RaeAnne Nocera, Updated OCFS Resources, and More!
March 4, 2020

School's Out, Make it Count! 2020 Annual Conference Awards
RaeAnne Nocera, Executive Director - School Age Programs, Healthy Kids Programs
Recipient of the 2020 Quality Leadership Award

From now until the School's Out Make it Count! 2020 Annual Conference, we will be spotlighting our 2020 Award Recipients. This is the second year we have decided to give out awards to individuals in the field based on continued excellence and the high-levels of quality they offer to their program and/or field.

Without further adieu, congratulations to RaeAnne Nocera, Executive Director - School Age Programs, Healthy Kids Programs the recipient of the 2020 Quality Leadership Award.

RaeAnne has been working with children her entire career, starting at daycare centers, then Nursery Schools and Universal Pre K programs. However, she didn't start working with Healthy Kids Programs until 2012. She started there as a Site Director, then Regional Director, and now Executive Director of the 60-site before and afterschool sites that Healthy Kids Programs run.

Under her current role, RaeAnne supervises a team of 5 Regional Directors, who in turn, supervise all before and afterschool programs across the state. More recently, RaeAnne has focused on adding more before and afterschool programs in New York’s rural communities. These are areas that she believes are overlooked, but incredibly important nonetheless.
Operating under the philosophy of Healthy Kids Programs, RaeAnne believes that it takes a village to raise a child, and that herself and Healthy Kids Programs, are very much apart of said village. She and everyone else there are able to do this by offering safe and fun learning environments that welcome all.

Her favorite part of her job is simple. RaeAnne said she loves spending time in the programs and seeing the children have fun and be engaged. However, she also loves seeing their staff in action with program children and knowing that it is them that keep the wheels moving and children safe.

You can join RaeAnne and other afterschool professionals at our 2-day School's Out Make it Count! 2020 Annual Conference by registering on our website here. Registration closes in 8 Days so don't wait!

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**Policy Corner - Trump Slashes Afterschool Funding in Budget Proposal**

Stand up for afterschool! Last month President Trump proposed a budget plan that would eliminate afterschool and summer learning programs for 1.7 million young people.

Tell your members of Congress to protect the programs America’s children and families rely on.

Policymakers in the House and Senate have the power to decide whether local afterschool and summer learning programs will remain open or close their doors. Your advocacy has saved 21st Century Community Learning Centers before: can we count on you again?

Tell Congress to protect afterschool programs. Take action now.

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**Updated OCFS Resources**

The Office of Child and Family Services (OCFS) has updated the following resources on their webpage. The date updated is placed after the bullet point.

- (2/6) Dear Provider Letter - Coronavirus
- (2/7) Dear Provider Letter - Policy Changes for Licensed and Registered Providers
- (2/7) Dear Provider Letter - Policy Changes for Legally Exempt Providers
- (2/7) 20-OCFS-INF-06 - Major regulatory revisions
- (1/13) 20-OCFS-INF-02 - Safety related background checks
- (2/11) Frequently Asked Questions - Licensed and Registered Providers
- (2/11) Frequently Asked Questions - Legally Exempt Providers

For additional information, visit their website here.

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**Network for Youth Success Events**
3/4 - 5/7: 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.

3/6: Legislative Breakfast, East Greenbush, NY
The Network, in conjunction with our Capital Region Network (CRELO), is hosting its annual Legislative Breakfast on March 6, 2020, at the East Greenbush YMCA.

Registration closes in 8 days! Don't miss out on one of New York State's largest conferences dedicated to afterschool with our Annual School's Out, Make it Count! Conference. Don't wait, sign up today! Curious about what trainings are being offered? Check out the draft of the brochure, now available on our website. To become a vendor, click here.

8/20 & 8/25: 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.

9/2020 - 12/2020: 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 Fall 2020.

Other Events

Today @ 11:00 AM: Gender Equality in Computer Science Education, Webinar
In honor of National Women's History month, Karen Peterson, Founder & CEO of the National Girls Collaborative Project will highlight the challenges and opportunities of encouraging more girls across the country to pursue STEM activities and careers, and the importance of computer science education in this process. She will be joined by voices from the field who will share information about their programs: Toni Robinson, President of Digital Girls, Inc. and Cathy Law, Director of the STEM Academy @ OSU.

3/11: Supporting a Strong Out-of-School Time Workforce, Webinar
Join the National Center on Afterschool and Summer Enrichment (NCASE) on this webinar that will discuss how to use their Out-of-School Time Professional Development System-Building Toolkit. For more information or to register, click here.

3/12: Expanding Access to Summer Meals for NY Kids and Teens, Webinar
Join this webinar from 1:00 - 2:00 PM EST to learn about the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP), and how you can help grow participation and increase site availability in underserved areas to ensure kids get the meals they need this summer. To register click here.

Join over 2,000 community members 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 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. Send 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.

3/31: Summer Learning Toolkit & Recruiting and Engaging Students, Webinar
Join the Afterschool Alliance to access resources and strategies that could help you communicate with families and prepare them to show up ready for the first day - and keep them coming back to your program throughout the summer. For more information, or to register, [click here](#).

4/17: Decolonizing Minds: Forging a New Future Through Multicultural Education, Rochester, NY
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. 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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