



The Greater Rochester After-School Alliance:

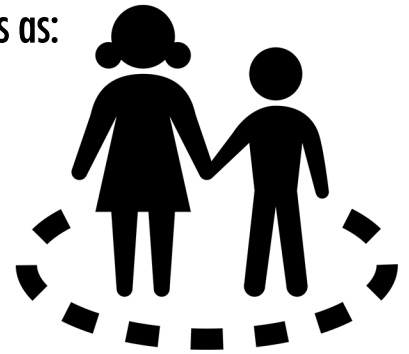
Uniting the community to ensure access to high-quality out-of-school-time (OST) programs for Monroe County Youth.

GRASA supports and advocates for expanding the quality and quantity of, and access to, out-of-school-time (after-school, summer, expanded learning) opportunities for children ages 5 to 18 throughout the Greater Rochester area.

Who We Are:

An initiative of the Rochester Area Community Foundation (RACF), GRASA serves as:

- A community-wide priority-setting body on issues relating to OST programs
- An advocate for policies and resources to support OST programs
- A central point for information on OST program strengths and needs
- A coordinator of responses to state and national funding opportunities
- A source of training and technical assistance



Why OST Matters:

- From 1997 to 2012, the extracurricular gap between poor kids and non-poor kids (aged 6 to 11) nearly doubled.
(Our Kids: the American Dream in Crisis, Robert Putnam, 2015)
- By 6th grade, middle class youth have likely spent 6,000 more hours learning than kids born into poverty.
(The 6,000 Hour Learning Gap, TASC, 2013)
- Decreased worker productivity due to parental concerns about childcare costs businesses up to \$300 billion/year.
(Barnett & Gareis, 2006)
- In 2015, our community had the capacity to serve 31% of the estimated number of children and youth in need of after-school care.
(Out of School Time Opportunities in Rochester, The Children's Agenda, 2015)
- Afterschool programs provide safety and supervision, mentorship, and discourage negative behaviors.
\$1.00 invested in afterschool programs = \$2.50 saved in crime-related costs.
(Vandell et al., 2007)
- By 5th grade, summer learning loss can leave low-income students 2.5 to 3 years behind peers.
(Cooper, H., Borman, G., & Fairchild, R. 2010)

What We Accomplished

Since 2013, with the help of our partners, GRASA has:

- Adopted and applied quality standards for OST for our community
- Documented three years of data-driven OST program quality growth
- Measured the social-emotional well-being of children in OST programs
- Trained and coached 300 + youth work staff in evidence-based best practices
- Identified, with community members, six key youth outcomes for high-quality OST
- Promoted anytime, anywhere learning – particularly in STEM
- Championed OST opportunities



What GRASA Wants In A Comprehensive OST System:

- OST providers applying high-quality instructional practices
- OST providers leveraging the collective power of an OST network
 - Efficient use of resources for OST
 - Enrichment and learning opportunities that are active, collaborative, meaningful, support mastery, and expand horizons
- Increased OST programs & opportunities for ALL youth
 - Easy access to OST opportunities
 - Youth better prepared to enter the workforce



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