Back-to-Afterschool Resources, Policy, and More!
August 21, 2019

Spotlight
Kenrick Wagner, Founder of Project Gametime LLC

Meet Kenrick Wagner, the founder of Project Gametime LLC, a company that provides training and consulting to sleep-away camps and afterschool programs in New York, New Jersey, and beyond.

Kenrick first began working in the afterschool field back in 2001, where he served as a Group Leader for the Decatur Clearpool Afterschool Program in Brooklyn, NY. As a kid Kenrick never had afterschool programs available to him, but after doing some work in the field, he realized the importance of said programs. Eventually, Kenrick decided to apply for jobs relating to the field, outside of the city. After spending some years in the field, Kenrick developed his own idea for an afterschool program, and, thus founded Project Gametime LLC.

The program developed by Kenrick provides staff training and development for professionals in camps, schools, and corporations that want or need support staying relevant to youth through staff and student centered approaches. Personally, Kenrick believes that today’s youth “needs access to places where they can safely engage in their own creativity and feel empowered to take healthy risks when guided by role models who are there to serve them.” He further adds, “On a basic level, kids need to be kids... in a world where our disadvantages force our youth to grow up faster than life intended. Afterschool is a place where we can slow down the speed of life.”

When asked about his favorite part of the job, Kenrick responded, “Honestly the positive interaction with youth, seeing their smiles and engaging in ideas and watching it come to life.”

If you would like to know more about Project Gametime LLC, or look through some of their online resources, hit the link above.
Policy Corner
Take Action - CCDBG Funding 2020

The Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) Act provides federal funding to states for child care subsidies for low-income families with children under age 13, as well as flexibility to pair state and federal funds to improve the quality of child care available to families within existing state and local systems. Congress and the White House recently agreed to a funding levels, and now the Senate will draft appropriations bills over the next few weeks. The House already passed a $2.4 billion increase for CCDBG, and we need the Senate to do the same.

Right now, you can help by uplifting these parent stories about CCDBG and/or these provider stories about the need and use of funding on social media.

Sample Tweets:

- Increased CCDBG funding has allowed NY to improve & expand child care services. Let’s build on that success! #FundChildCare
- CCDBG funds have improved child care access, but many families still can’t afford the quality care they need. #FundChildCare

If you would like to watch a quick 3 minute video about CCDBG, click here.

Back-to-Afterschool Resources

Building Relationships and Routines
The National AfterSchool Association is offering a new eBook for building relationships and routines. Just in time for back-to-school, or in our case, back-to-afterschool, this guide helps you build and establish strong ties with parents, children, and other professionals. In addition, you will find 30 carefully selected games and activities to help afterschool programs succeed by creating a safe and supportive environment. For a look at the new eBook, click here.

Summer Learning Insights from The Wallace Foundation
A new report from the RAND Corporation, commissioned by The Wallace Foundation, describes more than 40 summer programs backed by research strong enough to meet federal ESSA requirements.

For more summer resources, read the Summer Learning Perspective and Summer Means Opportunity, highlighting Boston After School & Beyond’s 10 years of summer learning.

Assessing SEL in School-Community Partnerships
CASEL's Assessment in Action series features a blog by ExpandED Schools that provides lessons for implementing aligned social-emotional learning experiences across school-community partnerships. Lessons stem from ExpandED’s partnership with Every Hour Counts to strengthen SEL skills for middle schoolers in NYC and other places.

Register 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 for more information and registration.

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/

9/21: Museum Day, Nationwide
Museum Day is an annual celebration of boundless curiosity hosted by Smithsonian magazine. Participating museums and cultural institutions across the country provide free entry to anyone presenting a Museum Day ticket. The Museum Day ticket provides free admission for two people. For more information, click here.

10/16-10/18: Community Schools Fundamentals Conference, New York, NY
The National Center for Community Schools at Children's Aid presents the Community Schools Fundamentals Conference, a seminar designed specifically for those new or relatively new to community schools. At the Fundamentals Conference, they will share their lessons learned from over 25 years of implementation in New York City and nationwide capacity building. In addition to the option of attending a study visit to a Children's Aid community school, participants will learn about the foundations and the “nuts and bolts” of the strategy. For more information, click here.

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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Remove my name from all future mass email communications.

Address postal inquiries to:
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