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Remembering Filma Jackson, ACEs training, policy updates, and more

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Spotlight: Remembering Filma Jackson

The afterschool field lost a devoted professional with the death of Filma Jackson on January 9, 2021. She was 50.

Filma worked in the afterschool field since 2003. Wanting to be the best she could be in serving children and families, she became a NYS School Age Child Care credentialed professional in 2014. She then became owner and director of Sensational Kids, Orange County, New York.

Filma led a life filled with love, hope, and charity. A strong advocate for children and families, she had a profound love for all of the lives she touched. Filma leaves behind a legacy through the hundreds of families and children in the community that she took into her heart. Filma was very proud of her developmentally appropriate program and the strong relationships she built with the children and their families. Filma was an inspiration in the field of afterschool care and will be sorely missed.

Filma leaves behind her husband Victor, daughters Michele (Jared) and Rachel (Matthew), and grandsons Logan and Oliver.



Program Spotlight

Is your program working hard to offer quality services to your community? Let us know about it by filling out a [quick questionnaire](#) and we will spotlight your program in an upcoming newsletter.

ACEs Professional Development Opportunity

Mark your calendars!

On February 15, the Network has a morning of professional development planned just for you.

Two workshops will be offered for one registration.

Session 1: Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and Trauma-Informed Practice in Afterschool. Discover the role that afterschool programs play in helping children survive and thrive after traumatic experiences. Using trauma-informed care research, this workshop will explore how ACEs can affect children's growth and development. Emphasis will be on practices in afterschool, including interactions with children and program development. This workshop is for all afterschool, summer, and expanded learning time staff who want to integrate trauma-informed practices into their programs.

**Meets new OCFS training area, OCFS (10) Adverse childhood experiences, focused on understanding trauma and on nurturing resiliency. CBK 1, 4*

Session 2: Engineering Design Practices. What do engineers do? Learn by acting like an engineer! Participants will complete an engineering design challenge in order to learn about the skills and practices of an engineer. Emphasis will be on hands-on activity with easy-to-find materials and the creation and testing of a prototype. OCFS 3

These sessions will take place between 8:45am and 12:15pm, for a total of 3 training hours plus breaks. More details, including registration information, will follow in the coming days.



Afterschool Budget Cuts

The Executive Budget cuts Advantage After School Program for the tenth year.



On January 19, Governor Cuomo released his FY2021-FY2022 Executive Budget. The Governor presented two budget options, depending on the level of funding the federal government provides to New York. One budget option considers \$15 billion in federal support to New York, and the other considers raising state revenues, cutting expenses, and borrowing in the absence of \$15 billion in federal funding.

Click here to see our analysis of what the Governor's budget proposal will mean for afterschool programs. And, **click here** to view the Network's budget asks and advocacy materials for this year.

How are Kids Faring During the Pandemic?

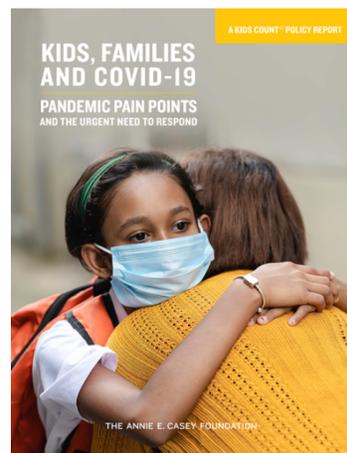
This KIDS COUNT policy report examines how households with children are faring during the pandemic. Its findings are primarily based on surveys conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau.

In the summary of their report, The Annie E. Casey Foundation writes, "The COVID-19 pandemic has caused widespread economic damage and isolated families in unprecedented ways. Parents have had to juggle both educating and caring for their children and millions of Americans have lost not just their jobs, but their sense of stability, source of income and health care."

This report includes federal and state responses to support families and children during the pandemic and strategies for meeting the needs of children and families now and after the pandemic.

For Youth Today's report summary, [click here](#).

To read the full report, [click here](#).



How to Chart an Anti-Oppression Path



The events of the past year have served as a stark reminder that we are never done learning or improving—as individuals and as organizations. Last year, efforts focused on anti-racism. The next step for youth organizations is to chart an anti-oppression path.

Danielle Moss, in an article for Youth Today, discusses the importance of charting an anti-oppression path for youth organizations. This is the key to turn youth development into youth flourishing.

In the article, Moss identifies 10 cornerstones of a youth flourishing organization. "In a youth flourishing organization, we aren't just pushing back on racism, sexism, homophobia, transphobia and ableism," writes Moss. "We are letting go of youth work practices that don't always serve young people."

To read the full article, [click here](#).

Invest in Yourself and Your Development in 2021

Gina Warner, president and CEO of National AfterSchool Association, [published a message](#) for the afterschool community to encourage us all to invest in ourselves personally and professionally. "Invest in your development," Warner writes. "Invest in connecting with a community of individuals who know, appreciate and understand what you're experiencing."

If you've been investing in others for so long that you've forgotten how to invest in yourself, NAA has some resources for you:

- [The Afterschool Professionals Guide to Self-Care](#)
- [Self-Care in 2021 – Join the Facebook Group](#)



Interested in advancing in the school-age field?
Need the qualifications to become a Site Director?

EARN YOUR SCHOOL-AGE CREDENTIAL TODAY



Network for Youth Success Events

Feb. 23: Zoom Coffee Chat for New York's Afterschool Program Grantees, CACFP Afterschool Meals Q&A

Join [New York State Network for Youth Success](#), [Hunger Solutions New York](#), and peer grantees for an open discussion about ways afterschool programs can help alleviate hunger, including serving [afterschool meals](#) and snacks through the Child and Adult Care Food Program. Bring your questions, share ideas, and learn about new resources and flexibilities available to help connect kids and families with the food they need.

Register Now.

Apr. 23-24: School's Out, Make it Count

The Network's annual conference will be held April 23-24, 2021. Be ready for two full days of trainings, vendor exhibits, awards, networking, and more.

View the agenda.

Register now.

Apr. 27: Spring 2021 SAC Credential Course (VIRTUAL), Part 2

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 2021.

Other Events

TODAY! Jan. 27: American Camp Association Town Hall Meeting from 2-3:30pm ET (virtual)

This virtual town hall from ACA centers around recent developments on COVID-19 planning for camps. The Town Hall has no cost to attend. Discussions include:

- Key takeaways from ACA's recent COVID-19-related research studies.
- Key updates to the Environmental Health & Engineering authored Field Guide for Camps as well as current news on medical testing options and vaccine access expectations.

The ACA [Field Guide for Camps](#) has also updated and revised for Summer 2021. A new [Vaccine Chapter](#) has been added to the full downloadable Field Guide. Additionally, the ACA shared a press release around [Why It Is Critical for Workers in Out-of-School Settings to Qualify for Vaccine Eligibility within the Education Sector](#).

For more information on the town hall or to register, [click here](#).

Feb. 17-19: Beyond School Hours 2021 National Education Conference (virtual)

Foundations, Inc is bringing you the great content and high-quality professional learning you expect from Beyond School Hours—adapted for a remote setting! With the new virtual setting, this conference will last all year long. Join for live and exciting professional learning, site visits, and keynotes during the main conference days, and then join for live follow-up webinars for the rest of the year. All webinars are included with conference registration! To register, [click here](#).

Mar. 9-11: Northeast CAMP Conference (virtual)

The staff and volunteers who bring you the Tri-State CAMP Conference are pleased to announce the virtual Northeast CAMP Conference. In addition to top-tier speakers and timely sessions, state legislative groups from each of the Northeast states will be providing updates that will be imperative to operating your camp in 2021. These are difficult times for the camp industry and we promise to be with you every step of the journey. Take advantage of the early-bird price and register by Feb. 5. To register, [click here](#).

Have questions? Email Samara Feinberg at samara@acanynj.org.

Jun. 1-4: National Family and Community Engagement Conference (hybrid)

This year's hybrid convening will highlight the great work being done by The School District of Philadelphia. Attendees will have the opportunity to participate in pre-conference sessions, four plenary sessions, over 70 workshops, and more. Content will be organized across the following strands:

- Parent Leadership, Advocacy and Community Organizing
- Promote Inclusion, Ensure Equity and Create Opportunity
- Integrated Systemic Approaches
- Early Learning and Literacy
- Relationship Building and Trust
- Research, Evaluation, and Data Collection

For more information and to register, [click here](#).

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