The State of Afterschool & Summer Learning in Ohio

**WHY AFTERSCHOOL MATTERS IN OHIO**

Ohio depends on Afterschool and Summer Learning programs to help keep the economy moving, ensure a viable future workforce and reduce barriers to academic success. Offering a wide range of hands-on learning and enrichment opportunities, Afterschool and Summer Learning programs prepare youth for success in school, work, college, service, and life. For many youth, these programs are their best chance to get a hot, healthy meal and to be in a safe environment with caring adults outside of school.

**OHIO’S INVESTMENT & DEMAND**

Ohio has invested $675 million in a Student Wellness and Success initiative to help schools provide mental health counseling, wraparound services, mentoring and Afterschool programs. But the demand for Afterschool remains high. For every youth in an Afterschool program, there are two more who would participate if a program were available. In Ohio more than 431,000 youth are home alone every day unsupervised.

**OAN’s MAP OF AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS**

The Ohio Afterschool Network is a convener, a connector, a collective voice and a changemaker in the field of Afterschool and Summer Learning. With funding from the C.S. Mott Foundation and support from the National Conference of State Legislatures, OAN has created a data map to identify Afterschool and Summer Learning programs in our state. This tool will allow Legislators to see program deserts in their districts—the areas where resources are most needed—and to see where programs exist to maximize opportunity and investments.

**DATA WITHIN THE ONLINE MAP RESOURCE**

- Program location
- Licensing status
- Contact information
- Ages served
- School districts served
- Funding source
- County
- Snacks & meals provided
- Days of operation
- Activities offered

This online map is free for public use. Business leaders, government agencies, educators, parents, families, providers & other supporters of Afterschool & Summer Learning programs can learn more about existing programs.

Programs that are interested in having their information included in this map can do so by using this link: [http://bit.ly/2mZ29BM](http://bit.ly/2mZ29BM)
The Case for Supporting Afterschool & Summer Learning Programs in Ohio

Government and business leaders, educators, parents, families, and providers should know that investments in Afterschool and Summer Learning programs have wide-reaching, positive outcomes for communities.

PREVENTING RISKY YOUTH BEHAVIORS

“Afterschool and Summer Learning programs matter to me because my daughters have a place to go where they feel safe and connected to their school and community.” ~ Suzanna Hyatt, parent, Columbus, OH

In 2017: Ohio had 2nd highest rate of opioid overdose deaths in U.S.1

More than 1,200 U.S. police chiefs, sheriffs, prosecutors, & violence survivors agree that Afterschool programs work.2

BEST PRACTICE RECOMMENDATION: Use Afterschool and Summer Learning programs as a proven, researched-based strategy to reduce youth drug use and to promote healthy habits.

FEEDING HUNGRY YOUTH

“We’re not qualified for anything, living paycheck to paycheck. We can’t use other resources. (Lunch at a Summer Learning program) is one of the few times they eat well.” ~ Anonymous Mother in Delaware, OH

Ohio ranks 48th in the U.S. for afterschool snacks & meals.3

1 in 5 Ohio kids is growing up in a family struggling with hunger.

BEST PRACTICE RECOMMENDATION: Use Afterschool and Summer Learning programs to increase participation in the nutrition programs that get kids what they need to grow and learn.

CONTRIBUTING TO OHIO’S FUTURE WORKFORCE

“Afterschool and summer learning programs help children and youth develop the skills that will put them on a path to success in school, postsecondary education, and careers.” ~ Dayton Mayor Nan Whaley

More than 1 in 3 Ohio workers agree they lack adequate training to get ahead.4

Across the nation: $164 billion spent annually on employee education & training to close skill gaps.

BEST PRACTICE RECOMMENDATION: Use Afterschool and Summer Learning programs to help students develop needed professional and technical skills to be successful in school and future careers. Programs that offer tutoring, social-emotional learning, mentoring, career exploration, college readiness, life skills, financial literacy and industry credentials will help Ohio close its skills gap.

Get Involved:

CONNECT with the network.

– Sign up to stay in the loop.
Visit: OANOhio.org

FIND the gaps in your district.

– View afterschool deserts or support an existing program. Use the map: http://bit.ly/2mZ2qBM

BUILD on our strengths.

– Help maximize your district’s Student Wellness & Success Dollars.
Learn more at: http://bit.ly/2nZK5qZ

To get help connecting to your local Afterschool program or for more information, contact:
Executive Director Nichelle Shaskus at Nichelle@OANOhio.org

SOURCES: