

March 5, 2020

The Honorable Roy Blunt
Chairman
Appropriations Subcommittee on
Labor, Health and Human
Services, and Education
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Patty Murray
Ranking Member
Appropriations Subcommittee on
Labor, Health and Human
Services, and Education
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Chairwoman
House LHHS-ED Appropriations
Subcommittee
2413 Rayburn House Office Building
Building Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Tom Cole
Ranking Member
House LHHS-ED Appropriations
Subcommittee
2467 Rayburn House Office
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Blunt and Ranking Member Murray; and Chairwoman DeLauro and Ranking Member Cole:

The local, state and national organizations listed below representing all 50 states and the District of Columbia thank you for supporting increased funding for the Nita M. Lowey 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) (Title IV Part B of the Every Student Succeeds Act) last year (fiscal year 2020) allowing an additional 28,000 students to access quality afterschool, before-school and summer learning programs.

Unfortunately the President's fiscal year 2021 budget request eliminates funding for the 21st CCLC program for a fourth year in a row potentially leaving 1.7 million students without an afterschool program to attend after the school day ends. This will particularly affect working families who depend on these programs. As a result, we call on your Committees to again work in a bipartisan manner to reject the Administration's proposed elimination of 21st CCLC and instead provide a \$100 million increase resulting in \$1.35 billion in funding in the fiscal year 2021 Labor, Health and Human Services and Education (LHHS) appropriations bill.

For every child in an afterschool program, two are waiting to get in. In rural communities, three children are waiting for every child enrolled. A modest increase of 8 percent in funding for 21st CCLC will be a first step to addressing the growing demand for afterschool and summer opportunities for young people. With \$100 million in additional funding, local school and community-based providers of afterschool and summer learning programs will be able to extend the opportunity of quality programming to an additional 100,000 students (meeting 1% more of demand) in high-need rural, urban and suburban communities.

Federal 21st CCLC formula grants to states enable communities to leverage local resources by providing 3-5 years of funding to support community partnerships among community-based organizations, faith-based partners, private industry, and school partners (public, private, and charters). The funding from 21st CCLC provides a foundation of afterschool and summer programming and enables communities to

attract other partners and resources for students including access to mentors, new learning opportunities, nutritious snacks and meals, and in some places medical, dental and mental health programs. Funds also are used for training, evaluation, and assistance to ensure quality programming is offered. Block granting or consolidating these funds and providing them exclusively to schools as the President's budget proposes would jeopardize program quality and would eliminate programs operated by community based, faith based, and local municipal providers.

While reflecting the needs of local communities, 21st CCLCs expand student access to activities and services designed to reinforce and complement the regular academic program, such as: hands on learning, physical activity, workforce development opportunities including gaining knowledge and skills in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) , drug and violence prevention programs, counseling programs, the arts, and more.

In addition, the outcomes of 21st CCLC funded afterschool and summer learning programs are unmistakable. Students who regularly participate in 21st Century Community Learning Centers improve their school attendance, class participation and behavior, homework completion, and reading and math achievement scores and grades. Quality afterschool programming prepares students for college and the workforce, as demonstrated through evaluation reports from 21st Century Community Learning Center programs across states. In fact the U.S. Department of Education's most recent evaluation report, 2017-2018 21st CCLC Annual Performance Data, found:

"The performance data indicate that this broad-ranging program touches students' lives in ways that will have far-reaching, positive impact" and concluded "Over the past year this program has resulted in over 2 million low-income students and family members having a safe place to receive academic enrichment. The students who participate in the 21st CCLC program are among the most at risk. The performance on the GPRA [Government Performance and Results Act] measures indicate that many participants are showing improved behavior and homework completion, student grades, and mathematics or reading/language arts assessment results."

Given the tremendous need for and impact of quality afterschool and summer learning programs, we call on your subcommittees and Congress to pave the way for an appropriations increase for 21st CCLC without negatively impacting other education programs, by supporting a robust allocation to the Labor HHS Education subcommittee and adequately funding education within LHHS-Education.

Thank you for your ongoing support of children and families nationwide and for supporting an increase of \$100 million for 21st CCLC in FY2021.

Sign by:

National Organizations

A World Fit For Kids!
Afterschool Alliance
After-School All-Stars
Alliance for Strong Families and Communities
America SCORES
American Camp Association, Inc.
American Federation of Teachers

Association of Science and Technology Centers
 Boys & Girls Clubs of America
 Campaign for Youth Justice
 Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP)
 Child Care Aware of America
 Child Welfare League of America
 Children's Advocacy Institute
 City Year Inc.
 Coaching Corps
 Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL)
 Committee for Children
 Communities In Schools, National Office
 Council of Administrators of Special Education
 EDGE Consulting Partners
 First Focus on Children
 Food Research and Action Center
 Foundations, Inc
 Girls Inc.
 Institute for Educational Leadership
 MENTOR: The National Mentoring Partnership
 National AfterSchool Association
 National Assn for Family, School and Community Engagement (NAFSCE)
 National Association of Secondary School Principals
 National Center for Learning Disabilities
 National Forum to Accelerate Middle-Grades Reform
 National Girls Collaborative
 National Recreation and Park Association
 National Summer Learning Association
 National Women's Law Center
 Public Advocacy for Kids (PAK)
 Save the Children
 Save the Children Action Network
 Share Our Strength
 United Way Worldwide
 YMCA of the USA

State and Local Organizations:

Alabama Community Education Association	AL
Alaska Children's Trust (ACT)	AK
Hot Springs YMCA	AR
Valley of the Sun YMCA	AZ
After School All Stars, Los Angeles	CA
Arc	CA

California State Alliance of YMCAs	CA
California AfterSchool Network	CA
California School Age Consortium	CA
California Teaching Fellows Foundation	CA
Children's After School Arts (CASA)	CA
East Los Angeles Rising	CA
EduCare Foundation	CA
Girls Inc. of Alameda County	CA
Girls Inc. of Greater Los Angeles	CA
Girls Inc. of Orange County	CA
Girls Inc. of West Contra Costa County	CA
LA's BEST Afterschool Enrichment Program	CA
Santa Clara Afterschool Collaborative	CA
Think Together	CA
United Way Fresno Madera Counties	CA
United Way of Stanislaus County	CA
YMCA of San Diego County	CA
Colorado Afterschool Partnership	CO
Girls Inc. of Metro Denver	CO
Connecticut After School Network	CT
CT Alliance of YMCAs	CT
United Way of Western CT	CT
After-School All-Stars DC	DC
YMCA of Delaware	DE
Boys & Girls Clubs of Bay County	FL
Capital Preparatory	FL
Florida State Parks Foundation	FL
Gallop's Family Center	FL
Girls Inc. of Lakeland	FL
Prime Time Palm Beach County	FL
Communities In School of Cochran/Bleckley County & Family Connection Community Partnership, Inc.	GA
Communities In Schools of Atlanta	GA
Communities In Schools of Douglas County, Inc.	GA
Georgia Recreation and Park Association	GA
Georgia Statewide Afterschool Network	GA
Voices for Georgia's Children	GA
After-School All-Stars Hawaii	HI
Boys & Girls Club of Hawaii	HI
Hawaii Afterschool Alliance	HI
Hawaii Arts Alliance	HI
Hawaii Alliance for Arts Education dba Hawaii Arts Alliance	HI
Honolulu Community Action Program, Inc.	HI

Jarrett Middle School	HI
KALO	HI
Kohala Elementary School	HI
Kohala High School	HI
Kohala Middle School	HI
Lehua Elementary School	HI
Nanaikapono Elementary	HI
Parents And Children Together	HI
YMCA of Honolulu	HI
Iowa Afterschool Alliance	IA
Iowa Alliance of YMCAs	IA
Treasure Valley Family YMCA	ID
After School Matters	IL
Afterschool for Children and Teens Now (ACT Now)	IL
Brighton Park Neighborhood Council	IL
Carole Robertson Center for Learning	IL
Girls Inc. of Chicago	IL
Illinois AfterSchool Network	IL
Illinois State Alliance of YMCAs	IL
Metropolitan Family Services	IL
Southwest Organizing Project	IL
WeGo Together for Kids/West Chicago Elementary School District 33	IL
YMCA of Metropolitan Chicago	IL
Youth Guidance	IL
Boys & Girls Club of Huntington County	IN
BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS IN INDIANA INC	IN
Communities In Schools of Clark County	IN
Communities In Schools of Lake County	IN
Girls Inc. of Shelbyville & Shelby County	IN
Indiana Afterschool Network	IN
Indiana Alliance of Boys & Girls Clubs	IN
Marion County Commission On Youth, Inc.	IN
Communities In Schools of Mid-America	KS
Kansas State Alliance of YMCAs	KS
Valley Heights Community Education	KS
Covington Partners	KY
Kentucky Out of School Alliance	KY
Kentucky/West Virginia Regional Alliance of YMCAs	KY
Communities In Schools of the Gulf South	LA
YMCA of Northwest Louisiana	LA
Girls Inc. of the Valley	MA
Advocates for Children and Youth	MD

Girls Incorporated of Washington County	MD
Maryland Out of School Time Network	MD
Lewiston 21st Century/ Lewiston Public Schools	ME
Michigan Association of United Ways	MI
Michigan's Children	MI
Children's Defense Fund-Minnesota	MN
Minnesota Alliance of YMCAs	MN
Camdenton R-III Afterschool Services	MO
Eldon Learning Enriched Afterschool Program	MO
Eldon R-1 Schools	MO
Missouri AfterSchool Network	MO
Mississippi Gulf Coast YMCA	MS
Boys & Girls Club of the Hi-line	MT
Gallatin Valley YMCA	MT
Montana Afterschool Alliance	MT
The Missoula Family YMCA	MT
Communities In Schools of Brunswick County, Inc.	NC
Communities In Schools of Cape Fear	NC
Communities In Schools of Durham	NC
Communities In Schools of North Carolina	NC
W.A.M.Y. Community Action, Inc.	NC
Wade Edwards Foundation (WELL)	NC
Western Youth Network	NC
North Dakota Afterschool Network	ND
North Valley Extended School Program	ND
North Valley Career and Technology Center	ND
Red River Regional Council	ND
South East Education Cooperative	ND
Girls Inc. of Omaha	NE
Nebraska Alliance	NE
New Hampshire Afterschool Network	NH
New Jersey School Age Care Coalition (NJSACC)	NJ
Explora/New Mexico Out of School Time	NM
Girls Inc. of Santa Fe	NM
Lovington Youth Center	NM
Children's Advocacy Alliance	NV
YMCA of Southern Nevada	NV
BestSelf Behavioral Health	NY
Children's Aid	NY
ExpandedED Schools	NY
Girls Inc. of Long Island	NY
Greater Rochester After School Alliance	NY
Lt. Col. Matt Urban Human Services Center of WNY	NY

New York State Network for Youth Success	NY
The Children's Agenda	NY
YWCA of Syracuse and Onondaga County Inc.	NY
Afterschool Programs of Lancaster	OH
Akron Public Schools	OH
Avenues for Success	OH
Boys & Girls Clubs of the Western Reserve	OH
Children's Hunger Alliance	OH
Delaware City Schools Pacer SACC	OH
Graham Local Schools	OH
Horizon Education Centers	OH
Lead The Way Learning Academy	OH
Lighthouse Ministries of Canton	OH
New Dimension Learning Center Inc	OH
New Lexington High School 21st Century Project Y.O.U.	OH
Nusken Associates LLC	OH
Ohio Afterschool Network	OH
Park-Martinez Consulting, LLC	OH
St. Johns JEC	OH
United Way of Youngstown and Mahoning Valley	OH
Warren City Schools	OH
Western Buckeye ESC	OH
YWCA Alliance	OH
Oklahoma Alliance of YMCAs	OK
OregonASK	OR
Our Children Oregon	OR
Communities In Schools of the Lehigh Valley	PA
Pennsylvania State Alliance of YMCAs	PA
United Way of Erie County	PA
United Way of Lebanon County	PA
Connecting for Children and Families	RI
DownCity Design	RI
New Urban Arts	RI
Newport Community School	RI
Providence After School Alliance	RI
Rhode Island Afterschool Network	RI
United Way of Rhode Island	RI
Communities in Schools Greenville	SC
Richard W. Riley Institute at Furman	SC
South Carolina Alliance of YMCAs	SC
EmBe - Empowering you to Be	SD
Lutheran Social Services of SD	SD
Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate	SD

South Dakota Afterschool Network	SD
Girls Inc. of Chattanooga	TN
Girls Inc. of TN Valley	TN
Girls Incorporated of Kingsport	TN
Tennessee State Alliance of YMCAs	TN
Tennessee Afterschool Network	TN
United Ways of Tennessee	TN
YMCA of Middle Tennessee	TN
Communities In Schools of North Texas	TX
Communities In Schools, Southeast and Brazoria County	TX
Girls Inc. of Metropolitan Dallas	TX
Girls Inc. of San Antonio	TX
Texas Partnership for Out of School Time	TX
United Way of Greater Houston	TX
United Ways of Texas	TX
YMCA of El Paso	TX
City of South Salt Lake- Promise South Salt Lake	UT
Community Education Partnership	UT
Utah Afterschool Network, Inc.	UT
Communities In Schools of Southwest Virginia	VA
Virginia Alliance of YMCAs	VA
Virginia Partnership for Out-of-School Time (VPOST)	VA
Hunger Free Vermont	VT
Vermont Afterschool, Inc.	VT
Voices for Vermont's Children	VT
School's Out Washington	WA
Kids Forward	WI
Wisconsin / UP Michigan State Alliance of YMCAs	WI
YMCA of Metropolitan Milwaukee	WI
PATCH	WV
Uinta BOCES #1 Education Center	WY
Wyoming Afterschool Alliance	WY