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Important Updates, CARES Act, and More!

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Important Updates, CARES Act, and More!
July 1, 2020**Program Spotlight: BOKS**

We recently spoke to Shea Pease, Northeast Regional Specialist at BOKS. BOKS is located in Massachusetts, their programs are enrolled nationally, including 150+ within New York. BOKS offers free physical activity programming designed to get kids active and establish a lifelong commitment to health and fitness.

To help afterschool programs cope with the challenges of a COVID-19 summer, BOKS is continuing to support children throughout the summer, through programming and additional at-home activities.

The BOKS Summer Fun Pack is designed for children in Kindergarten through Grade 9. It allows children to design their own adventures and choose from a multitude of enriching activities every day. They can select BOKS Bursts to stay active, crafts to fuel creativity, and healthy recipes from America's Test Kitchen.

The BOKS Summer Bootcamp, created for teens and young adults, provides six weeks of physical activity guided by Reebok Fitness Experts. The Bootcamp is entirely equipment-free and highly modifiable to suit all fitness levels. It culminates with a 1,000 Repetition Challenge that includes a chance to win a prize from Reebok. Both resources are designed to strengthen, support, and empower participants physically and mentally.

Despite the challenges presented by COVID-19, movement can still be performed at home, outside, alone, or in small groups. Now more than ever, it is critical that people of all ages remain active. You can download both resources [here](#).

Important Changes to the DOH Interim Guidance!

The DOH Interim Guidance for Child Care and Day Camp Programs during the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency has been updated to read:

- "Responsible Parties must limit groups to 15 or fewer children/campers, excluding employees/staff, in a specific area (e.g. room) at any given time.
- Responsible Parties must ensure that different stable groups of up to 15 children/campers have no or minimal contact with one another or utilize common spaces at the same time, to the greatest extent possible."
- [Click here](#) to view the updated document.



An important note: child care programs are still required to follow the staff/child ratios and maximum group sizes as set forth in regulation.

For additional COVID-19 related resources, activities, and more check out our [COVID-19 Resource Page](#).

2020 Kids Count Data Book



The 31st edition of the Annie E. Casey Foundation's *KIDS COUNT® Data Book* describes how children across the United States were faring before the coronavirus pandemic began.

This year's publication continues to deliver the Foundation's annual state rankings and the latest available data on child well-being. It also identifies multi-year trends — comparing statistics from 2010 to 2018. As always, policymakers, researchers and advocates can continue using this information to help shape their work and build a stronger future for children, families, and communities.

To view the publication, [click here](#).

Program Quality for Virtual Programs

Many programs continue to offer virtual programming and/or are planning virtual programming for the fall. For many of us, this is a new way of operating and has started to raise questions of how to ensure what we are providing is of high quality. BellXcel is offering a free [Remote](#)

[Quality Reflection Tool](#) to assess and improve the quality of remote programming. The tool was created by the Sperling Center for Research and Innovation (SCRI). Structured similarly to the Network's Quality Self-Assessment (QSA) Tool, this reflection tool is organized around six quality domains, including: Program administration; Family/caregiver engagement; Culture and climate; Curriculum and instruction; Youth management; and, Assessment and evaluation. Each domain includes indicators, a rating scale, and examples.



In order to assess your program at any point, even while running virtually, it is important to gather feedback from multiple stakeholders to get a comprehensive view of the program. The Network recently offered a webinar on assessing your program virtually using the QSA Tool, and the free recording is available on our [website](#).

NYS Forward Child Care Expansion Incentive Program



Governor Andrew M. Cuomo announced that \$65 million in federal CARES Act funding is available for child care providers statewide through the New York Forward Child Care Expansion Incentive program.

The funding available includes:

- \$20 million to assist childcare program with reopening and expansion of capacity by providing materials to support a more socially distant model, and for supplies and activities associated with reopening and expansion. This may include partitions, short term rental of space, etc.
- \$45 million in childcare Reopening and Expansion Incentive funds to pay for 50% of the cost of a newly opened classroom (maximum grant amount of \$6,000) as an incentive to open the classroom. The temporary funds will phase out over the second and third months as more parents bring their children back into childcare.

New York Forward Child Care Expansion Incentive and Temporary Operating Assistance Applications

The first (OCFS 5450) is the application for licensed/registered child care programs. The second (OCFS 5451) is the application for legally exempt programs. Both of these documents are posted on the OCFS website and can be found at: <https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/>

Applications must be submitted by 5pm on July 15, 2020.

Healing the Impact of Racial Injustice and Inequity: The Role of Afterschool

The COVID-19 pandemic and the long list of African Americans killed by police has laid bare the racial injustice and inequity in our society. We know that many adult staff and many of our youth participants in afterschool are people of color. In the wake of this turmoil, how can we address the needs of our staff? How can we prepare staff and redesign our programs to promote racial healing? What is the best way to facilitate discussions of systemic racism? How is afterschool positioned for this? Should we urge/ support youth to engage in civic action? And, is there a way to do some of this work remotely, as programs may not re-open in the Fall? Dr. Ginwright will address some of these questions in his presentation and will be available to respond to questions.



- Date: July 7th
- Time: 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM
- Registration: [Click here](#)

For additional resources, visit our [Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion page](#).

Network for Youth Success Events

8/18 - 8/26: Health and Safety, Virtual

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. For more details, [click here](#).

9/23: Fall SAC Credential Course, Capital District

The New York State Network for Youth Success administers the New York State School Age Care (SAC) Credential, which promotes quality services to children and families by providing specific standards, training, and evaluation for afterschool professionals. For those interested, [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.](#)

SAVE THE DATE: 4/23 & 4/24, 2021: School's Out, Make it Count Annual Conference

Our Annual Conference will be held on April 23rd & 24th 2021 for 2020. Be ready for two full days of trainings on a wide variety of topics, various vendors, awards, networking, and more! Stay tuned for more information.

Other Events

7/7: Healing the Impact of Racial Injustice and Inequality: The Role of Afterschool

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7/14: Implementing Second Step in an Out-Of-School-Time Program with Fidelity: Coaching, Assessment, and Family Engagement

In collaboration with The Committee for Children, developers of the *Second Step* SEL curriculum program, Aperture Education is *very* excited to announce a webinar with Lisa Thomas and Taylor Wyatt of The Devereux Center for Effective Schools. Lisa and Taylor will present on implementing the *Second Step* curriculum in out-of-school time (OST) programs. For more information, [click here](#).

Ways You Can Help the Network!

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