Presenters

• Keita Wells
  Mid-Atlantic Equity Center Consortium

• Jodie Craven
  Rochelle Elementary 21st CCLC

• Carlos Vera
  Chicago Public Schools

• Autumn Berg
  Chicago Public Schools
For Each and Every Child—
A Strategy for Education Equity and Excellence

The Equity Commission
A Report to the US Department of Education
February 2013

• Informs the Illinois State Plan for ESSA Implementation
• Recommends sustained support for 21st CCLC programs for low-income students
• Includes examples of what 21st CCLC programs might include to provide equity, access, and quality:
  — Length of time programs operate
  — Quality content: cultural, enrichment, community service, athletics, etc.
  — Adequate, trained, and caring staff
  — Adequate facilities, equipment, and supplies
  — Safe and accessible transportation
What do we mean?

- Equity = Fair treatment
- Access = Availability
- Excellence = Quality

http://interactioninstitute.org
Keita S. Wells
ALIVE 21st Century Community Learning Center Program Director
(Baltimore, MD)
Family, School and Community Engagement Coordinator
Mid-Atlantic Equity Center Consortium, Inc.
We Are ALL In...ACCESS

Access varies by geography, by community, and by individual youth and family values and relationships.

Challenges:

• Low-income and rural communities are often underserved.
• Funding priorities, fewer opportunities, lack of transportation, outreach challenges, and lack of interest hinder participation and long-term sustainability.

Practices That Work:

• Identify local and state funders, employers, and civic organizations that support the program’s mission.
• Create programs that meet the needs of the community and include activities that motivate and engage youth.
“EQUITY and EXCELLENCE cannot be divided.”

– Ernest L. Boyer
“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”

– Nelson Mandela

EQUITY

• Adopt a more inclusive, equity-based approach to afterschool programming that meets the needs of all students.

• Expand best practices and professional development to enhance cultural understanding.

• Understand, value, and respect the backgrounds and experiences of families and students.

• Create opportunities to meet families and communities served.

• Hold open forums, parent roundtables, youth discussions.

• Conduct home visits and community walks.

• Survey needs and interests of students, schools, and communities.
EXCELLENCE

• Expose students to culturally responsive programming.
• Meet students where they are academically and socio-emotionally to build a cadre of future leaders.
• Design programs that promote college and career readiness and leadership success.
• Make the connection between academic success and future real-world opportunities.
EXCELLENCE

• Allow students and families to have input in the selection of enrichment activities and family workshops.
• Incorporate multicultural activities that foster civic engagement and service learning.
• Provide resources to students and their families that support personal growth and advancement in communities.
POLL

Has your 21\textsuperscript{st} CCLC taken steps to make programming:

- Equitable?
- Accessible?
- Excellent?
Jodee Craven

Director of Rochelle Elementary School District 231's 21st CCLC grant
# Equity in the Rural Setting

Rochelle, IL

## Rapidly changing demographics:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2000</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ELL</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low Income</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>68%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Challenges in a Rural Setting

• Lack of culturally relevant resources
• Everyday language barriers
• Community as a whole still adjusting to shifting demographics
• Difficulty finding staff to meet the diverse needs of students and families, including...
  – Pre-K
  – Bilingual Resource Teachers
  – Speech Therapists
What We Have Done

• Hired bilingual director
• Added a section of Pre-K; Hired bilingual teacher
• Added 2 new sections of bilingual classrooms
• Starting dual language program in 2017
• Bilingual teachers in afterschool program
• Expanded Spanish language books in library
• Hired bilingual secretaries and paraprofessionals
• Community-wide support of BPAC and LULAC
• Offer parent programming in Spanish
What We Still Need To Do

• Open another section of bilingual Pre-K
• Expand bilingual education through 8th grade
• Encourage teachers to learn Spanish
• Offer evaluations for special education in Spanish
• Offer community-wide Spanish language classes
• Continue to promote community programs, events, and festivals
Carlos Vera

*CPS Community Schools Initiative Coordinator*
Community school partnerships bring together the academic and social supports needed to ensure that all students succeed by offering programs before, during, and after the school day for students and their families. The programs are designed to support the school’s academic program and expand the services offered within the community.
Partnerships with Higher Education Institutions

- Help parents understand education landscape in the United States

- Support high school students preparing for and enrolling in postsecondary institutions

- Support elementary school students with transition to high school and career exploration process
“Resources should be allocated with a focus on the creation of after school support for children living in communities where such programs are scarce.” —Laurie Olson Reflections on Access and Equity Implications for After School Program Evaluations
References


Resource Database

http://www.sedl.org/afterschool/iqa/iqa_database/resources
Welcome to the Illinois Quality Afterschool Program.

SEDI provides technical assistance and professional development to Illinois 21st Century Community Learning Centers (CLC)s. We hope you will take some time to explore the resources on our website—workshop and conference archives, webinar recordings, newsletters, and resource bulletins. Do you have a question about afterschool? Illinois 21st CLC grantee can request technical assistance from the Illinois Quality Afterschool team or you can join our private Facebook group and ask other grantees for feedback.

Click here to view a tour of the website.

Quick Links for Grantees
Our calendar of Illinois 21st CLC events, including webinars, conferences, workshops, and data reporting deadlines.
- Workshop and Conference Archive
- Webinar Archive
- Calendar of Events
- Request Assistance
- Subscribe to Mailing List

Illinois Quality Afterschool Quarterly
The Illinois Quality Afterschool Quarterly is a resource for Illinois 21st CLC professionals.

Grantees
Click here for an online interactive map of grantees that provides information on grantee locations, number of sites, grantee type, and contact information.

Upcoming Events
- January 29: Professional Development Advisory Group Call
- February 19: Webinar
- February 26: Special Topic Workshop: Sustainability

View All Events >