



# CONNECTICUT

The Afterschool Investments project is developing profiles for each state to provide a snapshot of the “state of afterschool,” as well as an opportunity to compare afterschool activities across the country. This profile provides key data and descriptions of the afterschool landscape, which includes a range of out-of-school time programming that can occur before and afterschool, on weekends, and during summer months. It is designed to serve as a resource for policymakers, administrators, and providers.

## Statewide Initiatives

► **Connecticut Statewide After-School Advisory Committee.** In 2003, the Connecticut Afterschool Alliance and the State Department of Education convened a statewide Steering Committee of policymakers, educators, youth development workers, advocates, and others to support effective afterschool programs and foster school-family-community partnerships. Upon the Committee’s recommendation, the governor signed Public Act 03-206 in July 2003 to permanently establish Connecticut’s Statewide After-School Advisory Committee, which would provide leadership on key afterschool issues. The committee, which is led by the State Departments of Education and Social Services with the Connecticut Commission on Children, recently drafted an After-School Report that provided an overview of the state of afterschool services in the state. Because of this commitment to afterschool programs, the C.S. Mott Foundation recently awarded Connecticut a grant to help establish a statewide network to help build an effective, coordinated system. The network, under the guidance of the After-School Advisory Committee, will focus on the following:

- Identifying sustainable funding sources and potential interagency collaborations.
- Developing quality standards for afterschool programs.
- Providing information about professional development opportunities.
- Exploring the use of both statewide and local evaluation data to better demonstrate outcomes for after-school programming.

For more information, see <http://www.state.ct.us/sde>.

## Quick Facts

### Demographics

Total population: .....3,405,565

Number of children ages 5-12: .....393,419

Percent of population: .....12%

Percent of students eligible for free and reduced-price lunch: .....Data not available

Percent of K-12 students in Title I “Schoolwide” schools: ..... 8.3%

For more demographic information, visit <http://nccic.org/statedata/statepro/connecti.html>

### Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF)

#### • CCDF Administrative Overview

Administering agency: Connecticut Department of Social Services

Total estimated FFY03 federal and state CCDF funds: ..\$88,236,128

FFY03 total federal share: .....\$51,630,306

FFY03 state MOE plus match: .....\$36,605,822

School Age & Resource and Referral earmark: .....\$130,492

FFY02 Total Quality Expenditures: .....\$6,216,655

Percent of children receiving CCDF subsidies who are ages 5-12: .....52.3%



▶ **The Connecticut After School Alliance.** The After School Alliance is a state-wide coalition of Connecticut organizations and service providers directed by the State’s Commission on Children that promotes the important role afterschool programs play in keeping kids safe while helping them improve academic achievement. The Alliance focuses on four main areas: communication and public awareness, policy and legislative advocacy, resource development, and best practices. Some of their major accomplishments to date include holding the first annual After School Day sponsored by legislative leaders at the State Capitol, winning state funding for a pilot Afterschool and the Arts project in three municipalities, and developing a position paper on Afterschool in conjunction with the State Department of Education.

▶ **Connecticut Charts-A-Course (CCAC).** Connecticut Charts-A-Course (CCAC) is a career development system for child care providers that is supported by the state’s CCDF quality dollars. It is a collaborative effort between the state’s Departments of Social Services, Education, and Higher Education. One component of the program is the Scholarship Assistance Fund, which provides income eligible child-care providers funding to pursue further training in school age care and ultimately receive a credential. Additionally, CCAC administers the Accreditation Facilitation Project which supports quality improvement and the acquisition of national accreditation standards in center-based, school-age programs.

For more information, see <http://www.ctcharts-a-course.org>.

▶ **Connecticut for Community Youth Development (CCYD).** Connecticut for Community Youth Development (CCYD) is a statewide project administered by the State’s Office of Policy and Management to foster the development of direct service workers, supervisors, planners, youth advocates, youth funders, and program managers by providing them with professional training and information resources. CCYD is founded on the belief that youth are valuable, capable resources who should be encouraged to participate in a variety of community-based activities. This approach embraces positive youth development as an essential prerequisite for healthy communities. Specific objectives designed to achieve this goal include:

- Building the capacity of state and local youth-serving agencies, associations, and funding sources to implement youth development principles and to incorporate best practices for youth development.
- Promoting a youth development approach that focuses on the positive abilities and assets of Connecticut’s diverse adolescent population.

For more information, see [http://www.opm.state.ct.us/pd1/grants/CCYD/CCYD\\_Home.htm](http://www.opm.state.ct.us/pd1/grants/CCYD/CCYD_Home.htm).

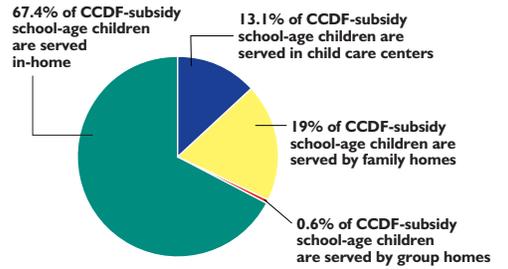
▶ **Leadership, Education, and Athletics in Partnership (LEAP).** Started in 1992 by Yale college students, LEAP is a year-round academic and social enrichment program serving 1,300 urban children ages 7-14 in five cities statewide: New Haven, Hartford, New London, Waterbury, and Bridgeport. LEAP is specifically designed to improve the academic and social circumstances of school-age children. In FY 2003, LEAP received \$1.8 million in state funding.

For more information, see <http://www.leapforkids.org/home/index.cfm>.

▶ **Extended School Hours Grant:** Started in 1995, the Extended School Hours Grant is administered by the Connecticut Department of Education to provide funding for youth development services in 15 districts identified as “priority” school districts. During the 2002-03 school year, the Extended School Hours grant of \$3 million, combined with local and private resources, helped to support academic, enrich-

## Quick Facts (continued)

### • Settings



### • Uses of CCDF Earmarks and Quality Dollars for Afterschool

*“Resource and referral and school-age” earmark:*

Funds may be used to provide consumer education and direct counseling for parents seeking child care assistance. The Department of Social Services may also contract with state school-age child care programs to provide comprehensive services for all communities.

*Other quality activities:*

The state’s professional development program, Connecticut Charts-A-Course, can use these funds to provide scholarship assistance to school-age care professionals seeking a credential.

### • Provider Reimbursement Rates and Family Copayments

*Label assigned by state for school-age rate category:* .....6+ years

*Maximum rate for center-based school-age category:* .....\$107/week

*Notes: Rates vary by region. Rates for Southwest region given.*

*Standardized monthly center-based school-age rate:* .....\$460

*Is “time in care” a factor in determining family copayment for school-age care?* .....No

*Notable Features of Rate System:*

A 5% bonus payment over the maximum reimbursement rate is given to those programs that are accredited through NAA or NAEYC.

ment, and recreational programs for over 35,000 students in 115 schools.

For more information, see <http://www.state.ct.us/sde/dsi/priority/esh-grant/eshp.htm>.

▶ **Youth Service Bureaus Grant (YSB).** In 1978, the Connecticut General Assembly adopted legislation creating a grant program with the Department of Children and Youth Services to support community-based youth service bureaus. These bureaus provide afterschool and prevention programs to over 19,000 youth in 126 communities. The State’s Department of Education provides approximately \$2.7 million for the YSBs, and an additional \$14.8 million is received from a combination of municipal and discretionary funds, federal grants, and in-kind contributions.

For more information, see <http://www.dmhas.state.ct.us/sig/collab/ysb.asp>.

▶ **Family Resource Center Grant.** In the 2002-03 school year, the Connecticut Department of Education awarded \$5.2 million to 61 centers located in Connecticut elementary schools. A portion of this money, combined with other local and private resources, served over 4,200 school-age children in afterschool programs.

For more information, see <http://www.state.ct.us/sde/deps/Family/FRC/FRCs.pdf>.

▶ **Youth Programs Funded through Department of Social Services (DSS).** The Department of Social Services (DSS) provides care for many of Connecticut’s children through state and federal grant programs. These efforts include the following programs that serve school-age youth:

- The **Care 4 Kids (C4K)** program provides \$16 million statewide in support of school-age services. Over 71,000 school-age children are provided before and afterschool programs and services through C4K subsidies.

For more information, see <http://www.ctcare4kids.com>.

- DSS provides approximately \$460,000 in funding for **before- and afterschool programs** in 22 communities at more than 40 sites in schools and community centers throughout the state. Activities include tutoring, sports, and creative arts.

- The **Human Resources Development** program provides \$1 million in grant funds to contractors for the provision of youth recreational activities, including participation in individual or group activities directed toward promoting physical, cultural, and social development.

- The **Teen Pregnancy Prevention** program provides \$2 million in grant funding to prevent at-risk teens from becoming sexually active. Services include after-school and evening activities, tutoring and other academic assistance, as well as reproductive health education.

## Notable Local Initiatives

▶ **YouthNET** has provided organized, results-oriented programs for Waterbury’s less fortunate children and their families since 1997. Targeted toward middle school students, YouthNet is a coalition of 14 separate agencies in the greater Waterbury area supported by the United Way of the Central Naugatuck Valley, Inc., the Waterbury Foundation, the Leever Foundation, and the Connecticut Office of Policy and Management. Recent reports have indicated that YouthNET has helped increase test scores and lower absenteeism among its 400 participants, helping it become a model for community program development.

## Quick Facts (continued)

### Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and Child Care

FFY02 state TANF transfer to CCDF: .....\$ 0

FFY02 TANF direct spending on child care: .....\$ 0

### Program Licensing and Accreditation Policies

Are there separate school-age licensing standards? .....No

Are school-operated programs exempt from licensing standards?

Yes, All public schools and some private schools are exempt.

Ratio of children to adults in school-age centers: .....10:1

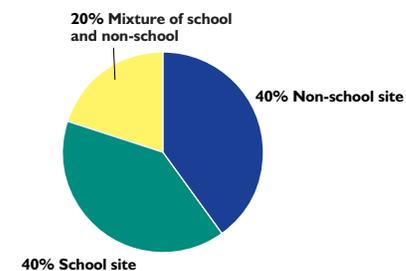
Number of National AfterSchool Association (NAA) accredited programs: .....11

### 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC)

FY02 state formula grant amount: .....\$3,030,036

Applications funded: .....13

Program locations:



Licensing required? .....No

- ▶ **Lighthouses in the Community** is an innovative school/community program in Bridgeport sponsored by the Mayor, the School Department, and the city's Department of Youth Services. Supported by local, state, and federal funding, the Lighthouse Program provides students with educational, cultural, and recreational opportunities in a safe, structured environment. Currently, the program operates in 29 schools, and each site is managed by a partner agency in the community.
- ▶ In July of 2001, the Norwalk Public Schools and Communities in Schools of Norwalk convened a large group of agencies and government departments concerned with out-of-school time activities in Norwalk. From this initial meeting, the **Norwalk After School Alliance** was formed. Since then, the Alliance has instituted a number of projects including a city-wide training institute for afterschool program staff, arts enrichment programs for middle school students at various afterschool sites, and citywide planning to seek grants and technical assistance to support afterschool programs.
- ▶ **Fairfield County After School Finance Institute.** With support from the Fairfield County Community Foundation (FCCF), the Perrin Family Foundation, and the Coalition of Community Foundations for Youth, the Finance Project assisted leaders from established and emerging citywide afterschool networks in Fairfield County to develop the skills and knowledge needed to create strategic financing plans for local afterschool networks or intermediaries. Over a span of four months, participants were provided with technical assistance that helped them identify gaps in funding for these services and strategies for sustaining out-of-school time programs in the future.

## Statewide Organizations

### **National AfterSchool Association Affiliate:**

Connecticut School-Age Child Care Alliance (CSACCA)  
 12 Melrose Avenue  
 Branford, CT 06405  
 Phone: 203-483-1846  
 Fax: 203-481-7160  
 Email: [staff@csacca.org](mailto:staff@csacca.org)  
 Web: <http://www.csacca.org>

### **Statewide Child Care Resource & Referral Network:**

Child Care Infoline  
 1344 Silas Deane Highway  
 Rocky Hill, CT 06067  
 Phone: 860-571-7500  
 Web: <http://www.childcareinfoline.org>

### **Other statewide organizations:**

Family Resource Center  
 Connecticut State Department of Education  
 25 Industrial Park Road  
 Middletown, CT 06457  
 Phone: 860-807-2058

## Additional Resources

### **State Child Care Administrators:**

<http://nccic.org/statedata/dirs/devfund.html>

### **State TANF Contacts:**

[http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ofa/hs\\_dir2.htm](http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ofa/hs_dir2.htm)

### **21st Century Community Learning Centers Contacts:**

<http://www.ed.gov/programs/21stccclc/contacts.html>

## Notes and Sources

### Demographics

**Total population:** *Demographic Profiles: Census 2000*, U.S. Census Bureau, as cited in *State Child Care Profiles*, National Child Care Information Center, available at: <http://nccic.org/statedata/statepro/index.htm>.

**Number of children ages 5-12:** *Census 2000 Summary File (SF-3) Sample Data*, Table P8, Sex by Age (79), U.S. Census Bureau.

**Percent of students eligible for free and reduced-price lunch rate:** *Overview of Elementary and Secondary Schools and Districts: School Year 2001-02* (Table 10), National Center on Education Statistics, May 2003. Because data from School Year 2001-02 was unavailable for Wyoming, data from School Year 2000-01 was used. Data was unavailable for either school year for Arizona, Connecticut, and Tennessee.

**Percent of K-12 students in Title I "schoolwide" schools:** *Overview of Elementary and Secondary Schools and Districts: School Year 2001-02* (Table 9), National Center on Education Statistics, May 2003. The federal Title I program provides funding to local school districts and schools with high percentages of poor children to help ensure that all children meet challenging state academic content and student academic achievement standards. Schools enrolling at least 40 percent of students from poor families are eligible to use Title I funds for schoolwide programs that serve all children in the school.

### Child Care and Development Fund

The Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) is the largest federal funding source for child care. States receive a funding allocation determined by formula and have broad flexibility to design programs that provide child care subsidies for low-income children under the age of 13 and to enhance the quality of child care for all children. Federal CCDF funding consists of mandatory, matching, and discretionary funds. Federal law requires that states spend at least 4 percent of their CCDF funds as well as additional earmarks on activities to improve the quality and availability of child care. CCDF administrative data in this and the following sections is from the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Child Care Bureau, as reported by States, unless otherwise noted.

**FFY03 state MOE plus match:** In order to receive Federal matching funds, a state must expend Maintenance of Effort funds. Note that this does not capture actual expenditures, only the minimum required to draw down all available federal funds.

**FFY02 total quality expenditures:** Many states spend more than the required minimum 4 percent on quality expansion activities. Note that this data includes FY02 funds expended for quality activities from each of the CCDF funding streams (mandatory, matching, and discretionary) and expenditures under earmarks for quality, infant and toddler, and school-age and resource and referral. This figure provides information obtained from state financial reports submitted for FY02. States continue to report on their expenditures of FY02 funds until expended; therefore, these numbers are subject to annual updates.

**Uses of CCDF Earmarks and Quality Dollars for Afterschool:** Portions of CCDF discretionary funds are earmarked specifically for resource and referral and school-age child care activities as well as for quality expansion. (These funds are in addition to the required 4 percent minimum quality expenditure.)

**Maximum rate for school-age category:** Rate listed applies to center-based care; where rates vary by region or county, the rate for the most populated urban area is given.

**Standardized monthly school-age rate:** Monthly rate for a child, age 8, in care after school during the school year at a center in the most costly district for four hours per day, 20 days per month. Calculated (in the lowest tier of a tiered system) using information from the FY2004-2005 State CCDF Plan, including rate structures, as submitted to the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Children and Families.

### Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and Child Care

In addition to spending TANF funds directly on child care, a state may transfer up to 30 percent of its TANF grant to CCDF. Expenditures represent TANF funds spent in FY02 that were awarded in FY02 and prior years. Data from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families.

### Program Licensing and Accreditation Policies

**Ratio of children to adults in school-age setting:** Data from National Resource Center for Health and Safety in Child Care, available at: <http://nrc.uchsc.edu>.

**Number of NAA-accredited programs:** Data from the National AfterSchool Association, April 2004, available at: <http://www.nsaca.org/accredited.htm>.

### 21st Century Community Learning Centers

The No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 converted the 21st Century Community Learning Centers' authority to a state formula grant. In past years, the U.S. Department of Education made competitive awards directly to school districts. Under the reauthorized law, funds will flow to states based on their share of Title I, Part A funds. States will use their allocations to make competitive awards to eligible entities. 1999, 2000, and 2001 grants will continue to be administered by and receive funding through the U.S. Department of Education.

**FFY02 formula grant amount:** Data from the U.S. Department of Education 21st Century Community Learning Centers Office. Available at: <http://www.ed.gov/about/overview/budget/statetables/04stbypr.xls>.

**Applications funded:** Data from *State Administration of the 21st Century Community Learning Centers Program*. Compiled by Learning Point Associates, September 8, 2003.

**In 2003, the Child Care Bureau awarded a three-year technical assistance contract to The Finance Project and their partner, the National Governors Association Center for Best Practices, for the Afterschool Investments project. The goals of the Afterschool Investments project include:**

- Identifying ways that states and communities are using Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) subsidy and quality dollars to support out-of-school time programs, and sharing these practices and approaches with other states;
- Identifying administrative and implementation issues related to CCDF investments in out-of-school time programs, and providing information and context (about barriers, problems, opportunities) as well as practical tools that will help CCDF administrators make decisions; and
- Identifying other major programs and sectors that are potential partners for CCDF in supporting out-of-school time programs and providing models, strategies, and tools for coordination with other programs and sectors.

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Web: [www.nga.org](http://www.nga.org)

*The Afterschool Investments project's State Profiles are designed to provide a comprehensive overview of noteworthy State and local initiatives across the country. Inclusion of an initiative in the Profiles does not represent an endorsement of a particular policy or practice.*