

**Universal Afterschool Task Force  
Resources for Meeting #2 on January 5, 2021**

**Important Definitions:**

- **Afterschool Program-** a program serving children and youth on a regular basis outside the school day and over the summer; particularly during the hours when schools are out and family members are at work (2-5pm or 3-6pm during the school year, on in-service days and school vacation weeks, and 8am-5pm during the summer).
- **Access-** means the ability for all children and youth to participate
  - Program exists and is safe and of high-quality;
  - no waiting lists;
  - either low/no cost or subsidy, scholarships and sliding fee scales are available;
  - hours of operation work for working families;
  - children/youth can get to and from the program safely;
  - supports and staffing are in place to accommodate a wide range of needs (e.g., ELL, SPED, trauma-informed, disabilities, etc.)
- **Quality-** see the National Afterschool Association's Focus Brief (below in Key Resources) and the Quality Assessment Tool from the Weikart Center for Youth Program Quality (below in Supplemental Resources)

**Key Resources:**

- **ELO Working Group Report- Closing the Gap**

This report was created by the Expanded Learning Opportunities (ELO) Working Group under Vermont's PreK-16 Council at the direction of the legislature in 2014. The report makes recommendations for a state level fund and grant program to expand access to afterschool and summer learning programs. The report recommends funding priorities: low-income children and youth, underserved areas of the state, programs for middle and high school youth, etc. It also recommends that a cross-agency, cross-sector oversight committee be established to reflect a broad of program types and stakeholders.
- **Afterschool for All Grants Overview (Jan 2020)**

In 2019, Vermont allocated \$600,000 from the Tobacco Settlement to increase access to afterschool and summer learning programs. That money is administered through the Child Development Division through a grant to Vermont Afterschool. The grant process to distribute the funds follows the recommendations outlined in the ELO Working Group report, Closing the Gap. In the first round of the grants, Vermont Afterschool collected over 100 proposals with requests totaling close to \$5.5 million (over two years). In fall 2020, the Vermont Community Foundation awarded Vermont Afterschool an additional \$50,000 to combine with any remaining Tobacco funds and run a second round of Afterschool for All. With a total of \$110,000 to award in this second round, in December 2020, Vermont Afterschool received 84 proposals with requests totaling over \$900,000.

- **America After 3PM Fact Sheet**  
National study released in December 2020 that includes Vermont-specific data. This study ranks VT in the Top Ten in the nation for our afterschool programming. The high ranking is due largely to high rates of parent satisfaction with their child’s program. However, Vermont ranks very low on several indicators of access, particularly for low-income children and youth.
- **Map of current afterschool programs:** <http://www.vermontafterschool.org/impact/map/>  
This map was created with a grant from the National Conference of State Legislatures for the ELO Working Group. Vermont Afterschool continues to maintain the map and accompanying database.
- **Why Afterschool Quality Matters (National Afterschool Alliance)**  
Overview of the key research and findings on quality afterschool programming.
- **Resilience Report- Youth Resilience: Strategies for the Third Space**  
This report was created at the request of Vermont’s Opioid Coordination Council and makes the important connection between afterschool programs and statewide primary prevention efforts.

**Supplemental Resources:**

- **ELO Working Group Report- Every Hour Counts**  
This report has the data that went into the creation of the Closing the Gap report named above.
- **Atlantic Monthly article on the Iceland Prevention model**  
Key article that links afterschool participation with substance misuse prevention
- **Vermont Youth Project**  
The Vermont Youth Project is a 5-year initiative drawing on youth and prevention efforts in both Iceland and Finland. The project focuses on community-based strategies to build protective factors for youth. Afterschool programs is a major component of effective primary prevention efforts. Website: <http://www.vermontafterschool.org/vyp/>
- **America After 3PM Data (Dec 2020):** <http://www.vermontafterschool.org/impact/aa3pm/>
- **YRBS data summary on afterschool participation from the VT Dept of Health:**  
[https://www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/HSVR\\_YRBS\\_Extracurricular\\_Activities.pdf](https://www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/HSVR_YRBS_Extracurricular_Activities.pdf)
- **Weikart Center for Youth Program Quality**  
Website for nationally recognized approach for assessing and building quality in youth programs. This approach and assessment tool is used by both the Vermont Agency of Education and the Child Development Division. Website: <https://forumfyi.org/work/the-weikart-center/>