

# 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.

## New York Life Foundation Grant Opportunity for Middle School OST Programs

The New York Life Foundation has created a new \$1.95 M grant opportunity, Aim High. [The Aim High program](#) is part of the New York Life Foundation's ongoing investment in middle school OST programs to help economically disadvantaged eighth-graders reach ninth grade on time. The grant program will fund a total of 18 after school, summer and expanded learning programs nationwide, based on a competitive application process.



The Weikart Center is encouraging our partners to apply! If your program is interested in advancing your quality improvement system or going deeper on social and emotional learning, and you meet the grant qualifications, we are interested in supporting your application. Contact [Joe Bertoletti](#) for more information.

[Learn more about the grant opportunity and register for a webinar this Wednesday, January 25 at 2pm ET for tips on the application process.](#)

## Quality Standards for Expanded Learning in Public and Affordable Housing

Housing communities have an important role to play in closing the opportunity gap through the ability to bring quality learning opportunities to children where they live. The Partnership for Children & Youth (PCY) in Oakland, Calif. has recently released the *Quality Standards for Expanded Learning in Public and Affordable Housing*. Endorsed by leaders in both the expanded learning and housing fields, including the Weikart Center, these *Quality Standards* are providing expanded learning programs with common language and practices to enhance their programs and make a difference for the youth they serve.

[Download the Quality Standards for Expanded Learning in Public and Affordable Housing](#)

## University of Pittsburgh Offers New Doctoral Degree in Out-of-School Learning

Responding to the needs of professionals looking to advance their careers, the University of Pittsburgh will be offering a new Doctor of Education (EdD) in out-of-school learning. The part-time EdD is a three-year cohort-based degree program designed around the needs of working professionals with very clear timelines and an online course delivery model. The program is intended for experienced professionals who aspire to be transformational leaders in out-of-school learning. The first cohort will launch May 2017; applications are due February 1, 2017. [Read more information on the program and how to apply.](#)

## Calendar

PREPARING  
YOUTH TO THRIVE

Promising Practices for Social & Emotional Learning

### Learning in Action: Responsibility

Join SEL Challenge partner, Philadelphia Wooden Boat Factory to discuss responsibility this Wednesday, January 25 at 4pm ET. The mission of

the Philadelphia Wooden Boat Factory is to engage the city's youth through hands-on, experiential programming inspired by the heritage of the sea. PWBF offers project-based learning clubs for students to develop motivation, coping skills, agency, self-awareness, and confidence. [This chat on responsibility](#) is the most recent installment in our "Learning in Action" video chat series on the domains of social and emotional learning. [Register here.](#)

## Learn How to Improve Programs, Policies and Partnerships for Youth at the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Ready by 21 National Meeting in Austin, Texas

The Forum for Youth Investment will be hosting their 6th Annual National Meeting on March 29-31, 2017 in Austin, Texas. Experts from across the country will come together to share best practices for improving the lives of young people. The meeting focuses on the core themes of ensuring readiness, promoting equity, increasing shared commitment and improving program quality and effectiveness. The 2017 Ready by 21 National Meeting will also feature a number of sessions on Social and Emotional Learning.

The Weikart Center will be hosting a pre-conference from 1-5pm on March 29 open to all of our clients. During the session, you'll hear directly from Weikart Center leadership and have an opportunity to engage with other quality improvement leaders.

[Learn more and register.](#)

### Weikart Center Capacity Building Opportunities

Check out these upcoming course offerings, and contact [Jennifer@cypq.org](mailto:Jennifer@cypq.org) with any questions.



#### Youth Work Methods Training-of-Trainers

March 8-10 - Denver, Colo. - [Register by January 27](#)

March 22-24 - Seattle, Wash. - [Register by February 8](#)

#### Summer Learning Program Quality Intervention (SLPQI) Assessor Coach Training

April 19-21 - Baltimore, Md. - [Register by March 24](#)

#### Coaching for Continuous Quality Improvement (C4CI)

April 6-7 - Jacksonville, FL - Registration Opening Soon!

[Click here for more information on capacity building training.](#)

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