The 21st Century Community Learning Center (21st CCLCs) Initiative made it through Congress nearly intact, without the large funding cuts that have been seen through most of this budget cycle. Funding to states for 21st CCLCs will be reduced 1%, or $10 million dollars, through across the board cuts implemented by Congress this year. Funding for the 21st CCLCs programs has been frozen at the level that was appropriated by Congress in 2002, although funding for the program was authorized at $2 billion for 2005. 2005 is the first year since state began distributing 21st CCLCs funding that over half of the state were unable to fund any new afterschool programs. “The states expected that Congress and the President would live up to the funding commitments they made in the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB), and planned accordingly,” said Afterschool Alliance Executive Director Jodi Grant.

“But since funding for afterschool has been frozen, many states are finding that their multi-year grants consume their entire 21st CCLCs budget. As a result, they are unable to fund new programs.”

Ohio was only able to fund 3 new grants in 2005. New grants were funded in Crestline Exempted Village School District, Gallia-Vinton Education Service Center, and at Shawnee State University.

Ohio was able to fund less than two percent of those applying for funding. Ohio’s FY 2005 21st CCLCs appropriation of $30,923,792 represents a decrease of seven percent since FY 2004 and a loss of 2.4 million. There are currently over 100 21st CCLCs grantees in Ohio serving over 30,000 children and families.

Fourth Year Grantees Create Networking Opportunities

At the December Ohio Community Collaboration Model for School Improvement (OCCMSI) Sustainability training, 4th Year Grant Project Director from St. Bernard-Elmwood Place, Pat Christie, decided that she could not wait any longer for someone else to offer networking opportunities to 4th year grant recipients. “There is a huge need for grantees to share information and ideas, and there have not been many opportunities for that in the past. We 4th year folks can’t wait any longer.” said Christie. So Pat collected email addresses from the cohort at the training and started an email group by sending a message to everyone. Pat said, “It’s as simple as hitting ‘reply-all’ and we can help each other.” Any 4th year grantees interested in keeping in touch, email Pat at pchristie@sbepschools.org

Anyone else interested in
Building the table of collaboration at Elmwood Place Elementary.

**21st CCLCs Professional Development In Ohio**

Professional development options for 21st CCLCs programs are increasing this Spring. The OCCMSI project will be offering 7 workshops throughout the state.

On February 21st and 22nd, the focus will be on designing quality programs that successfully address academic and community needs for youth.

This session will be held on Feb 21st in Chillicothe and repeated on the 22nd in Belleville.

March 21st will bring a repeat of the Sustainability workshop that was held in December. This session will be held in Columbus at the State Library.

Engaging Parents will be the topic on April 25th in Columbus. This workshop will offer ideas and opportunities to plan meaningful and useful connections with families.

May will be busy with Sustainability II, Money Matters, on the 10th in Columbus. This workshop is designed for programs that have already attended the Sustainability workshop.

Youth Development will be the topic on May 16th and 17th with plans underway to offer workshops in Zanesville and Dayton.

*It’s noble to be good, and it’s nobler to teach others to be good, and less trouble. M. Twain*

**Additional Training Opportunities**

**Beyond School Hours** – The National Conference held by Foundations will be held February 19-22 in Dallas, Texas. Some workshops include “Avoiding After School Liability”, “Delivering High Quality Homework Assistance”, “Grant Writing for Afterschool Programs” and “Making any Class Enriching and Still Attract the Kids”. Cost of the conference is $399. For more information visit [www.foundationsinc.org](http://www.foundationsinc.org).

The National Afterschool Association (NAA) National Conference will be held in Louisville, Kentucky February 22-25. This conference includes sessions on most topics of interest to afterschool professionals. Cost for the conference is $425. For more information go to [www.naaconference.org](http://www.naaconference.org)

The Coalition for Community Schools will hold their National Forum June 14-16 in Baltimore MD.

**More Networking Around Ohio**

Congratulations to Wood County Educational Service Center’s 21st CCLCs program for achieving National Afterschool Association Accreditation.

Cincinnati After School is a part of the Cincinnati Community School Movement. A collaboration between Cincinnati Public Schools, the Cincinnati YMCA and many other organizations and individuals, its goal is to improve academic achievement and reduce risk-taking behaviors. The collaboration produces a website which offers many resources such as information for parents on locating afterschool programs, links to curricular support, ideas for recreational activities tied to developmental assets, information on academic content standards, suggested reading for students, and links to advocacy opportunities. [http://www.cincyafterschool.org](http://www.cincyafterschool.org)
How Are You Working on Sustainability?

Sustainability is the number one concern for 21st CCLCs program administrators. Because 21st CCLCs often are located in communities that serve low-income populations, sustaining programs is often very challenging. Sharing best practices around sustainability is important to maintaining the services children, families, schools and communities need.

The Finance Project, one of the best respected sources of information on sustainability practices, is gathering information for their next sustainability policy brief.

The Finance Project would like to hear from current and former 21st CCLCs grantees about their experiences with sustainability as funds reduce and grants expire. They will be conducting telephone interviews and focus groups around this topic. The challenges facing grantees and the strategies they are using to address these issues will help researchers at the Finance Project identify effective practices.

If you are interested in helping to identify useful strategies for sustainability, please send a brief email describing your program’s experiences related to sustainability to Amanda Elk Szekely at aszekely@financeproject.org

Upcoming Funding Opportunities

The Starbucks Foundation offers grants to integrate literacy with personal and civic action in the communities. Maximum Award: $5,000. Eligibility: 501(c)(3) organizations that work with underserved youth ages 6-18 in the fields of literacy (reading, writing and creative media arts) and environmental literacy. Deadline: March 1, 2006. http://www.starbucks.com/aboutus/grantinfo.asp

Healthy Eating Research Grants - a program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation that supports research to identify, analyze and evaluate environmental and policy strategies that can promote healthy eating among children and prevent childhood obesity. Maximum Award: $75,000-$400,000. Eligibility: Preference given to 501(c)(3) organizations.

Women’s Sports Foundation GoGirlGo! Grant and Educational Program provides financial assistance to sports and physical activity programs seeking to add new or expanded

New Resources for 21st CCLC Programs

The Finance Project and the Council of Chief State School Officers are pleased to announce the publication of Using NCLB Funds to Support Extended Learning Time: Opportunities for Afterschool Programs. This new strategy brief describes how six major funding streams included in the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) can support extended learning opportunities. The brief provides important context for those seeking to access these funding streams, and includes a discussion of strategies, considerations and tips for accessing each source. This publication is the product of a collaborative effort between the Council of Chief State School Officers and the Finance Project and was made possible through the generous support of the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation. It is available online at: http://www.ccsso.org/content/PDFs/UsingNCLBFunds.pdf

Please forward this newsletter to others you think may be interested.

If you did not get this newsletter directly—please send an email to Jackson.360@osu.edu
To be added to our mailing list
The Ohio Community Collaboration Model for School Improvement (OCCMSI) is a school reform framework built upon traditional school improvement models by considering both academic and non-academic barriers to school achievement and well-being. At the core of the OCCMSI is the development of successful and strategic partnerships among schools and various community stakeholders. Using five core components as a guide, the model is designed to help schools take stock of programs and initiatives currently operating in their school communities and identify important needs, conditions, resources, and gaps. It aims to build upon the strengths and successes of existing efforts and is driven by collaborative leadership among schools and local partners as well as evaluation, continuous improvement planning and feedback.

program participation opportunities for underserved populations of girls, especially economically disadvantaged girls and/or girls from populations with high incidences of health-risk behaviors. Maximum Award: varies. Eligibility: 501(c)3 program status or nonprofits with a demonstrated ability to deliver sport/physical activity programming to girls in third to eighth grades. If the program does not have nonprofit status, it may be possible to receive a grant under support of a local fiscal agent. Deadline: March 15, 2006. http://www.womenssportsfoundation.org/cgi-bin/iowa/funding/results.html

NIKE Bowerman Track Renovation Program provides matching cash grants to community-based, youth-oriented organizations that seek to refurbish or construct running tracks. Maximum Award: $50,000 Eligibility: 501(c)3s, athletic booster clubs, schools and school districts. Certain stipulations apply -- see website. Deadline: May 31, 2009. http://www.nike.com/nikebiz/nikebiz.jhtml?page=26&item=bowerman

The children’s television network, Nickelodeon, will distribute more than $1 million from September 2005 to June 2006. The "Let's Just Play" Giveaway offers kids the opportunity to take action and enter for a chance to improve their school or community program's fitness resources. Maximum Award: $5000. Eligibility: Kids (6-15 years of age), partnering with teachers and other community-based leaders. Deadline: rolling, until May 31, 2006. http://www.nick.com/all_nick/everything_nick/

Learning in the Arts for Children and Youth Program offers funding for projects that help children and youth acquire appreciation, knowledge, and understanding of and skills in the arts. Award: $5,000-$150,000. Eligibility: school-based or community-based projects. Deadline: June 12, 2006. http://www.arts.gov/grants/apply/GAP07/LearningintheArts.html