

21st Century News

Spotlight On Partnership

Partnership Building Tips

- Identify the needs and assets in your community
- Identify potential partners
- Identify the level of partnership necessary
- Evaluate potential partners' ability, reputation, capacity, & other possible contributions
- Match missions—What's in it for them
- Clarify roles
- Sign Memorandums of Understanding
- Value all contributions
- Keep communicating

Exciting messages about partnership abounded on November 14 at the 21st CCLC training Building and Maintaining Strong Partnerships held in Columbus.

Monique Witherspoon from the Cleveland Municipal School District spoke about the process of creating and maintaining partnerships and introduced 2 partners from her 21st CCLC, Ruby Jones from Ladies Legacy program of Baldwin Wallace College and Ken Baris of Abrakadoodle.

Ruby spoke to the group about

the reading program their site implements with middle school girls that introduces them to books set in difference cultures, times, or areas. To enrich the reading experience they include corresponding field trips.

Ken spoke about collaborating with Cleveland Municipal Schools through art enrichment.

Kathy McWatters of the Delaware Education Service Center shared her experiences and insights on choosing partners and how to entice potential



Fannie Metcalf of Gallia Leads and team were selected to exhibit in the Student Achievement Fair at the Ohio School Boards Association Conference.

partners without offering payment for their services.

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Education Service Center Creating Challenge Centers

Wood County Educational Service Center (ESC), a 21st CCLC grant holder in Bowling Green, is utilizing multiple funding streams to create a library of activities called challenge centers.

For the past 2 years, Americorp members working for the ESC have been creating nearly 200 sets of activity plans the ESC terms, "challenge centers". The plans identify the target skills/

goals the activity will accomplish, grade level, amount of time per day, project duration, supplies needed, as well as benchmarks for successful completion of the activity.

These activities also include a system for students to record their progress through each challenge center. Upon completion of each center, students receive either a finished product, or a certificate of comple-

tion. These challenge centers will be aligned with specific Ohio academic content standards.

According to Sue Uhlman, 21st CCLC Program Coordinator these centers help connect learning and, "allow staff to share their interests and skills." Sue can be reached at wcesc_su@nwoca.org.

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Tool Kit for Hispanic Families

The U.S. Department of Education recently released *My Child's Academic Success*, a tool kit for Hispanic families that includes a variety of resources to help students succeed in school. The toolkit is available in both English and Spanish at: www.ed.gov/parents/academic/involve/2006toolkit

Reading Resource

The folks at the Corporation for National Service have teamed up with the U.S. Department of Education and the U.S. Department of Health & Human Service to create a very nice resource for reading tutors and volunteers called *On the Road to Reading*. It's available to download from: <http://nationalserviceresources.org/filemanager/download/321/ontr6.pdf>

Upcoming Training

January 25, 2006 — Program Evaluation will be the topic as OSU leads the discussion on best practices in program evaluation. An overview of standardized information all Ohio 21st CCLC grantees should collect will be included.

Save the Date on **February 7**. OSU will be in Akron for a training. On **March 6** we'll be in Findlay—training topics to be announced.

Nov 29-Dec 2, 2006 — **National Community Education Association Annual Conference** – Reno, Nevada — This is an excellent conference for 21st

CCLC administrators—NCEA was involved in drafting the original 21st CCLC funding legislation & has stayed involved. For more information go to: www.NCEA.com

February 7-10 — **Foundations, Beyond School Hours** Conference —Greensboro, North Carolina —Another excellent conference for 21st CCLC administrators. For more information go to: <http://www.foundationsinc.org/events/conference/beyond10/default.asp>

April 19-20 — **Center for Summer Learning National**

Conference—Atlanta, Georgia — This could be the place to go for Summer inspiration. For more information go to: www.summerlearning.org

Also look at: www.OCCRRA.org for local after school training information.

Don't forget to go to: <http://www.csw.ohio-state.edu/ocemsi/links.htm> for information and tools created specifically for Ohio 21st CCLCs

To join the Ohio 21st CCLC listserv, go to: listserv@lists.acs.ohio-state.edu and in the subject line type, Subscribe 21stcclc your first name you last name

Funding Opportunities

Hidden Valley Ranch school lunch campaign will provide 5 grants to public elementary schools to support increased consumption of fresh vegetables. **Maximum Award:** \$15,000 **Eligibility:** Public elementary schools with an approved local wellness policy

Deadline: Dec. 15, 2006
Contact: <http://www.schoolnutrition.org/Index.aspx?id+2154>

The **National Schools of Character Awards Program** supports public and private Schools and districts (K-12) for their outstanding work in

character education. **Maximum Award:** \$20,000 **Eligibility:** Schools engaged in character education for a minimum of three full years, starting no later than December 2003, and having a

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Legacy Team Builds Support Capacity

ODE and OSU are working together to create additional capacity to support 21st CCLC in Ohio.

In order to accomplish that goal, a Legacy Team is being formed. The Legacy Team will be an ongoing group of

individuals with experience in managing 21st CCLC who will provide local expertise, support local networks, and help pilot a 21st CCLC self evaluation rubric.

Legacy team members were selected in November from a

group of highly qualified candidates. The 2006 Legacy team members are: Fannie Metcalf, Warren Fauver, Paul Young, Kathy McWatters, and Sue Uhlman. Up to 4 ad hoc members of the team will also be selected.

Creating a Seamless Day

A brief article at the Harvard Family Research Project's Evaluation Exchange called *Linking School & After-school: Strategies for Success* contains some excellent best practice focused suggestions for increasing the positive impact after school programs have on student academic success. Julie Bott of the Gardner Extended Service School outlines the strategies used at Gardner to improve student outcomes in a simple, clear style under a few main themes.

The first suggestion, Thinking Strategically about Staffing, discusses how Gardner cross-utilizes all the program leaders. All their after school

program lead teachers are employed in the school during the regular school day. in paraprofessional or other positions that often facilitate curriculum. They are included in teacher in-service training as well as on all school-based committees. Gardner has a parent coordinator who works both in the regular and after school day to facilitate communication between teachers and parents.

Gardner has institutionalized several communication pathways to create effective communication systems. After school teachers use homework completion logs as one way to communicate with school day teachers. A resource team of school day

and after school teachers meets monthly to coordinate extended services.

An after school curriculum has been developed to link with their state education standards and with the school day curriculum. Students are individually assessed 3 times each year to identify academic needs for the after school staff. Parent surveys are used to inform both activities for parents and for children.

To read this article, go to: <http://www.gse.harvard.edu/hfrp/eval/issue33/expert2.html>

Jennifer Vargo Leads Family and Community Engagement at ODE

Jennifer Vargo is the new Family and Community Engagement Coordinator for the Ohio Department of Education. Jennifer is trained as a school social worker with a specific knowledge base related to social and

emotional learning. She served as a Mental Health and Education Program Specialist at OSU where she assisted in developing and providing technical assistance for the Access to Better Care School Com-

munity Partnership Grant. Jennifer states that she wants all children to have an equal opportunity to achieve their dreams. Contact Jennifer at: Jennifer.Vargo@ODE.state.oh.us

Spotlight on Partnership Continued

Kathy described the mentoring programs arranged in partnership with Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Delaware, the Parent Education Programs set up with Action for Children, the recreational leadership and swimming she arranged with the Parks De-

partment, and other partnerships that were strategically sought and built.

Deborah Willis, who worked with Robert Fulton Elementary and Murtis Taylor Community Center, discussed partnering and led attendees in brainstorming possible

solutions to common difficulties in collaborations.

Several attending 21st CCLC leaders shared interesting partnerships they had brokered. Attendees had opportunities to share successes and challenges through small group activities.

Dates to Remember

Feb. 1, 2007—new 21st CCLC RFP at www.ode.state.oh.us

March 2 & March 20, 2007 - 21st CCLC Bidder Conferences

April 30, 2007 RFP due

May 18, 2007—21st CCLC grant read

July 15, 2007—new 21st CCLC grants announced

Math Resource

Math Partners has materials for facilitators and mentors. Materials for facilitators can be used to train and prepare mentors to work with children in grades kindergarten through eight on a variety of math skills in 4 different content areas. Materials for mentors contain the background information needed to begin mentoring process, and the actual activities that mentors can use with children. These materials align well with Ohio math standards.

Visit: <http://www2.edc.org/mathpartners/>

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Enhancing Knowledge, Values, and Skills Related to School-Family-Community Partnerships, Positive Youth Development, and Family Support

Funding Opportunities Continued

minimum of 175 students; districts engaged in character education for a minimum of four full years, starting no later than December 2002.

Deadline: December 4, 2006.

Contact: <http://www.reading.org/downloads/awards/smith.pdf>

The **Teammates for Kids Foundation** has grants for nonprofit organizations that specialize in working with children in the areas of health, education, and inner-city services.

Maximum Award: \$50,000.

Eligibility: 501 (c) (3) organizations with a record of effectively delivering programs and services that improve the lives

of needy children.

Deadline: February 1, 2007. **Contact:** http://www.teammates4kids.com/apply_for_grant/format_grant.htm

The **Big Read Program** will engage libraries and other community and school partners across the country by encouraging citizens to read.

Maximum Award: \$10,000-\$20,000.

Eligibility: 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization or division of state, or local gov., that demonstrates the capacity to plan and implement a well-planned, well-attended, community-wide event with a diverse range of programming.

Deadline: February 1, 2007

Contact:

http://www.neabigread.org/application_process.php

The **ING Unsung Heroes** awards program recognizes innovative and progressive thinking in education.

Maximum Award: \$27,000.

Eligibility: Full-time educators, with projects that improve student learning at K-12 public or private schools.

Deadline: April 30, 2007

Contact: <http://www.ing-usa.com/us/stellent2/groups/dc/documents/companylobinformation/001143.pdf>