

Idaho Afterschool Network

Idaho Falls Group Discussion

Gaps / Challenges

- Understanding who is in need
- Adults (volunteers / role models)
- Transportation
- Financial constraint (Middle-income families, working poor)
- Food access
- Idaho Falls programs for youth above 12 years of age (Middle School/Junior High)

Obstacles (for youth)

- Program listing
- Transportation
- Program availability (time)
- Cost of programs
- Assumptions on what afterschool programs are (daycare/babysitting stigma)
- Rural geography
- Youth perception of 'cool' programs
- Principle support of grants (21st Century)

Partners (missing & needed)

- 4-H
- Food Bank
- WIC
- Head Start
- Cities (parks, rec, etc.)
- Counties
- Law enforcement
- Community council
- School district
- Education foundations
- Dept. of Labor (STEM awareness)
- Private funders
- INL
- Zoo / Museum
- Colleges & universities
- WIOA program
- Media
- Scouts
- BBBS
- YMCA
- Non-profits
- Rotary

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Opportunities

- Looking at needs of specified population
- Incentives for participation (bring a friend, food, etc.)
- Educate on what afterschool programs are
- Provide new opportunities (for those that can and cannot)
- Student engagement via Strengths
- Afterschool programs are an extension to school
- Provide 'Grit'
- Learn from/engage youth
- Salvation Army building (can be used)
- Educate parents on how to communicate with kids

What is happening in your region?

- Schools – Navigation program | Migrant program | Food pantries | 21st Century Grant
- Salvation Army – Survey to neighborhood food pantry changes
- Colleges & Universities – Food pantries on-site
- FISH – Backpack program
- Food Bank – Backpack program (rural) | Mobile distribution
- SPAN – Suicide prevention
- Dept. of Health & Welfare – Rebranding facilities
- ID Drug-Free Youth – Programs in school (not sure of outside)
- Family Crisis Centers

What do we want to provide for youth in our region?

- Staff that is engaged and passionate
- Opportunity to participate
- Older youth guidance WIAO program – Self-sufficiency
- Healthy behaviors & skill-building for confidence
- Possibility of STEM careers
- STEM literate and informed decision makers
- Variety of activities
- Consistency of funding, space, enrollment (21st century)
- Hope
- Safety: physical, mental & emotional