

Survey Totals:

58 organizations responded to this survey.

Without funding, several programs have already had to lay off staff or will have to lay off staff within two weeks from today. Some programs have already begun advising their staff to apply for unemployment because of inability to run programs without funding.

Of these, 30 have already had to lay off staff totaling 711 staff plus an additional 6 that have laid off their full staff or all part-time staff but did not indicate how many staff they had laid off. The majority of staff laid off thus far have been part-time staff.

Further, 35 of the programs indicated that they will need to let additional staff go imminently, totaling an additional 962 impending layoffs should guidance not be released immediately. The majority of these 962 are full-time staff.

Altogether, the survey respondents served over 16,500 children prior to COVID-19. 4,372 children have already lost access to programming and services due to program closures and layoffs, but the remaining over 12,000 children are still served through a variety of online services, food programs, and more (please see below for the variety of activities being offered). These children will lose access to these services should guidance not be issued. Additionally, the survey respondents indicated overwhelmingly that should guidance be issued now allowing them to pay staff through their current AASP and ESAP contracts, they would retain staff or bring them back immediately and offer remote services and supports to children and families.

The survey respondents represent a diverse cross-section of NYS.

Programs with Advantage and Empire:

Layoffs:

Of the 15 respondents that had both AASP and ESAP, 5 have already laid off staff totaling 176 layoffs. Of these 15 programs, 10 indicated that they will need to let additional staff go imminently, totaling another 600 impending layoffs should guidance not be released immediately. The majority of these are full-time staff members.

Children Served:

These programs served approximately 8011 children prior to COVID-19 across 14 programs - the 15th program has a number of sites with approximately 100 students per site. Of these, 1,080 children have already lost access to services due to closures and layoffs from lack of guidance. The remaining 6,931 stand to lose access if guidance is not released immediately.

Contracts:

13 of these 15 programs indicated that they had contracts that had not yet been executed, but they began programming anyway.

Programs with Advantage:

Layoffs:

Of the 12 respondents that had only AASP, 7 have already laid off staff totaling 55 staff for 4 programs, and 3 others that have laid off all staff or all part-time staff associated with the contract. Of these 12 programs, 6 indicated that they will need to let additional staff go imminently, totaling another 79 impending layoffs should guidance not be released immediately. The majority of these are full-time staff members.

Children Served:

11 of these 12 programs served 1433 students before COVID-19. 1 has not begun programming due to an unexecuted contract. Of these, 480 children have already lost access to services due to closures and layoffs from lack of guidance. The remaining 953 stand to lose access if guidance is not released immediately.

Contracts:

7 others also have unexecuted contracts, but have begun programming.

Programs with Empire:

Layoffs:

Of the 31 programs that had only ESAP, 18 have already laid off staff totaling 480 staff for 15 programs, and 3 others have laid off all staff or all frontline staff. Of these 31 programs, 19 indicated that they will need to let additional staff go imminently, totaling another 283 impending layoffs should guidance not be released immediately. The majority of these are full-time staff members.

Children Served:

Of these, 30 programs served 7035 children prior to COVID-19. Of these, 2,812 children have already lost access to services due to closures and layoffs from lack of guidance. The remaining 4,223 stand to lose access if guidance is not released immediately.

Contracts:

One respondent has not begun programming due to an unexecuted contract. 9 others also have unexecuted contracts, but have begun programming.

What programs are doing now: Many afterschool programs continue to adapt and provide vital services and support students and families need during this difficult time. Programs reported that they are currently:

- Adapting and deploying staff to directly respond to the childcare needs of essential workers, including deployment to NYC's Regional Enrichment Center.
- Providing online distance learning for including virtual STEM, academic enrichment and virtual fitness activities
- Creating and providing lesson plans and virtual learning platforms, connecting with participants and families, planning on how to support families and participants going forward based on whether or not schools reopen and working on ways to support essential staff with their childcare needs
- Performing wellness checks for students and families
- Serving as food service providers, utilizing their resources (kitchens, workspace) to help prepare and deliver foods to students
- Working on program development, staff trainings and setting up for virtual afterschool
- Updating program handbooks and preparing for programs when they are ready to fully operate again
- Providing technological support and access to community resources
- Reaching out to students about their social emotional needs and providing virtual individual and group counseling sessions
- Adapting to create meaningful enrichment experiences for students by utilizing relevant social media platforms to inspire learning
- Working to complete online trainings and create unit based lesson plans for their students
- Participating in staff trainings, supervisory meetings, and other professional development opportunities.

Program highlight

ESAP: Our staff remain engaged with our participants and families during the COVID-19 school closures. Staff conduct family check-in calls with our Empire participants/families to assess their needs regarding DOE remote learning, technology support and access to community resources. Staff also create interactive activities for participants and families, which are posted on our agency's Facebook and Instagram pages alongside resource postings. Staff professional development continues through weekly professional development assignments, trainings and supervision meetings. Additionally, staff remain available for redeployment to our agency's sites that are directly responding to the COVID-19 crisis to include our Regional Enrichment Center.

AASP: Staff are reaching out to students about their social emotional needs and having virtual individual and group counseling sessions as needed. Staff are also continuing to reach out to chronically absent students to assess challenges to attending either day school or remote learning classes, as well as reach out to parents over the phone. Afterschool activities will be shifting online through Google Classroom and Google Meet. Instructors will post video tutorials on Google Classroom and there will also be live lessons posted on Google Meet. Online activities will include boxing, cooking, dancing and music. Dance instruction will also be posted on the Bushwick Instagram page. Staff will maintain supervision and professional development opportunities during school closures. At another school, where we are also the DOE Community School partner in the building, program staff are making check-in calls to all students. All staff, including afterschool staff are also continuing to review both the academic success and attendance of all students on their caseloads and identify any obstacles to their success and plan interventions as needed, in partnership with their supervisors. Staff are also working on creating re-entry plans for students to help them refocus on school when school resumes session. Afterschool staff are using Google Classroom, Facebook and Instagram to also posting weekly assignments and challenges for students, which include posting links to articles as well as Netflix or YouTube videos, depending on the assignment. Afterschool staff are also working on updating school social media accounts on Facebook and Instagram, which will be used to engage students by posting pictures of school events, important announcements and etc., within the parameters of GSS social media guidelines. Staff will maintain supervision and professional development opportunities during school closures. At another school we serve, staff are doing outreach to students and families regarding initial needs during these times. This includes providing social emotional supports but also making sure participants have the technology they need in order to stay connected and take part in remote learning. Staff are using Google Classrooms to keep students connected remotely. This includes a page for the overall program, but also individual pages for each individual cohort. There are also weekly meet ups for groups including our Girls2Women and Boys2Men groups, as well as our Student Advisory Group and Peer Educators. In the individual cohort groups, students are taking part in group activities and the Student Advisory Group is focused on keeping up overall program morale. Staff will also be providing weekly challenges on Google Classroom, including TikTok and spoken word challenges.

They are also working on creating and updating program Instagram pages to help engage students in a different way. During initial few weeks, students have been enthusiastic about taking part in afterschool activities but have generally felt overwhelmed with getting set up remotely and their overall school workload.

How guidance will help programs: Many programs reported that guidance on ESAP and AASP would help them:

- Provide virtual services such as online tutoring, homework help, and other virtual resources to support learning and mental and emotional health of students
- Rehire and retain high-quality staff (including those that were furloughed or recently hired but couldn't begin work) and prevent layoffs
- Address financial shortfall due to non-finalized contracts and lack of reimbursements
- Negotiate online learning with the school they are partnered with and potentially program staff to support students who struggled prior to the pandemic and are still struggling with learning
- Retrain frontline staff to provide remote learning opportunities for the schools they serve along with the classroom teachers
- Continue providing remote learning and virtual enrichment opportunities for students, and for those programs currently not running remote programs, they will be able to provide remote program
- Expand current virtual afterschool programming to service more students enrolled under their Empire State After-School and Advantage After-School grant
- Allow programs to plan for when they can re-open and ensure that they have qualified staff to do so
- Provide additional youth development staff to support Emergency Pop Up School Age Care locations