

IMPACT REPORT

410 Hours

OF TARGETED
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
PEER LEADERSHIP COMMUNITIES
PROGRAM VISITS AND
COACHING CALLS





189, 868
YOUTH IMPACTED

604 OST PROFESSIONALS

IN CONFERENCE, WORKSHOPS & TRAINING





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NJSACC: New Jersey's Afterschool & Out-of-School-Time Professional Network advocates for and strengthens the network of out-of-school time providers throughout New Jersey with professional development, resources, and technical assistance. Our goal is to build the capacity of OST professionals to deliver high-quality, sustainable programming that maximizes results for children and families. Through our work, we aim to ensure all New Jersey youth have access to high quality and sustainable OST programs that provide safe learning environments, support the development of interpersonal skills, and set the path for college and career readiness.

Mission: To foster the growth, quality, and sustainability of out-of-school time providers, professionals, and organizations to expand access and opportunity for New Jersey's youth and families.

Vision: Every youth and family in New Jersey has access to high-quality and sustainable out-of-school time programs.

Purpose: To address the challenges that the Out-of-School Time (OST) profession faces including equity, access, capacity, and connections towards creating a strong, valued profession benefitting youth, families, and communities.

Values

Quality: we promote the consistent use of standards of practice across New Jersey.

Equity: we champion equity in OST programs across New Jersey to ensure access for all young people.

Professional Development: we develop and support the practice of learning for OST professionals.

Advocacy: we represent New Jersey's OST communities at the state and national level influencing policies, securing resources, and raising awareness about the importance of OST.

Afterschool and OST Programs: A Vital Part of Successful Youth Development

Afterschool and out-of-school time programs are more critical than ever. These programs offer enriching, hands-on, and creative opportunities that complement the school day, advancing student achievement and promoting knowledge, skills, and comprehension. For decades, afterschool and OST programs have played a crucial role in keeping kids safe, inspiring them to learn, and providing parents and guardians with peace of mind knowing that their children are constructively engaged during hours outside of the formal school day.

In New Jersey, the demand for such programs far exceeds availability, as revealed by the "America After 3PM" study:

- Participation: Currently, 216,503 of NJ's 2 Million children are fortunate enough to take part in afterschool
 programs, benefitting from the critical supports that these programs provide. NJSACC, in working with
 providers, agencies, and community partners across the state, strives to increase access to high-quality
 afterschool and out-of-school time programs.
- Availability: For every child in an afterschool program, three are waiting to get in, leaving 214,645 children in the state unsupervised after school. In 2019, 454,931 New Jersey children (32%) would have enrolled in a summer program if one were available, and this number has since grown.
- Advocacy: we represent New Jersey's OST communities at the state and national level influencing policies, securing resources, and raising awareness about the importance of OST.

Call to Action

Help further increase NJSACC's impact and address the unmet demand for afterschool programs:

- Funding: Increase funding to expand access to afterschool and OST programs.
- Professional Development: Invest further in the professional development of the afterschool and OST
 workforce to ensure high-quality programming that meet the needs of New Jersey's youth and remain
 aligned with <u>New Jersey's Quality Standards for Afterschool</u>.
- Support efforts in Data Collection to assist with tracking the unmet demand and the number of children on waitlists for afterschool and OST programs to inform advocacy efforts and program expansion.