For this week's spotlight we have chosen Marvin Breedlove, Employment Specialist for Northeast Career Planning. Marvin started working with youth while stationed in Germany and then Japan as a PT youth counselor for Army children. After leaving the military, Marvin began his career with the NYPD, where he was assigned to Brooklyn North and Manhattan South for the NYPD School Safety Division. His job was to ensure safety for NYC children who attended public school. After leaving NYC in 2003, he began working at The Capital District Juvenile Secured Detention Center in Albany. There he counseled incarcerated youth who were in his facility for murder and misdemeanors.

He then worked in several residential for youth and taught them better coping skills, anger management, and the importance of education. Its safe to say Marvin cares a lot about the well being of our youth, and has proved that through his extensive career history.

Out of this love, Marvin built his own company, Breedloves Youth Counseling Services, LLC with the intention of providing counseling for troubled youth, run-a-ways, and helping reduce delinquency behaviors. Marvin provides these services to anyone within the Capital Region of Upstate NY and all five boroughs of New York City.

His favorite part of the job is helping people with disabilities find employment. He further believes, that afterschool is crucial in keeping children off the streets by keeping them busy.

If you would like you know more about Marvin, or the work he does, you can contact him at mbreedlove@northeastcareer.org, or by visiting his website by clicking on the link here.
**A New Year to End Child Hunger...**

My Turn: A new year to end child hunger — Concord Monitor, January 1, 2020

Check out this article and explore the importance of afterschool meals. In this article William Lambers outlines the avenues for ending child hunger, both at home and abroad. He states that "We just need to find the collective will to make this happen in 2020." He further goes into how congress should expand out-of-school feeding programs for impoverished children, and adds how afterschool meal programs can help fill the hunger gap. Jim Weill, president of the Food Research & Action Center said, "We know that poor nutrition can lead to poor academic and health outcomes for children. The federally funded Afterschool Supper Program reduces hunger and draws children into enrichment programs that keep them active and engaged." Feeding hungry children should be a top priority in 2020 both here at home and overseas, concludes Lambers. Click on the link above to read the article in whole.

One of the avenues for ending child hunger can be achieved through CACFP - a federal reimbursement program for meals and snacks served in afterschool, summer, and expanded learning programs. For more information on CACFP, click here.

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**#ILoveAfterschool2020**

Join the Network for Youth Success on our I Love Afterschool Valentine’s Campaign. Our goal is to increase awareness about the unbelievable benefits of the afterschool field on a statewide scale using individuals who represent, support, or participate in afterschool programs. We ask you to print out the "I love afterschool because..." template by clicking on the picture to the right, and tell us why you love afterschool by posting it on your own social media using #ILoveAfterschool2020, or by sending it to us at Capacity@NetworkForYouthSuccess.org and allowing us to post on your behalf!

*Remember if your picture includes children in them, be sure to have written consent from their parents, or legal guardians.*

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**2020 NAA Census Toolkit**

2020 Census Toolkit

Data from the 2020 Census will be used for the next 10 years to determine how the federal government spends over $900 billion a year. This money goes towards programs that are absolutely necessary for the communities we serve and includes programs such as free and reduced lunch, low-income housing, Medicaid, and the funding for afterschool programs.

Afterschool providers are in an excellent position to help with the 2020 Census not only because it directly benefits them and their communities, but they are also able to reach harder-to-count populations from a trusted place. It is safe to fill out the
census and illegal for anybody to share information collected in the census, especially with law enforcement or immigration agencies. Trust is key. There are easy ways to get involved with 2020 Census efforts. Just taking the time to learn more about the census and help spread the word about its importance for afterschool programs is essential. The toolkit includes key facts and talking points about the census, can help answer any questions, and also has fliers you can put up. Educating yourself and your community goes a long way towards making sure our communities will get the funding they need.

If you are a program located in NYC, check out this funding opportunity for established programs to carry out census outreach. The deadline is January 31, 2020.

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**New OCFS Dear Provider Letter**

OCFS released a new Dear Provider Letter on January 13th. [Click here to view the new letter.](#) For additional OCFS resources on 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**

**1/30/20 - 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.

**3/6: Legislative Breakfast, Greenbush, NY**
The Network plans to host its annual Legislative Breakfast on March 6, 2020, at the Greenbush YMCA. If you would like to attend, please sign up by clicking on the link [here](#).

Our Annual Conference will be in Troy for 2020 and [registration is now open](#)! Don't forget to also check out are newly released draft of the brochure is now available on our website. For more information on registration, 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](#).

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**Other Events**

**1/29 & 2/6: 4-H Vet Science Club, Hudson, NY**
Join the Vet Science Program! Vet Science will introduce youth to the importance of animal health and wellness through a variety of species. Those involved will have the chance to hear from experts in the field and engage and participate in hands-on learning activities. For more information click here, or contact Emily Warrington at ew387@cornell.edu.

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. This training strives to address how mentoring can work towards combating this. To register, click here.

1/30-31: Health and Safety Training, Syracuse, NY
Directors are responsible for hiring, training, and maintaining staff who provide a healthy and safe environment for children. For those interested, click here to register, or contact Dorthea@DEKSConsulting.com

1/30: Critical Issues Conversations, Bronx, NY
Join Community School for a day of professional conversation facilitated by experienced school leaders who will engage you in critical thinking and active participation. This unique opportunity will allow the participants to lead the learning in a truly collaborative way. For more information, or to register, click here.

2/18: Annual GRASA February Summit, Rochester, NY
The 7th Annual GRASA February Summit will take place on Tuesday, February 18, 2020, from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm, at East High School. This year, all afterschool /OST staff will attend one mandated session on the new SEL (Social-Emotional Learning) PQA tool that our community will be shifting to this spring. Then, each of you can choose two more sessions from a growing list including hands-on STEM, SEL and self-care. Details to come, but save the date!

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.

2/21: The Best Babysitter is a Safe Sitter, Hudson, NY
Safe sitter is a medically accurate, hands-on class that teaches boys and girls ages 11 to 14 how to handle emergencies when caring for children. Safe Sitters will learn a variety of things from what to do when a child chokes to how to entertain children. If you are interested in joining the class, registration closes February 14th. For more information, or to register, click here.

2/29: Community-Wide Basketball League, Rochester, NY
Rochester Community Centers is looking for players and coaches for their Community-Wide Basketball League. Running from 2/29 - 4/28, games will run from 10am-2pm. There will be 3 age divisions: Pee-Wee (6-9), Juniors (10-12), and Seniors (13-15). For more information, call 585.428.7592, or visit www.cityofrochester.gov/cwbl.

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 & Bilteracy 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! ❄️

Choose us as your non-profit through Amazon Smile, donate, become a member, follow us on Facebook and Twitter, or check out our website!

Remove my name from all future mass email communications:

Address postal inquiries to:
New York State Network for Youth Success, Inc.
415 River Street
Troy, NY 12180