

# 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.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

This month we're inviting you to attend our upcoming events. Join a webinar, attend a conference, or participate in a live training. Follow the links below to learn more or to register.

[Click here to download the Webinar Series brochure.](#)

## Live Trainings

### 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.

Where: Chicago, IL Apr. 17-19 & Kansas City, MO Apr. 30-May 2

[Find out more >>](#)

[Register now for Chicago >>](#)

Registration opens soon for Kansas City.



### Youth Work Management Training of Trainers

This Training of Trainers is targeted at managers and site leaders who wish to be able to support their sites throughout the quality improvement cycle. The course consists of three weeks of distance learning, two days of live training, and one week of distance follow-up. Graduates of the Management TOT can facilitate Planning with Data and Quality Coaching workshops, as well as provide comprehensive logistical and professional development support to staff who are involved in the improvement process.



*Pre-Requisites:* Management TOT candidates must have successfully attended PQA Basics and Planning with Data. It is highly recommended, but not required, that candidates have successfully completed the External Assessor Reliability Training and the Quality Coaching workshop.

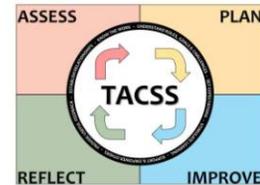
Where: St. Paul, MN Apr. 4-5

[Find out more >>](#)

[Register now for St. Paul>>](#)

### Coaching for Continuous Improvement Training

Learn how to maximize data-driven planning with the out-of-school-time programs you serve. Receive resources to support the delivery of coaching services including tracking logs, technical assistance plans, calendars, and sample agendas for working with program managers. Discover your individual communication style and strengthen your skills for providing effective feedback.



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.

Where: Ann Arbor, MI Jun. 19-21

More information to follow.

## What's Next? Webinar Series

Our *What's Next?* webinar series provides opportunities to learn more about the work of the Weikart Center. Webinars are relevant and open to newcomers and current clients alike.

### Youth Driven Spaces

Learn how to use the operation of your organization as an opportunity to build 21st century skills in youth. Implement a range of structures and strategies that foster governance, action planning, project-based learning and meaningful civic engagement.



Tuesday, Jan. 29, 1 p.m. ET (**next week!**)

[Register now >>](#)

## Youth Program Quality Scorecard: Leading Indicators of Youth Engagement

Learn about a process for leveraging organizational quality indicators that go beyond point-of-service quality. The Leading Indicators can be used as a diagnostic assessment of the policies and practices that support youth engagement. Feed data from parents, youth and staff back to programs (as well as to state, federal or foundation funders) for localized improvement in large-scale, multi-site programs.

Tuesday, Feb 12, 1 p.m. ET  
[Register now >>](#)

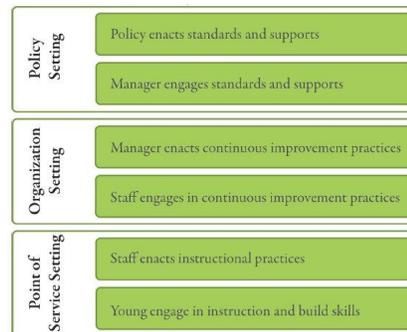
Context	Indicator	Data Source
Organizational Context	Staffing Model	Site Coordinator Staff Survey
	Continuous Improvement	Staff Survey
	Youth Governance	Site Coordinator Survey
	Enrollment Policy	Site Coordinator Survey
Instructional Context	Academic Press	Staff Survey Youth Survey
	Engaging Instruction	Staff Survey Youth POA
External Relationships	System Norms	Site Coordinator Survey
	Family Engagement	Parent Survey
	School Alignment	Site Coordinator Staff Survey
	Community Resources	Site Coordinator Survey
Youth Characteristics	Socio-emotional Development	Youth Survey
	Academic Efficacy - Grades 4-12	Youth Survey
	Academic Efficacy - Grades 4-12	Parent Survey
Family Satisfaction	Family Satisfaction	Parent Survey

The Youth Program Quality Assessment (POA) is a validated instrument designed to evaluate the quality of youth programs and identify staff training needs. For more information on the tool, visit [www.cypq.org](http://www.cypq.org).

## From Quality to Outcomes

Afterschool providers have long believed that their programs make a difference in the lives of the young people they serve. Findings from recent research by AIR and the Weikart Center show that these beliefs are well-founded. Learn more about how a high dosage of quality programming leads to positive outcomes for youth, including outcomes that predict school success.

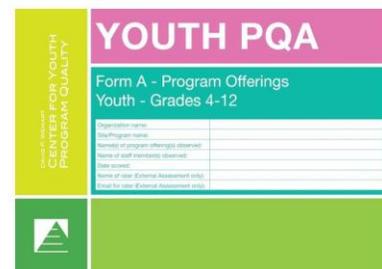
Tuesday, Mar. 26, 1 p.m. ET  
[Register now >>](#)



## Program Quality Assessment Supplements: Applications in a Variety of Content Areas and Settings

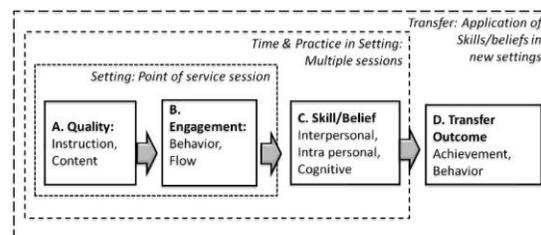
Hear specifics about the Youth Program Quality Assessment - a validated instrument designed to evaluate the quality of youth programs and identify staff training needs - and about how it has been adapted for different settings, including STEM, health and wellness, camp and art.

Thursday, Apr. 4, 1 p.m. ET  
[Register now >>](#)



## 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





Tuesday, Apr. 23, 1 p.m. ET

[Register now>>](#)

### Network Leader Learning Community: Making the Most of Reports

Putting data in the hands of those who can act on it is essential for improvement to occur. Weikart Center reports are designed to do just that, from site-level observation data to feedback on organization-wide policies. Learn the range of reports available to you and how each impacts the way you collect data in your network.

Thursday, May 16, 1 p.m. ET

[Register now>>](#)

### Network Leader Learning Community: Adventures in Self Assessment

Share strategies with other network leaders about ways to make self assessment meaningful and cost-effective for your network. Get new guidance from the Weikart Center about how to alter the self assessment process in such ways as requiring it less frequently or alternating it with other assessments.

Tuesday, Jun. 18, 1 p.m. ET

[Register now>>](#)

### Network Leader Learning Community: Effective External Assessment

There are lots of moving parts in planning for external assessment. Learn tips for scheduling, preparing assessors and sites, managing data collection and tracking assessments. Begin with the end in mind to make the process as smooth as possible!

Tuesday, Aug. 20, 1 p.m. ET

[Register now>>](#)

## Ready by 21 National Meeting

### Calling All Afterschool Leaders!

Several hundred national, state and local leaders committed to improving policies and practices for young people will attend our second annual Ready by 21 National Meeting, in Atlanta, Ga. We hope you will be one of them.



The National Meeting (March 11-13) is for people working to improve youth program quality, as well as to build collective impact partnerships and coordinate policies. We've created several sessions specifically for afterschool leaders. They include:

- **Moving from quality improvement findings to quality improvement systems -** Learn about a process for developing organizational quality indicators that go beyond point-of-service quality. Feed data back to local programs (as well as to state, federal, or foundation funders) for localized improvement in large-scale, multi-site programs.

- **Strengthening out-of-school time through quality improvement systems: lessons from the field** - Hear about successful municipal and state Quality Improvement Systems models, as we compare similarities and identify emerging guidance for choosing and sequencing assessments, and how to use assessments to support higher stakes regulatory and investment decisions.
- **The Ready by 21 Expanded Learning Initiative** - Be the first to hear about this new service to help increase alignment between schools and out-of-school time (OST) systems, and to help OST systems name, focus on and impact outcomes related to school success.
- **Youth Driven Spaces: Engaging youth within your community** - Learn how to use the operation of your organization as an opportunity to build 21st Century skills in youth.
- **Youth Program Quality Assessment: 2.0** - Hear specifics about the Youth Program Quality Assessment - a validated instrument designed to evaluate the quality of youth programs and identify staff training needs - and about how it has been adapted for different settings, including STEM, health and wellness, and art.
- **Ask the Experts** - Anyone who would like to learn about promising practices in a variety of Quality Improvement supports are welcome to sign up for a 30 minute consultation session with the Weikart Center team.

Learn more about who will be there and why, what we'll explore, and how to register here. While this year's event has a modest fee, we're happy to feature a discount for team registrations. Be sure to meet the **early registration deadline of Feb. 1**.

Our work to improve outcomes for children and youth is more important than ever. We hope to see you in Atlanta!

"I found this to be one of the more useful conferences that I have attended. The Forum provided a wealth of information, tools and support to continue the work back home. Kudos to a great event."

*- Evaluation from the 2012 Ready by 21 National Meeting*

Where: Atlanta, GA, Mar. 11-13

[Find out more >>](#)

[Register now >>](#)

## [SUBSCRIBE TO PROGRAM QUALITY NEWS](#)

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.



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David P. Weikart Center for Youth Program Quality | 124 Pearl Street | Suite 601 | Ypsilanti | MI | 48197