Happy New Year!

Hello 2020 and goodbye to 2019 - a year full of steps forward, for us, our Regional Networks, and the afterschool field as a whole. Here at the Network we saw an increase in our own membership, social media followers, and even our staff! Nationwide, we saw increases in afterschool attention, which led to a record breaking amount of Lights on Afterschool events!

Get ready for another great year and stay tuned for more front line director trainings, health and safety trainings, Advocacy Day, our Annual Conference in March, and much more throughout the year! We look forward to the new year and next decade with you and hope to continue to excel the afterschool, summer, and expanded learning field!

Check out more by clicking on any of the links listed above, or browse our website here.

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E-News Archive Resources

Looking for resources and activities for program? Browse through our enews archive, where we've stored all of our past newsletters from 2019 and years prior! There you can find interesting information, activities, and other resources.

Here's an example of an activity from a past newsletter.

Looking for an activity to do with your kids? Who doesn't love bubbles! Here are some easy and straightforward ways to make the best bubbles. Check out more bubble recipes here!

Deluxe Bubbles

- 4 cups warm water
- 1/2 cup sugar
• 1/2 cup dishwashing liquid

*Dissolve sugar in the warm water and add dishwashing liquid when sugar is dissolved.

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**Moving Forward with CACFP**

2019 brought with it new CACFP rates, as well as an increase in children served. These new rates rose to $3.41 per meal and $0.94 per snack! In addition, the increase in children served topped 10 percent! However, despite these increases, a FRAC report determined the number of children in programs was less than desired. Let us change that by spreading the word about CACFP reimbursement funding and keep children's belly's full.

If you have questions about CACFP, check out the newly updated CACFP frequently asked questions sheet.

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**OCFS Regulations Resources**

For OCFS resources in the new background checks, check out the links below:

• FAQs on Background Clearances; ICYMI: Comprehensive Background Clearance Requirements Video; SAC Regulations & Definitions; 6000 Pack; OCFS website; Letter to Families, Funders, and School Personnel; Leave a comment or question about the new regulations here.

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**Network for Youth Success Events**

1/8/19 - 5/7/20: CRELO Trainings, Across the Capital Region
The Network for Youth Success will be providing various Front Line and Director Trainings across the Capital Region at no cost. For more information click here.

1/21/20 - 4/21/20: Distance Learning
The Distance Learning School-Age Care (SAC) Preparatory Course includes viewing recorded videos, reading, and preparing a portfolio and resource file. This class meets the education requirement to be a Site Director in New York State. We are now enrolling for Spring 2020.
1/22: Afterschool Advocacy Day, Albany, NY
Join us for our annual Afterschool Advocacy Day in Albany on January 22, 2020 from 9:30 am to 4:30 pm. Come meet with your state representatives and share with them why afterschool programs are important to you! Let us elevate afterschool and not make it an afterthought! Click here to RSVP.

3/6: Legislative Breakfast, Greenbush, NY
The Network plans to host its annual Legislative Breakfast on March 6, 2020, at the Greenbush YMCA. Stay tuned for more information.

Our Annual Conference will be in Troy for 2020 and registration is now open! In addition to two full days of trainings, and vendors, we are now also accepting award nominations. For the second year in a row we will be giving out awards based to those who represent and illustrate the following at high levels: quality leadership, exemplary professionalism, program excellence & innovation, champion of the field, and Regional Network Leader. For more information on nominations or to register, visit our website here. To become a vendor, click here.

8/20 & 8/24/2020: Health and Safety Training for Directors, Troy, NY
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. Registration is limited to 12, so don't wait to register! click here.

Other Events

1/23: Mentoring Boys and Young Men of Color, Buffalo, NY
This training session focuses on best practices surrounding a critical, strengths-based approach to mentoring and developing relationships with boys and young men of color. Data has shown that boys and young men of color face systemic disadvantages in this society, and this training strives to address how mentoring can work towards combating this. To register, click here.

2/20: Design & Manage a Quality Mentoring Program, Buffalo, NY
For professionals interested in developing a mentoring program, this comprehensive session will provide the necessary tools and information to launch and sustain an effective youth mentoring program. Covered in this training will be the industry's nationally accepted best practice standards for the development of youth mentoring programs that have proven effective in a wide range of existing mentoring strategies. To register, click here.

Join over 2,000 members of our community at the Gaylord National Resort & Convention Center for four days of networking, learning, and inspiration. Special events, 200+ educational sessions, daily keynotes, and an interactive Learning Expo all designed to meet the needs of the developing professionals, and emerging current leaders of afterschool. Come to NAA Convention 2020, and leave saying, "I've found my people!" For more information, click here.

Common Ground is looking for volunteer mediators to serve in our community-based and Family Court Mediation programs. Common Ground is a non-profit mediation center, serving Greene & Columbia Counties, funded in part through a grant from the NYS Unified Court System. Resumes with letter of interest to: dwallant@commongroundinc.org or mail, Dawn Wallant, Executive Director, Common Ground Dispute Resolution Inc., 11 William St., Catskill NY 12414. For more information call 518-943-0523

This conference will take place in Rochester with actress and activist Ms. Abernathy, daughter of American Civil Rights Leader Ralph Abernathy. For more information or to register, click here.
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. Click here for more information and how to apply.

Enrollment for the 2020 National Bilingual Bee & Biliteracy Competition is now open! The competition is open to any bi-literate students fluent in English and one of the following languages: Arabic, French, Haitian Creole, Mandarin Chinese, or Spanish. To enroll click here. If you have questions please contact mirta@smartcoos.com.

❄️ Ways You Can Help the Network! ☃️
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Remove my name from all future mass email communications:

Address postal inquiries to:
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