**New Grantee Professional Development Webinar**

**What the Iowa Afterschool Alliance Can Do for You!**

**Presenter: Crystal Hall**

*Good morning everyone and welcome to the third conference call/technical support session for the New Grantee/Staff Transition Committee in FY20. Just a reminder that all previous calls have been documented via script and are available on the* [*www.iowa21cclc.com*](http://www.iowa21cclc.com) *website under the Committees tab and the New Grantee/Staff Transition subtab. The topic of today’s call is What the Iowa Afterschool Alliance Can Do for You. The IAA was established in 2003 and is supported in part by the Mott Foundation. Each state has a network, and the IAA has developed a reputation for being a great resource for all afterschool sites – not just 21st Century. The IAA’s website is undergoing a makeover and should be live soon. The website is* <https://www.iowaafterschoolalliance.org> *and will be a wealth of knowledge for you at your fingertips. I have taken highlights from the website to focus on today. Let’s get started as we want to be respectful of people’s time.*

**A Summary of the Work Done at the IAA:**

To fulfill our mission, the IAA works with supporters and program providers to advocate for afterschool-friendly policies, develop strong partnerships locally and statewide, and improve programming at the point-of-service.

Some major activities of the IAA include:

* Development of a Resource Network statewide to assist programs to improve access and quality through training, technical assistance, and mentoring.
* Support of the Iowa 21st Century Community Learning Centers Grantee Network.
* Coordination of technical assistance provided by three OST enrichment coaches in Central Iowa.
* Administration of the Summer Ladders AmeriCorps Program that places members in summer programs across the state to improve quality of activities and mitigate summer learning loss among our most disadvantaged youth.
* Provision of professional development statewide on topics such as social-emotional learning, STEM, literacy, and advocacy.
* Advocacy and policy work.

**Resource Network and Technical Support**

The IAA acts as both a connector between organizations and a provider of support and assistance. Examples of ways that we can connect programs to each other include:

* Newsletter – this monthly publication shares information, resources and funding opportunities with all those in the network.
* Best Practice Webinars – these monthly live and recorded events cover topics designed to support the overall health of your out of school time programming. All recorded webinars can be found on the iowa21cclc.com website under the Professional Development: Best Practice Webinar tab.
* Annual Impact Afterschool Conference – this event, typically held in spring builds in two days of high quality workshops, learning opportunities, and networking with other providers across the state.
* Professional Development – the IAA offers several PD opportunities. These range from STEM support to sustainability planning to leadership development. PD will be discussed more fully in a bit.
* Program Support – the AmeriCorps Summer Ladders program places 15 minimum time members in summer programs across the state of Iowa each year where they are charged with developing high quality activities and facilitating those activities with high need youth in an effort to mitigate the summer learning loss experienced by some youth.

**How we support 21CCLC:**

The IAA supports the work of the 21st Century program through technical assistance and resource sharing. Examples include all the great information you can find at the iowa21cclc.com website, newsletters, webinars, and other events hosted in partnership between the Iowa Department of Education and the Alliance.

**OST Initiative**

In Central Iowa, the United Way of Central Iowa Out-of-School Time Initiative supports established and developing programs. This is done through coaching and professional networking so that afterschool and summer programs improve the quality of services provided. Supports include program structure, frontline staff development, environment improvements, and intentional learning opportunities. It is a goal of the IAA to expand this program to other parts of the state.

**Advocacy and Policy Work**

The Iowa Afterschool Alliance works with partners and advocates to ensure that public policy at the local, state and federal levels includes afterschool programs as key strategies in helping students learn and grow, families balance work with home, and employers invest in the future.

Goals for the 2020 Legislative Session include:

* Reinstate the Before and After School Grants program that was established in 2007 to create a state funding stream for high-quality before school, after school, and summer programs.
* Support the recommendation of the Future Ready Iowa Alliance to expand access to afterschool programming for at-risk youth that has an emphasis on career and college exploration and skills development.

Examples of advocacy events held by the IAA include Lights on for Afterschool and the Legislative Snack on the Hill Day.

At this point in the presentation, we are going to speak more in depth about the professional development opportunities that the IAA can help your site(s) with by providing access or connection to the following lessons:

**Professional Development**

STEM:

* An Introduction to Dimensions of Success (DoS) - This session will introduce you to the Dimensions of Success – twelve indicators of high-quality STEM activities and a lesson planning tool that will transform your STEM programming.
* Dimensions of Success 2.0 - This session will take a deeper dive into the DoS tool and focus on how to implement the tool in your lesson planning and activity facilitation.
* Youth Development in STEM - Using the Dimensions of Success tool, participants will discuss strategies to engage and empower students through STEM activities and leave with sample lesson plans.
* Activity Engagement and Reflection in STEM - This workshop will provide strategies and techniques for developing purposeful STEM activities and learning goals, and building in time for meaningful reflection throughout your activity. This workshop is a deep dive into specific domains of the Dimensions of Success tool, completion of the intro level DoS workshop is recommended as a prerequisite.

Afterschool and Summer Program Quality:

IAA’s 10 Quality Standards: Participants will get a well-rounded idea of how a quality program functions and what steps they must take to get there. The standards include:

1. Positive Human Relationships
2. Appropriate Indoor and Outdoor Environments
3. Effective Programming
4. Strong Partnerships
5. Effective Administration
6. Effective Staffing and Professional Development
7. Youth Development Principles and Practices
8. Outcome Measurement
9. Fiscal Management
10. Advocacy

Facilitating Engagement

This workshop will give you the skills necessary to facilitate engagement of individuals in a group through interactive approaches to getting people to participate in discussions, feel like they are a part of something important, and go above and beyond the call of duty.

Strategic Planning 101

This training is intended to provide an overview of the strategic planning process. Participants will learn how to facilitate a process that engages their stakeholders and creates a well-developed plan that is executable and easily communicated internally and externally. It covers all topics including:

* programming
* governance
* sustainability
* infrastructure
* external relationships
* communications

Sustainability

All organizations struggle with sustainability of effort and this workshop is designed to make the process more manageable and ultimately successful. This is ideally a multi-day course and participants will leave with an outline for an executable sustainability plan. The workshop will utilize the following modules:

1. Building a Sustainable Initiative
2. Developing a Vision and Results Orientation
3. Creating a Strategic Financing Plan
4. Building Organizational Capacity and
5. Community Support
6. Developing and Writing the Plan

Evaluating for Impact

This workshop will arm you with the tools you need to effectively track impact data that matters through case studies and discussion.

Storytelling through Data

This workshop will lead you through a process that identifies which stories can be shared and what data best tells that story. The participant will come out of this workshop with a clear plan for better telling your story through data.

Fiscal Management for Nonprofits

This workshop focuses on the basics of good fiscal management for nonprofits. From spreadsheets to communicating your bottom line, this workshop will help you better understand what techniques work best for tracking multiple funding sources, creating and tracking budgets, and planning for unexpected situations.

Grant Writing for Youth-Serving Programs

This workshop will cover all the basics of effective grant writing, including searching for the perfect funder, developing a relationship with funders, writing the grant, and maintaining strong relationships with your funders.

Promoting Your Program – A Guide to Communications

From working with media to developing your “elevator speech,” this training helps you to understand the many modes of communication available to you, how best to utilize them, and strategies for making the most out of communication methods. This training is extensive, and is best facilitated over several days. Can be condensed into a shorter block of training.

Advocacy in the Real World

Looking to get more involved in advocacy but not sure where to start? Join the Iowa Afterschool Alliance to learn more about the legislative process, issues affecting afterschool, and how to be a champion for youth. Participants will leave with concrete actions they can take to advocate for the issues they care about and plenty of resources to help along the way.

Leveraging Your Leadership Style

Take time to reflect on your own leadership style through interactive activities, then consider how you interact with others based on your own personal style. Talk through strategies for engaging other leadership styles to get what you need and fulfill your mission as a team.

*This concludes the third session of the New Grantee/Staff Transition Committee. We hope you found this information helpful. Please feel free to reach out to Vic and/or Crystal at any time with any questions you might have.*

*Our next webinar will be Thursday, January 23rd at 10:00am and the topic will be “What to do when the newness of the school year starts wearing off. How to recruit and retain youth in your out of school time program (and kick off the new calendar year with a bang).”*