



July 2009

Dear Friend,

At the U.S. Conference of Mayors meeting last month, Mayor Menino led a discussion on citywide out-of-school time strategies. He highlighted the critical role that partners play in delivering a diverse array of programs at scale in Boston.

In a world of limited resources, the public-private partnership strategy is essential to ensuring that youth experience the entire day and the entire year as a series of coordinated education and enrichment opportunities.



This approach is on full display in Boston this summer – from new environmental jobs in the parks to tennis and reading on the courts to youth umpires on the fields to shared technology in the neighborhoods.

With July upon us, tens of thousands of young people are participating in hundreds of programs across the city. This newsletter brings you information on these activities and practical resources to connect youth with programs.

Sincerely,

Chris Smith
Executive Director

Still looking for a summer program?

There is still time to find a safe and engaging summer program. [BOSTONavigator](#) offers the most up-to-date information on nearly 900 summer opportunities. Recent improvements allow one to search for programs by any combination of age, activity focus, and summer availability - within a 1/4 mile radius! You can now e-mail the search results and find all programs offered at a particular site.

➔ Neighborhood Resource Guides

New Neighborhood Resource Guides provide a sample of programs listed in [BOSTONavigator](#) in every Boston neighborhood. For each program, the guides include contact information, location, days offered, gender and ages served, and cost. Pre-sorted by type of activity, these guides are designed to assist in parent outreach efforts.

Neighborhood networks launch public websites

Four neighborhood-based networks of youth serving organizations are launching [public web sites](#) this summer. The new web sites include information on more than 100 programs offered by 57 organizations through Jamaica Plain Unidos/United, East Boston Youth Task Force, Lower Roxbury Youth Collaborative, and GOTCHA (Dorchester). A common technological framework and shared database of youth records allow youth workers to serve teens across multiple programs and organizations. These sites also enable the public, schools, and other organizations to refer youth to a network in these neighborhoods. These collaborations are supported under the banner of the Teen Initiative.

IN THE NEWS

➔ Mayor Menino Launches Boston R.O.C.K.S!!! 2009

Mayor Thomas M. Menino kicks-off Boston R.O.C.K.S!!! 2009 at the North End's Nazzaro Community Center to remind Boston families that the City of Boston has launched the R.O.C.K.S. website and hotline for children and families still looking for summer programs and activities.

IN THE NEWS

➔ Boston Public Health Commission Update

The BPHC has issued an important update for summer programs regarding the H1N1 Flu Virus. Organizations are encouraged to monitor the Boston Public Health Commission website for additional information as the guidance continues to evolve.

IN THE NEWS

➔ US Conference of Mayors Resolution Adopted

The resolution submitted by Providence's Mayor David N. Cicilline and supported by Boston's Mayor Thomas M. Menino, Expanding Investments in Coordinated Full-Day Learning Strategies to Ensure the Health Development of Youth, has been adopted by not just one, but two committees of the U.S. Conference of Mayors: Children, Health and Human Services and Jobs, Education and Workforce.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

➔ ASOST Quality Continuation Grant

Due: July 31, 2009

EVENTS/TRAININGS

➔ National Summer Learning Day

Host an event during the week of July 6, to help focus attention on how summer programs send young people back to school ready to learn, support working families and help to keep children safe and healthy.

EVENTS/TRAININGS

➔ Data Day 2009: Using Data to Drive Community Change

At Data Day, nonprofit organizations, civic institutions and municipalities come together to see the latest in technology and tools and learn how other groups are using data to support and advance constructive change.

Environmental groups step up on summer jobs

The [Boston Youth Environmental Network](#) organized 12 park stewardship organizations to hire an additional 125 youth this summer, with support from the Mayor's Youth Fund. New youth crews are allowing organizations to tackle long-neglected projects. With engaging "green" work sites ready to provide meaningful employment for teenagers, an anonymous private foundation is providing the financial support to hire supervisors, many of whom are graduates of Boston youth environmental programs. This public-private initiative is adding environmental organizations to a strong group of environmental employers that collectively hire over 800 young people each year.

EVENTS/TRAININGS

➤ Summer Seminars for Afterschool Program Professionals

The National Institute for Out-of-School Time will host its annual summer seminar series addressing program evaluation, the changing landscape of out-of-school time, system and community building, technical assistance and more.

State Budget Maintains Support for OST

In a difficult revenue climate, the Governor and Legislature maintained core support for youth line items. Notably, however, the youth Mentoring Matching Grants (line item 7061-9634) is among the Governor's vetoes. The House and Senate still can vote to override this veto in the coming days with a two-thirds roll-call vote in each chamber. Download a [summary of the line items](#), prepared by Massachusetts Afterschool Partnership to learn how the FY2010 budget will affect after-school and out-of-school time opportunities in Massachusetts.

Common Outcomes Framework

In partnership with the Boston Public Schools DELTAS and the City of Boston, Boston After School & Beyond seeks to identify the measures of success most important, predictive and powerful for young people. Strategy Matters is leading this process in order to identify indicators and other data elements that are common among initiatives. Over time, the project seeks to develop a framework that includes shared goals and indicators among youth program providers and funders. To ensure that this process benefits from a broad range of stakeholders, we invite you to share ideas, questions and resources on a project listserv. To join, e-mail lisa@strategy matters.org.

New Research

➤ Dollars and Sense: A First Look at Financing A New Day For Learning

This Cross & Jofus publication focuses on how communities can organize resources to support expanded learning, including connecting programs and services to schools by building bridges for students to connect school and out-of-school time activities; creating community networks to expand learning outside the school environment; and extending the traditional school day or school year to provide more structured time for learning and involve community partners who can share their resources and expertise. December 2008.

➤ The Federal Role in Out-of-School Learning

Four decades of research demonstrate that it is necessary to redefine learning—both where and when it takes place—if the country is to achieve the goal of educating all of its children. This report from Harvard Family Research Project makes a research-based case for federal provision of out-of-school complementary learning supports, so that all students gain the skills necessary for success in the 21st century. This report was commissioned by the Center for Education Policy and presented at a forum on Capitol Hill in November 2008. February 2009.