youth development is going to be collaboration among schools, non-profits, and government. We need to share space, resources, and find new approaches to our work that build on the unique assets and strengths that different organizations bring to the table. I like the challenge of trying to figure all of that out.”

Andy also included that 4-H is known historically as more of a rural, agriculture oriented youth program. However, they reached over 180,000 New York State youth ages 5-19 in 2018 working in every New York State County and in New York City. The 4-H of 2019 is organized around the four pillar areas of STEM, Civic Engagement, Healthy Living, and Agriculture and Food Systems. Andy urged that they “provide opportunities for youth to find their spark, engage with positive adult mentors, and develop a passion or skill that might last a lifetime. Leading and collaborating with other institutions to deliver high quality youth programming in the classroom and during the afterschool setting is a rapidly growing strategy in 4-H.”

For more information about the Network for Youth Success board, contact Kelly Sturgis.

**KIT and NAA Partner to Support Disability Inclusion in Afterschool Programs**

According to UNICEF, 1 out of every 20 children aged 14 or younger (93 million kids worldwide) is living with a moderate or severe disability, leading them to be marginalized and excluded from their schools or communities.

The National Longitudinal Transition Study found that compared to their typically developing peers, only 33 percent of students with intellectual and developmental disabilities participated in any extracurricular activities. These children and youth have the right to be meaningfully included, regardless of their ability.

To help reduce exclusion, Kids Included Together (KIT) and the National AfterSchool Association (NAA) have launched a new partnership, to make afterschool programs a welcoming and safe place for children and youth with disabilities, complex needs, or behavior challenges.

“Our nonprofit's mission is to ensure that children with varying abilities have a chance to reach their full potential as productive, caring and responsible citizens,” said Torrie Dunlap, CEO, KIT. “This new partnership will ensure that our best-in-class inclusion and
behavior support training and professional development is available to more afterschool professionals. This professional development will help them be better prepared to make accommodations and provide a welcoming environment for all kids—regardless of their abilities.

The KIT mission compliments the NAA mission to promote development, provide education, and encourage advocacy for the out-of-school time community, to further the afterschool profession. "At NAA, we understand every individual is unique and we continually strive to provide opportunities that foster the social, emotional, physical, and intellectual needs of all youth," said Heidi Ham, Vice President of Programs and Strategy, NAA. "Children achieve their full potential when supported through an empowering program space."

KIT has been the leading provider of inclusion training and support for youth development and enrichment organizations for more than 20 years, using a blended learning approach that supports professional development and learning with:

- On-site training (17 topics).
- Inclusion Support Center coaching and support calls.
- Online, on-demand learning in the KIT Online Learning Center.
- More than 80 hours of online training worth 8.1 IACET-accredited CEUs, via eModules, live and archived webinars, videos, downloadable tools, and tips.

Visit KIT and NAA to learn more about the organizations' work to support disability inclusion.

*Courtesy of NAA.*

*Photo courtesy of KIT.*

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**Upcoming Events**

**4/25-26: Positive Youth Development 101, Syracuse, NY**
This highly interactive 2-day training will explore key principles of youth development such as building youth positive outcomes, supportive relationships and environments for youth, youth voice and engagement opportunities, as well as effective programming strategies. It will also examine the role of the youth worker by discussing core competencies and dilemmas of youth work. [Register Here!](#) If you have any questions, contact Jutta Dotterweich at 607-255-4108 or jd81@cornell.edu.

**5/7: What's Great in Our State 2019, Rotterdam, NY**
This event will host three morning workshops, a children's artwork exhibit, young adult keynote speakers, and a catered honoree recognition luncheon to celebrate the people bringing positive mental health outcomes for children, youth, young adults, and families. For more information and registration, [click here](#).

**5/9: Community Schools and Multi-Tiered Systems, Newark, NY**
Join the growing number of community and school professionals working together to integrate Multi-Tiered Systems of Support with Community Schools. Dr. Jason Andrews, NYS Superintendent of the Year, Lukas Weinstein from the National Center for Community Schools, and representatives from the Wayne County Partnerships for Strengthening Families and Midwest PBIS will explore ways to align and integrate existing programs and services with a community schools strategy. For more information and how to register, [click here](#).
5/10: Special Events to Foster Philanthropic Engagement, New York, NY
In this session, participants will review the range and purpose of special events. Participants will identify how the variety of special events support the overall fund development plan of the organization and learn how to strategically deploy board and staff to achieve the targeted objective of the event. Participants will also explore strategies and timelines for before, during, and after an event to ensure its success. Register here.

5/10-5/11: Network for Youth Success Annual Conference, Saratoga Springs, NY
Back by popular demand for one more year in Saratoga Springs! The New York State Network for Youth Success is holding its Annual Conference May 10 & 11! Come attend New York's only statewide conference for Afterschool, Summer, and Expanded Learning Professionals. This conference brings together over 200 professionals to participate in two full days of workshops on topics ranging from SEL to Leadership. Follow this link to register today!

5/20: Making Service Part of Your Afterschool Program Culture Webinar
This webinar will be approximately 30 minutes long and will feature at least one of the 96 tools from the Beyond the Bell Toolkit. The featured tool will be available for free download from the Beyond the Bell website following the webinar. Follow this link to register.

6/1: Smart Coos’ National Bilingual Bee & Biliteracy Competition, Brooklyn, NY
Register for Smart Coos’ First Annual National Bilingual Bee & Biliteracy Competition! This event aims to bring 250+ bilingual student participants, ages 6-15, together. The competition will assess children’s proficiency in English along with one of these languages: Mandarin Chinese, French, Spanish, or Haitian Creole. If there are students who would like to participate or educators who would like to volunteer/judge, please email Mirta at mirta@smartcoos.com

6/12 & 6/19: Building Your Bounce Professional Development Learning Series Webinar
This two part train-the-trainer webinar experience provides participants with a copy of the Building Your Bounce Professional Development Learning Series, a three-part digital training tool that includes recorded videos that cover topics including, "Examining Our Own Risk and Protective Factors," "What Resilience Means to Me," and "Introduction to the Devereux Adult Resilience Survey - 23 Questions That Can Change the Way You Look at Life." Trainers and coaches will learn to use this innovative, digital tool to promote adult wellness in a variety of settings, including staff meetings, in-service trainings and parent workshops. Join Nefertiti and learn how you can create an overall culture of resilience. Register here. (Registration closes June 5).

8/4-8/10: Mindfulness Training for Educators, Lake Placid, NY
This weeklong program set in the idyllic environment of a lakeside retreat in the Adirondacks explores teaching for the 21st century. Participants will learn mindfulness practices, meditation, the neuroscience of learning, the nature of mind, and how to cultivate their inner resources. Each day will include experiential learning, as well as a cognitive element -- and afternoons will be free to enjoy the many outdoor activities available to us, or to simply relax and read a book. Learn how mindfulness might benefit you in your role as an educator, and re-connect with the ideals that brought you into this field from the start! Click here for more information and how to register.

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