The Need
More than a year after the pandemic, many schools are struggling to connect with students, especially students of color and those living in low-income communities. Afterschool and summer programs stand ready to help kids re-engage in learning, rebuild relationships, and emerge from this crisis strong, resilient, and hopeful.

The Opportunity
The American Rescue Plan provides our state $2.1 billion to address student learning loss and provide wraparound services that kids need to thrive, both in and out of school.

Meeting Kentucky’s Demand for Afterschool

Leveraging Expanded Learning Experts
The Kentucky Out-of-School Alliance (KYOSA) represents afterschool and summer enrichment programs across Kentucky. We can help schools locate and partner with evidence-based programs in order to effectively accelerate students’ academic, social, and emotional recovery.

As part of the 50-State Afterschool Network, we can:

- Provide evidence-based best practices from the field of expanded learning programs
- Offer considerations for guidance in dispersing funds
- Provide data on Kentucky’s programs to help with your deliberations
- Share learning and examples from other states
Evidence-Based & Proven Effective
Afterschool and summer enrichment programs can reinforce what kids learn in school and provide extra support to students who are struggling or have special needs. Programs provide safe places and new opportunities for students of all ages and backgrounds to learn, explore, and create without stress.

We offer:

- Caring staff who can help kids build social-emotional skills
- Deep reach in underserved communities
- Strong connections with kids and families
- Expertise leveraging community partners and volunteers

Accelerating Learning & More
Decades of research prove kids who regularly participate in quality afterschool and summer enrichment programs:

- Gain self-control, confidence, and social skills
- Improve school attendance, work habits, and grades
- Make gains in reading and math
- Have higher graduation rates

Call and response: Afterschool programs stepping up during the pandemic
From the outset of the pandemic, afterschool programs have adapted and expanded their services to best meet the needs of the children and families they serve. While schools were closed, Covington Partners, which operates afterschool programs for Covington Independent Public Schools students, designed curricula, purchased and delivered activity supplies, created a program workbook and website, and scheduled daily Google Meets to interact with 400 students and families. Activities were also designed to work offline, so students without internet could still participate.

Let’s Work Together
Kentucky can make great strides in addressing equity, diversity, and inclusion by using these funds to support meaningful collaboration between community-based organizations and school districts. Here are some ways we can help:

- Advising on guidance for local education agencies
- Assisting with administering and advising on grant programs for afterschool and summer
- Providing data on programs in the state and unmet demand
- Identifying programs serving highest need communities
- Providing training and quality supports for programs that receive funds

Contact Us
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