



# **San Francisco Afterschool for All Initiative** *2010-11* Year End Report

## ***Afterschool for All Vision:***

**All children, youth and parents in San Francisco have a range of quality out of school time program choices.**

***Produced by San Francisco's  
Department of Children, Youth & Their Families***



**San Francisco's Afterschool for All Vision:**  
**All children, youth and parents in San Francisco have a range of quality out of school time program choices. The primary focus is on elementary and middle school age youth, although issues related to high school age youth are also considered.**

### **Background on San Francisco's Afterschool for All Initiative**

San Francisco is home to about 41,000 elementary and middle school age youth whom want access to afterschool programs that keep them safe, help working families, and enhance their cognitive, social, physical, artistic and/or civic development.

Afterschool programs play a critical role in the lives of youth and meet community needs by providing:

- Safe, structured places for children to stay while their parents work
- Youth development supports and opportunities to assist youth in becoming healthy, successful adults
- Learning activities that can complement and reinforce the lessons of the school day
- Enrichment opportunities designed to help youth explore the world around them
- Physical fitness and recreational activities to keep youth healthy

San Francisco's current afterschool program landscape is vast, composed of both publicly and privately-funded programs, and it offers much variety in terms of content focus, hours, location, and quality of programming. While there are currently many options for some youth and families, access to programs is uneven so some youth still lack the opportunity to participate in the afterschool program they want.

In response to this need and the desire to make San Francisco a "family-friendly" city with a strong public school system that values the role of afterschool, then Mayor Gavin Newsom and then Superintendent of Schools Gwen Chan made a pledge in late 2005 to support the creation of a citywide afterschool system. This afterschool system would address existing challenges and aim to provide "afterschool for all" elementary and middle school children by 2010.

Since that time, the city, school district, private funders, parent representatives, and community partners have been working together as the *Afterschool for All Initiative* to meet those goals.

Since 2007, a voluntary Afterschool for All Advisory Council, composed of representatives of the school district, city departments, community-based organizations, faith-based organizations, funders, parents, and others has been guiding the initiative. Composition of the council and agreements for working together are defined in a *Memorandum of Understanding* between the City and the San Francisco Unified School District, which are two separate entities that each report to their own board of elected officials. The initiative is co-lead by SFUSD's Student Support Services and the city's Department of Children, Youth & Their Families.

This year-end report provides an overview of the accomplishments made in 2010-11 by the Afterschool for All Initiative. For previous reports, go to [www.sfafterschoolforall.blogspot.com](http://www.sfafterschoolforall.blogspot.com).

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## How Afterschool for All Tackles Challenges

Collaborative partnerships are at the core of San Francisco's Afterschool for All efforts. All of its accomplishments are due to organizations working together with their existing resources to achieve outcomes that benefit afterschool programs and participants citywide.

In January 2008, the Afterschool for All Advisory Council adopted a work group structure to enable participation from a broader range of stakeholders in discussions around specific topic areas related to systems-building work. Since that time, there have been four cycles of work groups which were charged to make recommendations to the Council and/or stakeholder groups to take action to enhance the citywide infrastructure supporting out-of-school time programs.

The work groups to date have included:

### 2010-11

- Vision & Alignment Work Group (chaired by SFUSD)
- Program Quality & Data Work Group (chaired by DCYF)
- Afterschool and School Integration Committee (chaired by New Day for Learning)

### 2009-10

- Financing Strategies Work Group (chaired by SFUSD)
- Program Quality Work Group (chaired by DCYF)
- Afterschool and School Integration Committee (chaired by New Day for Learning)

### 2008-09

- Financing Strategies Work Group (chaired by DCYF)
- Program Quality & Outcomes Work Group (chaired by SFUSD)
- Workforce Work Group (chaired by SFUSD)
- Afterschool & School Integration Committee (chaired by DCYF)

### 2007-08

- Financing Strategies Work Group (chaired by DCYF & SFUSD)
- Program Quality & Outcomes Work Group (chaired by DCYF & SFUSD)
- Professional Development Work Group (chaired by DCYF & SFUSD)

Altogether, these efforts have engaged more than 75 individuals with the following stakeholder representation:

- 32 community-based organizations
- 4 parent representatives
- 4 city agencies
- 3 SFUSD departments
- 3 private funders
- 2 higher education institutions
- 1 research entity

## Afterschool for All Initiative's Guiding Principles

### Parent and Youth Choice.

A neighborhood and citywide system will provide a diversity of quality afterschool program choices for youth and families. Parents and youth will be engaged in the design, implementation, and evaluation of these systems.

**Diversity.** No one program model fits the diversity of youth and families in San Francisco. The parties value and support a multitude of program approaches and options provided by SFUSD, the City, and community based agencies in a range of settings.

**Equity.** All young people must have access to supports and opportunities to increase their ability to achieve academically, socially, physically and emotionally.

**Relevant Learning.** A citywide out-of-school time system will lay the foundation for a seamless learning system that integrates various learning approaches and places. Out-of-school time programming will emphasize meaningful and relevant learning opportunities that foster youth as "joyful learners." Skill building, hands-on projects and other activities will reinforce what youth learn during the school day as well as the California state education standards (e.g. Language Arts, Math, Visual/ Performing Arts, and Science) in a developmentally appropriate way.

**Youth Development.** Young people's assets and strengths are at the center of all programs.

**Quality.** Program design will be driven by developmentally appropriate best practices.

**Collaboration.** Active collaboration from key stakeholders is crucial to organizing a system of quality options for the benefit of youth and families.

# Afterschool for All Initiative 2010-11 Year End Report

## Goal: Enhance Access to Afterschool Programs

### The Challenges:

- ◆ In 2006, only 69% of children in Kindergarten to Grade 8 who wanted to participate in afterschool programming had access, leaving more than 10,000 youth who were in need of an afterschool program. A 2008 survey of SFUSD parents found that 27% had an unmet need for afterschool programming.
- ◆ San Francisco has been fortunate to receive about \$25 million annually in federal, state and local public funds to support afterschool programs since 2006. However, those funds are administered by different agencies and often serve different target populations and may have differing programmatic requirements.

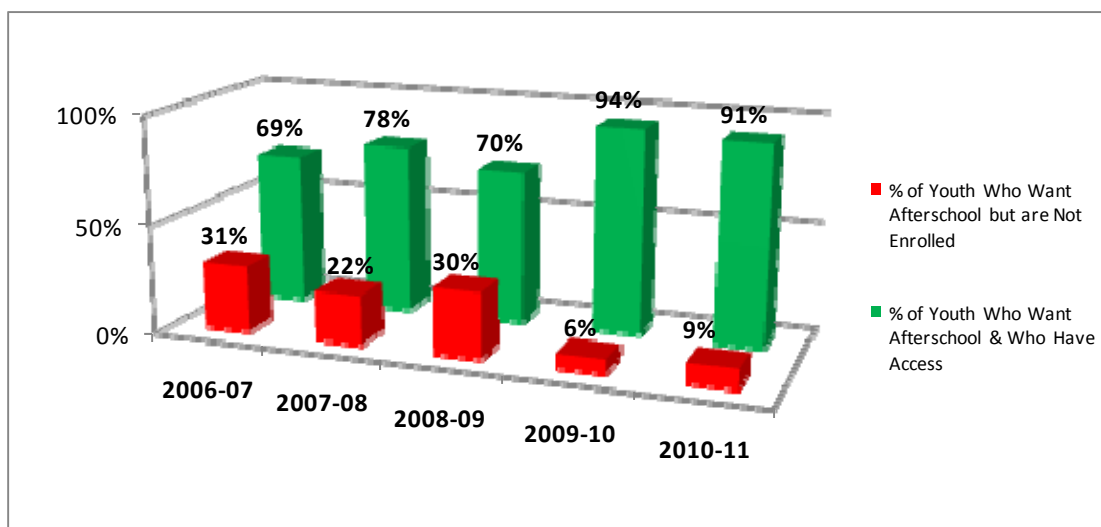
### Progress to Date:

- ◆ Since 2006, members of the San Francisco Afterschool for All effort have worked collectively to increase the number of elementary and middle school youth served in afterschool programs. **By 2010-11, slots were available for 91% of youth (37,263 individuals) who wanted to participate in an afterschool program.** This is a slight decrease from the previous year due to the school district reducing its enrollment by about 300 and the city's Recreation and Parks Department reducing enrollment by 300 due to budget cuts.
- ◆ The City's Department of Children, Youth and Their Families (DCYF) implemented a **new funding strategy that provides city matching funds to the state and federal seed grants** that SFUSD awards to community-based organizations to operate ExCEL school-based afterschool programs.<sup>c</sup> DCYF awarded 55 grants which together total about \$3.8 million each year for the next three years to support existing program capacity and to serve 686 students previously on wait-lists. DCYF vetted this strategy with the Afterschool for All Advisory Council and **utilized the Afterschool for All hourly cost estimates to inform its grant-making allocations** for afterschool and summer programs. About \$14 million worth of annual grants were made to community-based organizations to support a total of more than 195 program sites.

### Next Steps:

- ◆ San Francisco's Afterschool for All is currently working on strategies to boost the number of youth in afterschool programs by strategically aligning several public funding streams in ways that will ensure public reimbursable contracts are fully earned and that local funds continue to leverage state funds.

**Percent of Youth Enrolled in Afterschool in San Francisco, 2006-2011**



**Notes:** <sup>a</sup>"Organized afterschool programs" is defined as an afterschool activity that is available for elementary and middle school-age youth that is offered for at least 2 hours per day for at least 3 days a week during the hours after school on an ongoing basis. For the 2010-11 data, it is estimated that about 22% of children, or 11,800 do not participate in afterschool and do not want to participate.

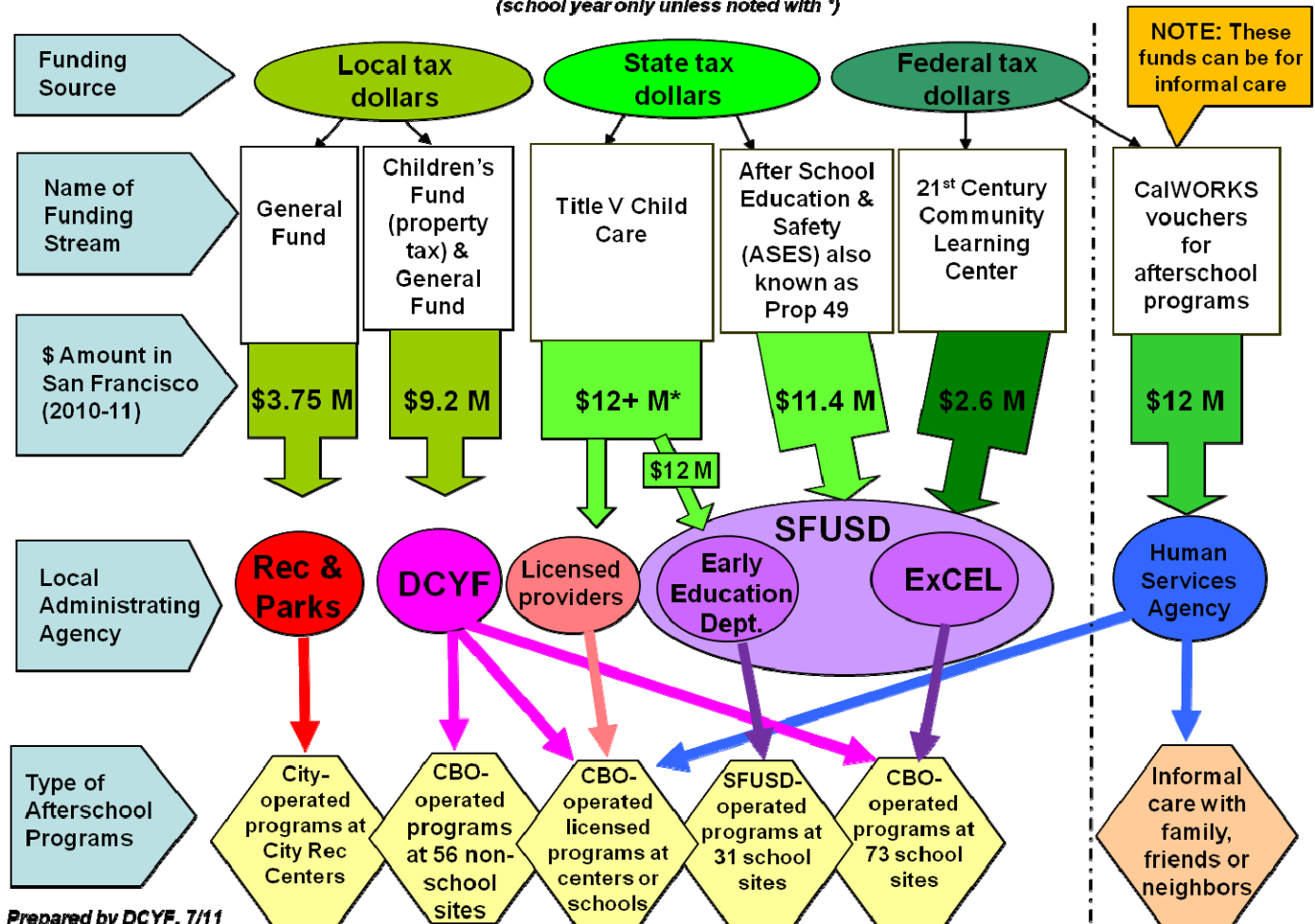
# Afterschool for All Initiative 2010-11 Year End Report

## Landscape of Public Afterschool Resources

San Francisco has been fortunate to access federal, state and local public funds to support afterschool programs. Below is a diagram that Afterschool for All created to map the major public funding streams, their funding sources, the 2010-11 dollar amounts, the local administering agency, and the type of afterschool programs they support. Other public funds that may contribute to afterschool programs include school site and school district funds, and a variety of discretionary public grant funding. Major private funding sources that support local afterschool programs include: family fees, donations, philanthropic foundation grants, in-kind donations, and volunteers.

### Major Public Funding for Structured K-8 Afterschool Programs in San Francisco

(school year only unless noted with \*)



# Afterschool for All Initiative 2010-11 Year End Report

## Goal: Enhance Quality of Afterschool Programs



### The Challenges:

- ◆ Afterschool programs enhance the cognitive, social, physical, artistic, and civic development of children and youth by providing meaningful and relevant learning opportunities that creatively reinforce and expand on what they learn during the school day. Afterschool programs also help support working families by providing safe, healthy environments for children while their parents work. One of the key challenges in the afterschool field is defining and measuring program quality to ensure that youth reap the benefits that research has shown high-quality programs can foster among participants. Defining expectations for program staff is also a challenge.
- ◆ Many afterschool programs in San Francisco are operated by community-based organizations. Staff in these organizations typically start working as school day staff are ending their work day, which can prevent these two sets of adults from sharing information about the youth they both serve. In addition, data about a student's academic progress is typically not shared with non-district staff, which impedes a CBO staff person's ability to individualized support to foster youth's school success.

### Progress to date:

- **Defining and measuring quality:** The Afterschool for All Advisory Council adopted the "**AFA Summer Quality Self-Assessment (QSA) Tool.**" The tool offers three levels of indicators to help programs know where they are in the continuum of quality practices. This tool is the third QSA tool developed by the Council — the others focus on school-based and community-based afterschool programs. The summer program tool was co-designed by the National Summer Learning Association and local providers, and is aligned with the California After-school Program QSA Tool's<sup>b</sup> 11 elements of quality. **View the tool** at <http://SFAfterschoolforAll.blogspot.com>.
- **Sharing Information:** In Spring 2011, DCYF and SFUSD led a pilot effort to allow out-of-school time providers working with middle and high school students to use a new online system (called School Loop) to share student academic data with providers to enhance their coordination and support of school success. For the first time, non-district staff were allowed to use the system to access student-level information, such as grades, homework, and school attendance. This type of information helps afterschool providers tailor their program offerings to meet individual youths' needs, offer appropriate interventions, and enhance their ability to assist with homework.
- **Supporting staff:** DCYF developed a training to help out of school time providers learn about and apply the "**San Francisco Afterschool for All Core Competencies for Afterschool Staff.**" These competencies will ultimately foster more positive outcomes for youth by helping employers and afterschool staff recruit, hire, evaluate, support, and promote staff based on mastery of competencies, as well as enhancing efforts to professionalize the field. The training will be delivered through a variety of outlets in 2011-2012. **View the core competencies** at <http://SFAfterschoolforAll.blogspot.com>.

### Next Steps:

- Identify opportunities to strengthen professional development delivered to the local afterschool field, including conducting outreach on the AFA core competencies and quality self-assessment tools. The Council will also work with SFUSD to expand the data sharing pilot to more afterschool providers in 2011-12.

### Afterschool for All ELEVEN ELEMENTS OF PROGRAM QUALITY

- Program assessment & design
- Program administration & finance
- Community partnerships & collaboration
- Alignment & linkages with the school day
- Program environment & safety
- Youth development
- Staff recruitment & professional development
- Family involvement
- Nutrition & physical activity
- Promoting diversity, access, equity, & inclusion
- Effectively supporting English learners



## Additional Accomplishments

### **Building National and Local Support for SF's Afterschool for All**

**The Challenge:** Decision-makers face difficult choices during times of declining public funds that support education and support services for youth.

**Accomplishments this year:**

- The Council held a **press conference** to commemorate the national *Lights On Afterschool* event and invited each of the Board of Supervisors and Board of Education to attend to demonstrate their support for afterschool.
- DCYF and the Partnership for Children and Youth produced a **research paper** in February 2011 examining the impact of state afterschool funding on local public investments and relationships between stakeholders such as school districts, city agencies and afterschool providers. The paper, entitled "The Impact of Prop 49: A Profile of After School Policy and Practice in Oakland and San Francisco," compares San Francisco and Oakland's experiences, which can inform other collaborative, inter-agency efforts.

### **Strengthening the Afterschool Field**

**The Challenge:** There are hundreds of afterschool providers who each have their own operational definition of what constitutes high-quality programming.

**Accomplishments this year:**

- DCYF and SFUSD partnered with several other organizations to organize and support the second annual **Bay Area regional afterschool two-day conference** in Oakland on January 28-29, 2011. More than 500 people attended the conference and several San Francisco providers led cutting-edge workshops. Planning for a 2012 event is already underway. View the conference website at <http://www.bridgingthebay.blogspot.com>.
- DCYF led **workshops on the SF Afterschool for All Core Competencies for Afterschool Staff** at the regional Bridging the Bay conference. More than 60 staff from programs from across the nine Bay Area counties participate in the workshops.
- SFUSD partnered with the AFA Vision and Programming Work Group to develop a **quality self assessment template** for ExCEL afterschool providers<sup>c</sup> and school principals to reflect on their afterschool programs and plan for future improvements.

### **Outreach to Families About Afterschool Options**

**The Challenge:** Families experience difficulty navigating their afterschool options and afterschool often influences their school enrollment choices.

**Accomplishments this year:**

- DCYF continued to support the **online Afterschool for All Program Locator** at [www.SFKids.org](http://www.SFKids.org) where families can search by neighborhood, age, or key word for afterschool options throughout the city.
- AFA Advisory Council members led **workshops for parents** about how to find an afterschool program for their child and staffed an outreach table at the **SFUSD Enrollment Fair**.

“As one program director in San Francisco commented, ‘Afterschool for All has helped ‘to demystify the convoluted funding for after school by bringing everyone into the same room to unravel it.’”

— from national report *Engaging Older Youth: Program and City-Level Strategies to Support Sustained Participation in Out-of-School Time* by Harvard Family Research Project and P/PV, April 2010

# Afterschool for All Initiative 2010-11 Year End Report

## 2010-11 Afterschool for All Advisory Council Members

The Afterschool for All Advisory Council guides the initiative and is composed of representatives of the school district, city departments, community-based organizations, Funders, higher education, capacity building organizations, youth and parents. The 2010-11 members of the Afterschool for All Advisory Council were:

- o Bill Vanark, Playworks
- o Michael Andolina, Jamestown Community Center
- o Pam Pradachith, Opportunity Impact
- o Deidre Hayden, Support for Families of Children with Disabilities
- o Michelle Jacques-Menegaz, Parents Advisory Council
- o Ellie Rossiter (with Hedy Chang as alternate), Parents for Public Schools
- o Simon Lee, Growth & Learning Opportunities
- o Laurie Meschke, SF State University
- o Kathleen White, City College of SF
- o Nayad Abrahamian, Youth Advisory Council
- o Sandra Naughton, SF Dept of Children, Youth & Their Families
- o Michele Rutherford, SF Human Services Agency
- o Toby Wiley, SF Recreation & Parks Department
- o Alan Broussard or Sandy Osborne, SFUSD
- o Margaret Chiu, SFUSD
- o Yashica Crawford, SFUSD
- o Kevin Truitt, SFUSD
- o Natasha Hoehn, Silver Giving Foundation
- o Claudia O. Sandoval, Hirsch & Associates, LLC

## NOTES

<sup>a</sup> For more information about the California After School Network's QSA tool, visit [www.afterschoolnetwork.org](http://www.afterschoolnetwork.org).

<sup>b</sup> SFUSD operates 31 school-age afterschool programs through its district-operated Child Development Centers. These programs are funded by Title V state child care subsidies and serve low-income families in need of afterschool programming. Unlike the ExCEL programs, these programs are exclusively staffed by district employees and have stricter staffing, ratio and physical space requirements than ExCEL programs. <sup>c</sup> ExCEL afterschool programs are school-district sponsored programs which are administered by SFUSD's Student Support Services Division. These programs are funded through state and federal grants, and are often contracted out to community-based organizations to operate the program.

<sup>d</sup> New Day for Learning is an initiative of SFUSD, DCYF, the City of San Francisco, and the SF School Alliance to create and promote community schools.

*Acknowledgements:* This brief was written and designed by Sandra Naughton of DCYF.

### *For more information:*

**Blog:** <http://SFAfterschoolforAll.blogspot.com>

**Email:** [afterschoolforall@dcyf.org](mailto:afterschoolforall@dcyf.org)

