New CACFP Reimbursement Rates, Lights on Afterschool, Trainings and More!
August 14, 2019

Spotlight
Tarilyn Little, Early Literacy Manager for ExpandED

Meet Tarilyn Little, the Early Literacy Manager for ExpandED Schools. ExpandED Schools is an organization that supports afterschool and expanded learning time through capacity-building, technical assistance, and advocacy.

Tarilyn’s first taste of afterschool work started in high school where she served as an assistant group leader for a summer program in her native Jamaica, Queens. Tarilyn got “too old” to participate in the program and began to volunteer. Eventually, her skills were noticed, and she was hired as a full time staff member, thus beginning her professional career in the afterschool/expanded learning field. When asked why she decided to stick with to working in said career field, Tarilyn answered and attributed it to her own childhood experiences. She said, “The power of this field was apparent in my own lived experience, and these experiences, along with a love for working with children, has led to a life devoted to creating spaces for positive development and enrichment for youth.”

Currently, Tarilyn oversees and facilitates training, curriculum development, and provides site support for two early literacy initiatives. The first of which is labeled "Ready Readers," which is designed for students in grades K-3 and combines rich stories, interactive read alouds, and hands-on extension projects. With the Ready Readers program, she aims to support positive identity development, cultural competence, social emotional skills, critical thinking, reading comprehension, and most of all, promote a love of reading! The other initiative, "Rising Readers," aims to support the same areas for 4th and 5th grade kids through student-led literature circles and post-book group projects.

Finally, we asked Tarilyn her favorite part about her job, to which she replied, "The best part of it all, is getting out to programs and seeing the magic that happens when children are captivated by a great story."
If you are interested to learn more about Tarilyn and/or her work, click on the link above to visit ExpandED Schools website.

New CACFP Reimbursement Rates!

The USDA just released the 2019-2020 CACFP reimbursement rates, and it looks like there were some modest increases. For At-Risk Afterschool Snack/Supper, the new meal rates rose 3%, rising from $3.31/meal to $3.41/meal, while snack rates increased by 3.3%, from $.91 to $.94. All the more reason to apply for CACFP reimbursement funding and put meals on the table for kids.

Looking at the Economics

In terms of an increase, the around 3% rate increase for both meals and snacks is a "real" economic increase. Now "real" in economic terms refers to purchasing power. Often times someone will experience a annual raise. More often then not, this is simply to adjust for natural inflation. However, with these new rates increasing at around 3%, they have adjusted above the inflation rate, which according to the Bereau of Labor Statistics sat at about 2% from this time last year. This means there was a real rise in meal rates, thus increasing your ability to purchase higher quality meals despite annual inflation.

For more information, you can check out the federal register notice, or email Marcos Velazquez via capacity@networkforyouthsuccess.org

Free KIND Bar Snack Giveaway

Its Lights On Afterschool Season!

We're thrilled to announce that KIND is celebrating the 20th Lights On Afterschool with us on October 24!

While supplies last, KIND is donating 150 free KIND snacks to support programs' Lights On Afterschool celebrations. Be one of the first to complete your registration for Lights On Afterschool to guarantee your spot.

KIND's donation is part of the company's commitment to “make the world a little kinder.” That mission also drove the creation of Empatico, a free research- and standards-based platform designed to help educators spark curiosity, kindness, and empathy. Empatico connects young people ages 6-11 around the world with their peers to share perspectives. Get the details and sign up here to earn a $50 Amazon gift card for trying out Empatico.

Register Now for the Rochester Regional Training Institute

Early Bird Rate Ends October 1st

Register today for the Rochester Regional Training Institute on Saturday, November 9, 2019! This event will be held at a new location: the Holiday Inn - Downtown Rochester and will still provide all of the high-quality professional development opportunities.

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

Don’t miss out! The early bird rate will only be available until October 1st!
Visit our website [here](https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0?ik=c64bdf719d&view=pt&search=all&permthid=thread-f%3A1641847827543677860&simpl=msg-f%3A16418478275) for more information and registration.

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**Empire State After-School Program (ESAP)**

The New York State Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS), in consultation with the New York State Education Department, invites eligible school districts and not-for-profit community-based organizations to submit proposals for the establishment and/or expansion of quality afterschool programs for the Empire State After-School Program (ESAP).

The total amount allocated for this RFP is **$10 million**; $2 million will initially be made available to qualifying applicants with programs located in school districts in high-need school districts in Nassau or Suffolk counties.

Here are some highlights from the new RFP released on August 2, 2019 (Please note that RFPs can be amended. We will send updates on amendments accordingly):

**To be considered for funding, the proposal MUST:**

- serve an eligible school district listed
- agree to offer a gang-prevention program
- operate a minimum of fifteen (15) hours per week for at least 28 weeks per year

In addition, if the applicant is a not-for-profit community-based organization (CBO), the [Partnership Agreement](http://networkforyouthsuccess.org/rochester-regional-training-institute/) provided with the RFP MUST:

- be filled out in its entirety and signed by an authorized representative for the not-for-profit CBO and eligible school district, without changes to or addendums added
- be provided for EACH site the applicant proposes to serve

**Additional Information:**

- Deadline for Proposals: Friday, September 6th at 4:00 EST
- Terms of Contract: 3-year period (Sept. 2019-Aug. 2022)
- Maximum expense per child: $1,600
- Administrative cost cap: 15%
Questions: Please contact RFP@ocfs.ny.gov for any questions regarding the information above.

Network for Youth Success Events

9/17: Distance Learning SAC Credential Course, Statewide
Looking to advance in the school-age child care field? Register for the Distance Learning SAC Credential Course this September and you could be qualified to be a Site Director by the end of the school year! Click here for more information and how to register.

9/18: Capital Region SAC Credential Course, Albany, NY
The New York State School-Age Care Credential promotes quality services to children and families by providing specific standards, training, and evaluation of school-age staff members and providers. It is an opportunity for adults working with school-age children to gain professional recognition for demonstrating competence in their on-the-job skills. The first semester of the course begins September 18 and goes until December 18. The second semester will begin January 8, 2020 and go to April 8, 2020. These classes will be held from 6:30pm-9:30pm and the cost of attendance is $1,250 per semester. Click here for more information and how to register.

10/5: North Country Training Institute, Plattsburgh, NY
Join Erin Broderick and Timothy Fowler for a day of school-age training! The North Country Training Institute will cover topics relevant to school-age providers in afterschool, summer, and expanded learning programs. This day-long event features four 90-minute sessions (a total of 6 hours of training): guiding positive behaviors, managing transitions, engineering design, and bookmaking. For more information and how to register, click here.

10/14: Columbus Day Training Event, Troy, NY
Join Timothy Fowler and Jay Roscup for 6 hours of training! The trainings will consist of 3 hours on group games and STEM activities and 3 hours on trauma-informed care (OCFS areas 1, 2, 3, 4). The training will be held at our offices in Troy, NY. For more information and registration, click here!

11/8: Regional Network Symposium, Rochester, NY
Our Regional Network Symposium will be November 8 at the Holiday Inn in downtown Rochester! Look out for more information here and on our website.

11/9: Rochester Training Institute, Rochester, NY
Our Training Institute will be Saturday, November 9, at the Holiday Inn in Downtown Rochester! Participants of this event will receive six OCFS training hours, a variety of training topics appropriate for supervisors, teachers, and frontline staff working with school-age children, networking opportunities, and a buffet lunch! Click here for more information and how to register or to access the RFP to present.

Our 2020 Annual Conference will be in Troy for 2020! Our annual conference will contain two full days of frontline and directors level trainings as well as an abundance of vendors. To submit an RFP by 10/24/19, visit our website here. To become a vendor, click here.

Statewide Events

8/19-8/20: Games in Education Symposium, Troy, NY
This is a two-day event focusing on the use of 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 and related technology to enrich and inspire interest by students in core curriculum topics. The symposium has run annually since 2007 and is free for educators to attend. See more at: http://gamesineducation.org/

10/24: Lights On Afterschool, Nationwide
Since 2000, Lights On Afterschool has been celebrated nationwide to call attention to the importance of afterschool programs for America’s children, families, and communities. Click here for more information.

4/28 - 5/1: 2020 BOOST Conference, Palm Springs, CA
The 2020 BOOST Conference will convene over 2,500 global educators April 28 - May 1 in sunny Palm Springs, CA. They are now in the Early-Bird registration phase with a rate of $465. Register your team today to celebrate the best of afterschool and expanded learning fields. Early-Bird ends October 31, 2019. Click here for more information and how to apply.

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