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Regional <Regional@networkforyouthsuccess.org> Wed, Aug 7, 2019 at 9:04 AM
To: Marcos Velazquez <capacity@networkforyouthsuccess.org>

Capital Region Training Opportuities, Welcome Marcos, ESAP, & More!

August 7, 2019

NEW YORK STATE NETWORK FOR YOUTH SUCCESS

Spotlight

Welcome Marcos to the Network for Youth Success!

Last Monday, our new VISTA, Marcos Velazquez, started his first day, taking over for our previous VISTA, Jessie Havens. Marcos' role here will be to expand support to multiple regional afterschool networks across New York State. In addition he will be assisting with our membership and professional development opportunities.

Marcos is fresh on the scene, after graduating this Spring from Penn State University with a Bachelor's degree in International Relations and minors in Economics and History. During his four years at University Park, Marcos worked as a Supervisor for Penn State's Intramural Sports Program, while also acting as a volunteer Outreach Ambassador for Clear Water Conservancy during his junior and senior years.

During Marcos' last couple months of college, he said, "I really was unsure about my future and which direction I wanted to head in the professional world." Thinking about this, he thought back to the summer of 2018, where he had worked with an Americorp member during his internship with the State College Borough. Remembering all the amazing benefits and opportunities of Americorp and related fields, Marcos decided to take a deeper look into the programs offered. Two weeks later, Marcos had landed on the Siena College VISTA Fellows Program webpage. In the following weeks, Marcos went through the VISTA matching process by interviewing with several non-profit organizations in the Albany region, including the NYS Network for Youth Success. Following the interviewing process, Marcos decided that he would like to work with the Network. He explained his choice with the following words, "My decision to work with the Network, was really driven by my passion for… well, for lack of better words 'youth success,' and the work that everyone here is doing to support afterschool programs in order to help foster aid to New York's underprivileged communities."

In the following weeks Marcos will be learning the ins and outs of the Network, while assisting with social media and community outreach. He said he is, "excited for the upcoming challenges and

projects and even more excited for the opportunity to work with the other regional networks." Oh and one last thing he wanted to mention... "Go Yanks!"

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 after-school 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 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 reguarding the information above.

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 for more information and registration.

23 Creative Ways To Recycle Plastic Bottles Into DIY Crafts

Article from Bored Panda

Plastic contamination is a terrible issue – the oceans are flooded with plastic waste, which when broken down is ingested by a variety of marine life, which subsequently enters our food chain. In order to help prevent this, recycling plasitic is key, but it doesn't have to happen in the traditional sense.

Plastic bottles can be used for many DIY ideas, from making garden decorations, to brooms, to ottoman seats. Its resilient, flexible, transparent, and food-safe qualities allow us to creatively re-use them for many purposes. So many, that [they've] decided to create a whole post dedicated to plastic bottle recycling and upcycling ideas.

If you don't have an opportunity to separate your waste for recycling, do not throw the beverage bottles out, it might become into a beautiful plastic bottle craft project while also helping our fragile ecosystem as well!

Click here for the full article!

Capital Region Health and Safety Training

This training is a 15 hour requirement for all new directors.
Directors are responsible for hiring, training, and maintaining staff who provide a healthy and safe environment for children. This course will help directors look at policies and procedures that reinforce high-quality health and safety practices. Directors will get the most out of this training if they bring a copy of the policies and procedures from their program.

The Network for Youth Success will be providing this training:

- Thursday, August 22, 2019 – 8:00-4:30
- Monday, August 26, 2019 – 8:00-4:30

This is a two-day course. Participants must attend both days.

- Location: 415 River Street, Troy, NY 12180

Register Today!

CLICK HERE to visit our website for more information.

For questions, contact Erin at 518.694.0660 or erin@networkforyouthsuccess.org

CACFP Corner

The Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) gives a nutritional boost to youth in afterschool programs and school-age childcare programs. Meals reimbursed through CACFP must follow the NYS Department of Health's meal patterns, which specify required food components and minimum serving sizes for different age groups. Use this menu planning template to create a weekly menu meeting the guidelines.

Network for Youth Success Events

8/22 & 8/26: Health & Safety Training: SAC Directors, Troy, NY
This training is a 15 hour requirement for all new directors. Directors are responsible for hiring, training, and maintaining staff who provide a healthy and safe environment for children. This course will help directors look at policies and procedures that reinforce high-quality health and safety practices. Directors will get the most out of this training if they bring a copy of the policies and procedures from their program. This is a two-day course. Participants must attend both days. Click here for more information and how to register.

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 schoolage staff members and providers. It is an opportunity for adults working with schoolage 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.

3/20 - 3/21: School's Out, Make it Count! 2020 Annual Conference, Troy, NY
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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