



AFTERSCHOOL NEEDS & BENEFITS FACT SHEET (FY07)

Need: Expand After-School Opportunities for Illinois Families

- **64%** of all Illinois school-age children and youth are in families where the sole parent or both parents work according to the 2000 U.S. Census.
- **31%** of Caucasian, **25%** of African American and Hispanic, and **21%** Asian Pacific Islander children in working families are in self-care in the afternoon.³
- **41%** of 8th graders are home alone 10 or more hours a week according to data collected from the 2000 Illinois Youth Survey.
- **Just 7%** of children in rural working families attend after school programs. Parents of these children are more likely than parents of urban and suburban children to say the program their child attends is the only one available.³
- **Only 19%** of the children of single parent mothers participate in after school programs.³
- **More than 18%** of K-12 youth in self-care would be likely to participate in an after school program if one were available in their community.³

Benefits: After-School Opportunities in Illinois Cuts Crime, Boost School Success, Cuts Public Costs

- Programs **reduce crime** and **reduce risks** of unhealthy and unsafe behavior by young people. Students in after-school programs are less likely to use drugs or become teen parents. Students who spend no time in extracurricular activities are 49% more likely to have used drugs and 37% more likely to become teen parents than those who spend 1 to 4 hours per week in activities.⁴
- Students in after school programs **show better achievement in math, reading, and other subjects.**¹
- Students also show greater commitment to homework completion and greater engagement in class work.¹
- After school programs are **cost effective** and **save tax dollars**. One study indicated that every **\$1 spent produced benefits to the public worth \$3**, even before counting savings in crime reduction.²
- 93% of Illinois parents are extremely or somewhat satisfied with the after school program their child attends.³
- Programs **support family involvement in education**. Parents with children in after-school programs have a greater participation in school activities and are more active in their child's education.⁵

¹ JH McMillan and DF Reed, "A Qualitative Study of Resilient At-risk Students," *At Risk Students and Resiliency: Factors Contributing to Academic Success* (Clearing House: 1994) 67 (3) pp. 137-140

² Lattimore, C.B., et al. "The Quantum Opportunities Program," in Elliot, D.S., *Blueprints for Violence Prevention*, Book 4 of a series, Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence, Boulder CO, 1998.; WO Brown, et al, *The Costs and Benefits of After School Programs: The Estimated Effects of the After School Education and Safety Program Act of 2002* Claremont, CA: Rose Institute, 2002.

³ *A Preview of Illinois Data from the America After 3pm Household Survey on Afterschool*. Afterschool Alliance. (2004)

⁴ N Zill, et al, *Adolescent Time Use, Risky Behavior and Outcomes: An Analysis of National Data* Westat Inc., Rockville, MD (September 1995); McMillan and Reed, "A Qualitative Study..."(1994)

⁵ T.J. Kane, *The Impact of After-School Programs: Interpreting the Results of Four Recent Evaluations* William T. Grant Foundation, working paper, Washington, DC, (January 16, 2004)

70 East Lake Street
Suite 720
Chicago, Illinois 60601

T 312.986.9200
F 312.922.2277

preventingviolence.org



Evaluation
Resource
Institute

Fight Crime:
Invest in Kids
Illinois

Illinois
After-school
Alliance

Illinois
After-school
Partnership

Peace
Leadership
Project

Training &
Coaching
Institute

YouthPeace*
SisterNet*