

2007 Advocacy Agenda



CASF REQUESTS:

EXTENDED DAY/SCHOOL VIOLENCE PREVENTION PROGRAM (ED/SVPP)

Increase funding by \$25 million - from \$30.2 million to \$55.2 million

- Extended Day funds academic tutoring and remediation, conflict resolution/violence prevention, recreational and other programs for nearly 30,000 young people throughout the state.
- An increase in funding to \$55.2 million will provide slots for an additional 25,000 young people.

ADVANTAGE AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM (AASP)

Increase funding from \$27.5 million to \$40 million

(Executive Budget proposes \$28.2 million)

- The Office of Children and Family Services reports roughly 26,000 children are currently enrolled in AASP, which provides educational, cultural and recreational activities for elementary, middle and high school students.
- Since its inception, the program has received more qualified applicants than it can fund.

21st CENTURY COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTERS

Invest \$30 million to prevent the closure of programs

- The State Education Department has announced that it will not give 207 programs (60 grantees) the opportunity to re-apply for funding for the federal 21st Century Community Learning Center program, threatening closure of after-school programs that serve 34,063 children and employ 3,400. The State should invest \$30 million to maintain funding for these programs until a more permanent solution can be found.

SCHOOL AID REFORM

Support comprehensive reform of the state school aid formula

- Support the Governor's proposal to comprehensively reform the school aid formula and to add \$7 billion in state education funding after 4 years.
- School districts should be required to use some of the new funding for after-school programming, as after-school is a critical component of the constitutional right to a "sound, basic education."

REGULATORY REFORM

Coordinate after-school funding on a statewide basis

- After-school programs are funded from a number of funding sources, and responsibility for the regulation and quality of after-school is split among more than one state agency. A state task force or senior official should be designated to coordinate all after-school funding streams and regulations, and to recommend a long-term policy and funding strategy with full input from all stakeholders and relevant agencies.



The Bottom Line

600,000 children in the state are alone and unsupervised after school.

After-school programs raise test scores, prevent drug abuse, teen pregnancy and juvenile crime, and give youth opportunities they might not otherwise have. They also prepare young people for the work force while assisting working parents. New York State's children need your help to ensure the availability of after-school for all.

Coalition for After-School Funding (CAS F)

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COALITION FOR AFTER-SCHOOL FUNDING

Coordinated by Citizen Action of New York



YOUTH AND EARLY CHILD CARE

Support youth initiatives

- CASF supports the request of the Association of the New York State Youth Bureaus to increase Youth Development Delinquency Program (YDDP) funding from the current level of \$28.5 million to \$36 million to fully fund the existing statutory formula.
- CASF also agrees with the Association that Special Delinquency Prevention Program (SDPP) that funding should be increased by \$530,000 over the present \$9.3 million funding level.

Maintain child care funding

- CASF supports the request of Winning Beginning NY to remove child care funding from the Flexible Fund for Family Services and transfer a minimum of \$352 million to the child care block grant; and add \$140 million to child care funding.



BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

EXTENDED DAY/SCHOOL VIOLENCE PREVENTION PROGRAM (ED/SVP)

- Created in 1997, as part of LADDER (Learning, Achieving, Developing by Directing Education Resources) Program and administered by the State Education Department (SED).
- Grants are offered to "high-need" school districts and not-for-profit organizations.
- Flat funded for past 7 years.
- Governor's budget proposes no increase in this program.

ADVANTAGE AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM (AASP)

- Administered by the Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS). Increased by \$7.3 million in FY 2006-07, the first increase since FY 2001 – 2002.
- Grants are provided to not-for-profit organizations coordinating with schools.
- Governor's budget proposes a minimal \$700,000 increase in FY 2007-08.
- In 2005, the most recent request for proposals, only 58 new five-year contracts were awarded from a pool of 320 applicants.
- Currently, there are only 193 contracts statewide, and 26,000 slots available for kids.

About CASF

The Coalition for After-School Funding (CASF) is a statewide coalition committed to increasing federal, state and local funding for after-school programs. We believe every child in New York State should have access to a quality after-school program! CASF members include 350 groups made up of parents, students, after-school providers, teachers, law enforcement officials, childcare advocates, faith-based organizations and community groups.

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