

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

American Youth Policy Forum's Capitol Hill Forum: Every Student Succeeds Act

With the passage of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) and its requirement to include a fifth, non-academic measure in state accountability systems, states have an unprecedented opportunity to consider the various elements that contribute to student success.

Last Friday, September 23, 2016, the American Youth Policy Forum hosted a Capitol Hill Forum in Washington, DC focused on the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). *Considerations for ESSA's Non-Academic Indicator: Bridging Research, Practice and Policy* was moderated by Caitlin Emma of [Politico](#) and featured Dr. Stephanie Jones of the [Harvard Graduate School of Education](#), Dr. David Osher of [American Institutes of Research](#); Dr. Jean Grossman of [MDRC](#); Livia Lam of the [Learning Policy Institute](#) and Dr. Charles Smith of the [Weikart Center](#).

[Read Dr. Charles Smith's blog post about this discussion and join the conversation here.](#)

Quality Partner Spotlight: Oregon Community Foundation

The K-12 Student Success: Out-of-School Time Initiative, of the Oregon Community Foundation, is focused on bolstering student attendance and academic success among Oregon's middle school students of color, rural, and low-income students. It provides funding to community-based programs that offer best practice after-school and summer academic support, positive adult role models, and parent engagement programming. Best practice programs increase student attendance and academic achievement and decrease risky behaviors, particularly for the target population.

K-12 Student Success recently published three Learning Briefs that summarize findings from the Out-of-School Time Initiative. The Learning Briefs focus on three aspects emphasized by these out-of-school time programs: academic support, positive adult role models, and family engagement.

[Read more here.](#)

Youth Driven Spaces in Michigan Arts Programs

Structuring youth programs to support the Youth Driven Space model, as developed by the Weikart Center and [The Neutral Zone](#) in Ann Arbor, Mich., can have powerful impacts on youth, staff, and organizations. By transforming existing youth programs into Youth Driven Spaces, youth members take on facilitation of meetings and activities, participate on youth advisory councils, and through leadership opportunities can become more engaged. [Read more about how programs in Michigan are incorporating the youth driven spaces model.](#)

Calendar

Last Call to Join the Weikart Center in Seattle at Dare to Disrupt!

You won't want to miss the National Summer Learning Association (NSLA) and School's Out Washington's National Conference on Afterschool and Summer Learning: Dare to Disrupt! The Pathway to Excellence and Equity in Education, October 24-26 in Seattle, Wash. This three-day national convening will bring together the nation's top thinkers to share and discuss the partnerships, policies, and programs that are breaking down traditional notions of when and where learning occurs.

Join members from the Weikart Center as we share our experiences with the Summer Learning Program Quality Intervention, our latest research in Social Emotional Learning, and more. [Read the full list of workshop offerings here.](#)

[For more information, and to register, click here.](#)



Build Your Network's Capacity: Upcoming Youth Work Methods and Management Training-of-Trainers Opportunities



Are you a manager or site leader who wants to support your program sites through the Quality Improvement Cycle? Are you interested in building your capacity to offer professional development opportunities to your program staff? Check out these upcoming course offerings and contact Jennifer@cypq.org with any questions.

Youth Work Methods Training-of-Trainers

December 7-9 - Seattle, Washington - [Register by October 14](#)

Youth Work Management Training-of-Trainers

November 9-10 - Seattle, Washington - [Registration Extended through October 7!](#)

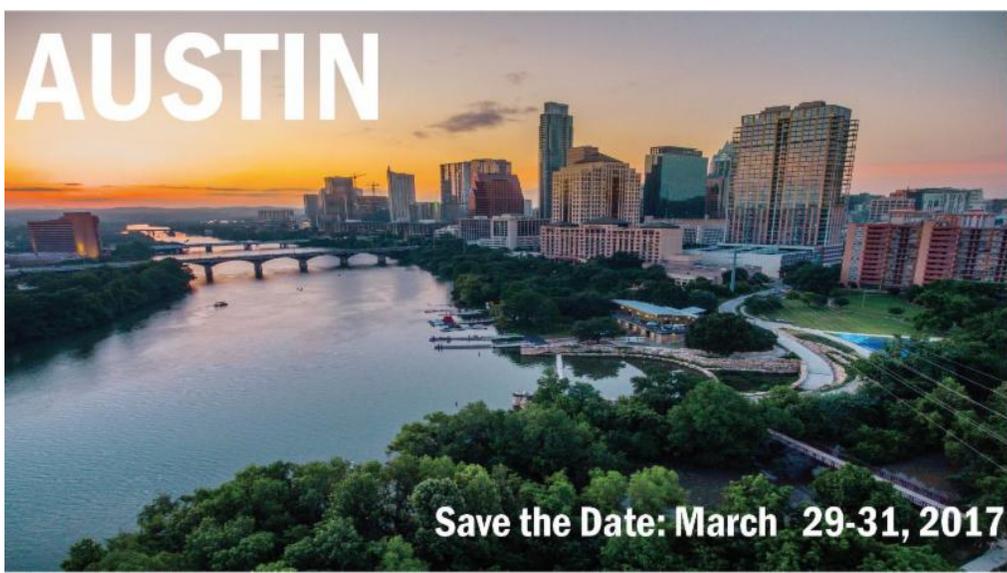
[Click here for more information on capacity building opportunities.](#)

Save the Date: 6th Annual Ready by 21 National Meeting - Austin, TX

We hope you'll join us in the Live Music Capital of the World - Austin, Texas - for the 6th Annual Ready by 21 National Meeting. Be a part of this unique opportunity to connect with 450+ leaders who are working to improve the lives of young people in communities and states across the country. You'll learn cutting-edge strategies to improve readiness and increase equity. Leaders will share research and techniques for social and emotional development, continuous quality improvement, and using evidence to advance programs and policies.

Please save the dates - March 29-31 - and [stay tuned for more information.](#)

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Save the Date: March 29-31, 2017

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

