

Program Quality News

From the David P. Weikart Center for Youth Program Quality

Program Quality News connects education and human service leaders with research, case studies, tools and training to improve the quality of youth programs.

REPORTS AND GUIDES

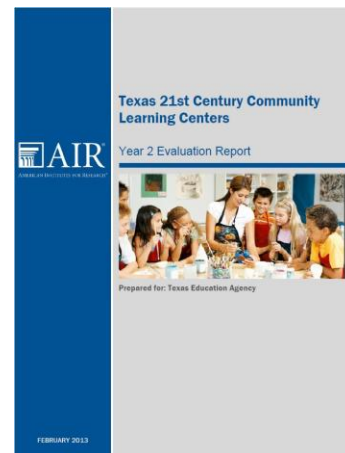
High Quality Programs Boost Outcomes

A new report provides more evidence that high-quality afterschool services boost academic performance.

An evaluation of the Texas 21st Century Community Learning Centers shows that students in high-quality centers had fewer disciplinary incidents, were more likely to be promoted, and improved their reading and math scores on a state standardized test. The more that the students attended these high-quality programs, the larger the effect.

The study - *Texas 21st Century Community Learning Centers: Year 2 Evaluation Report* - was conducted by American Institutes for Research with contributions from the Weikart Center. The findings reinforce the long-held belief of the Weikart Center and its clients that quality matters.

[Read the study](#)



More on Quality to Outcomes...

Learn more about how a high dosage of quality programming leads to positive outcomes for youth, including outcomes that predict school success. On March 26, the Weikart Center hosted an hour-long webinar where Charles Smith discussed the quality-to-outcomes model and AIR presented the findings from the Texas study mentioned above.

[Listen now](#)

What's Next? Series
From Quality to Outcomes

Tom Akiva, University of Pittsburgh
Neil Naftzger, American Institutes for Research
Cimone Satele, Public Profit
Charles Smith, David P. Weikart Center for Youth Program Quality

Tuesday, March 26th, 2013

Call in #: 1.866.740.1260
Access Code: 2073334#

A decorative graphic consisting of a grid of colored squares in shades of blue, green, orange, and red, arranged in a pattern that resembles a stylized letter 'E' or a similar shape.

PRESENTATIONS

National AfterSchool Association Annual Convention

Join this comprehensive program of professional development opportunities. The Weikart Center and Forum staff especially hope to see you in these sessions in which they are speaking:



Youth Program Quality Scorecard: Leading Indicators for Youth Engagement

Joe Bertolotti, director of field services, David P. Weikart Center for Youth Program Quality

After-School Systems and Collective Impact

Nicole Yohalem, senior director of special projects, the Forum for Youth Investment

Measuring Our Success: Reflections on Choosing Outcomes, Learning to Assess Them, and Understanding Why We Must

Nicole Yohalem and Charles Smith, executive director of the David P. Weikart Center on Youth Program Quality

Boost Program Quality by Connecting to a Community-Wide System

Nicole Yohalem

High Quality STEM Programs: A Framework for Measuring Success

Charles Smith

Closing Plenary

Karen Pittman, CEO, the Forum for Youth Investment

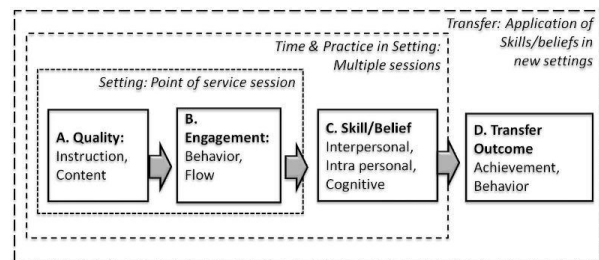
When & Where: April 7-10, Indianapolis, Ind.

[Learn more here](#)

CALENDAR

What's Next? Series Webinar: Expanded Learning Initiative

Though many out-of-school time programs aspire to influence school success, results can be inconclusive - unless specific outcomes are prioritized and providers receive feedback and supports designed to help them achieve those outcomes. Learn how the Weikart Center helps out-of-school time leaders name, focus on and affect outcomes related to school success.



Thursday, April 25, 1 p.m. ET

[Register now >>](#)

What's Next? Series Webinar: Plan Do Reflect

The Weikart Center has spent the past decade working to build quality systems nationwide through use of the Youth Program Quality

Assessment and Intervention. We'll reflect on the impact of this work, including results of the YPQI study. Learn where we go from here and how emerging work meets the needs of the afterschool field and broadens to other systems serving youth.



Thursday, May 2, 1 p.m. ET

[Register now >>](#)

Youth Work Methods Training of Trainers

Want to learn how to train your afterschool staff to increase the quality of their work? The Weikart Center is offering its Youth Work Methods Training of Trainers course. This session teaches staff how to deliver the Youth Work Methods courses, which empower direct staff with tools to increase the quality of their instruction which can lead to higher youth engagement.

When & Where: Chicago, Ill., June 12-14 *(date change!)*

[Learn more >>](#)

[Register now for Chicago >>](#) Registration ends April 26



Coaching for Continuous Improvement Training

Learn how to improve supports, including how to maximize data-driven planning for out-of-school-time programs you serve. During this training, you'll examine the structure and philosophy of the Technical Assistance and Coaching Support Systems (TACSS) model as a way to deepen the Youth Program Quality Intervention.



When & Where: Ann Arbor, Mich., June 19-20

[Learn more >>](#)

[Register now >>](#) Registration ends May 24

Youth Work Methods Experience

Improve your ability to provide comprehensive support to staff to help them improve their practices. Explore the Active-Participatory Approach in-depth, experience three key Youth Work Methods and strengthen coaching and observational skills.

When & Where: Ypsilanti, Mich., July 22-23

[Learn more >>](#)

[Register now >>](#) Registration ends June 28



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The Forum for Youth Investment is the proud parent company of The Ready by 21 National Partnership, the David P. Weikart Center for Youth Program Quality, the Children's Cabinet Network and SparkAction.org.

