

# 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.

## Feature

### Ready by 21 National Meeting 2015 Weikart Center Pre-Conference Success!



New Orleans is known for many things: music, food, culture, architecture... And we experienced them all at the fourth annual [Ready by 21 National Meeting!](#)

Over 65 representatives of our client networks joined our staff and field consultants for the Ready by 21 National Meeting Weikart Center Pre-Conference session. We spent time getting to know each other and our place in the Weikart Center timeline, hearing from our Executive Director, Dr. Charles Smith, and launching our professional learning community through targeted small group discussions. Biggest lesson learned? We need to do this kind of collaboration more often! Stay tuned for future plans.

### A Conversation on Quality

Adopting a continuous program quality improvement model is challenging; change can be uncomfortable, and system implementation can be a long process.

Monica Marie Jones, a youth development expert who conducts training for the Weikart Center for Youth Program Quality, believes in the power of afterschool professionals to change a young person's life through a focus on quality interactions and activities. In this podcast, Jones shares lessons learned through the implementation of the Youth Program Quality Assessment (YPQA).



### **New YPQI Networks Networks in Chattanooga and Milwaukee**

Having experienced positive lasting impacts from the YPQI pilot process in the 2011-12 school year, the United Way of Chattanooga is spearheading a reboot in which 11 of the 14 sites are returning from the original cohort. The process also includes collection of data using the Developmental Assets Profile (from SEARCH institute).

**[Read more>>](#)**



The Center for Youth Engagement in Milwaukee will manage a 12-month YPQI cohort process with six participating agencies. The Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Milwaukee has been using the YPQI for four years and co-hosted the launch session as an active partner in Beyond the Bell.

**[Read more>>](#)**

## Reports and Guides

### **[AYPF Directory Catalogs Resources for Afterschool Systems](#)**

The American Youth Policy Forum has created a helpful tool for helping to build afterschool systems. [Better Together: A Resource Directory for Afterschool System Builders](#) is a comprehensive directory that identifies more than 50 organizations that offer resources and tools on afterschool system-building (including the Forum for Youth Investment and its Weikart Center for Youth Program Quality). The

directory provides information on the leading afterschool tools information and resources in the field.



## Calendar of Events

### **After School Matters Hosting a Youth Work Methods TOT in Chicago**

After School Matters will be hosting a Youth Work Methods TOT on June 10-12 in Chicago, Ill. Note that coursework begins on **May 11<sup>th</sup>**. You must be registered by **May 1, 2015**.



The direct link to registration is below. If you have any questions, please contact Ravi Ramaswamy at [Ravi@cypq.org](mailto:Ravi@cypq.org).

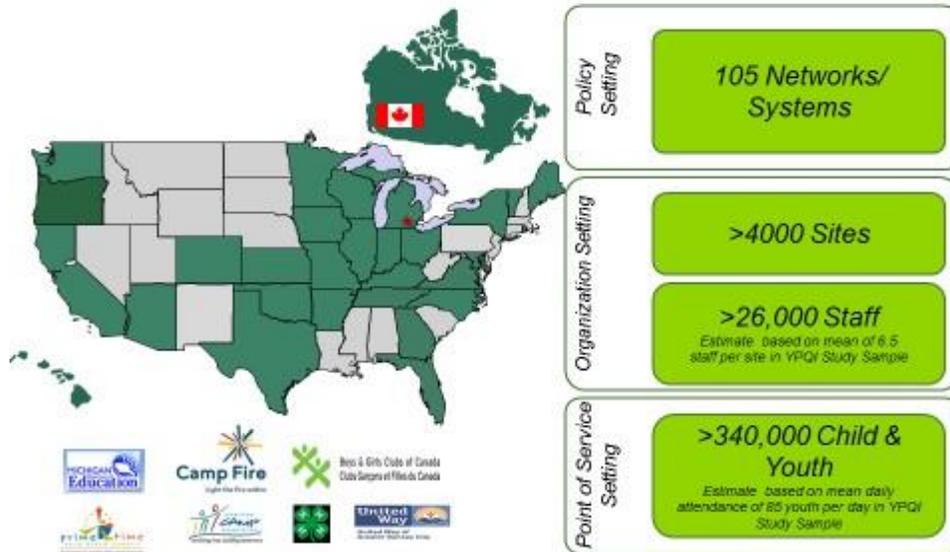
**[Register now>>](#)**

### **Archived Webinar: Youth Work Methods TOT Grad Webinar**

Over 500 participants have completed the Youth Work Methods Training of Trainers, bringing these tried and true practices to program staff across the country. This webinar is for both the TOT graduate community and those interested in learning a bit more about the Youth Work Methods and the TOT. We'll hear from both practitioners and active trainers as well as provide info on how you can find or host a Methods TOT in your region.

**[Recording>>](#)**

## QIS Policies: Scaled Adoption of YPQI



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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.

