## AfterSchool Coalition of Indianapolis

"Give Kids A Place To Go, And THEY'LL GO PLACES." This is a motto that depicts the thrust of the after-school movement across Indianapolis. Teachers, Parents, adults, and community leaders believe in the future of our children and youth

The AfterSchool Coalition of Indianapolis (ACI) is dedicated to supporting children and youth. Supporting them first in providing them with a safe place beyond the school day. Improving students' academic performance and social skills is a priority.

The fact is there is a great need for more after-school programs. The Afterschool Alliance notes that across America, "Just 6.5 million children are in afterschool programs – but the parents of another 15.3 million children say their children would participate in afterschool – if a program were available."

Each ACI provider helps students improve their academic skills, providing them with homework assistance and tutoring. After-school providers work with schools to meet students' academic needs by adhering to the Indiana Department of Education's statewide academic standards.



Students in Young Audiences of Indiana programming at Charity Dye IPS #27 (Teaching Artist Jude Odell)

Students in many after-school programs receive added instructions in the arts and sciences. Though Young Audiences of Indiana and Hook's Discovery and Learning Center art and science are taught in the after – school programs.

Along with this academic component recreation is provided for students coupled with character development. All after-school programs provided anti-drug and anti smoking instructions.

AfterSchool Coalition of Indianapolis is an umbrella organization, founded in 2001 by Bridges to Success, the Mayor's Office, Urban Mission YMCA, Boys and Girls Clubs, Indy Parks and Recreation, Indianapolis Public School, Young Audiences of Indiana, and the Indianapolis Public Schools.

Since the founding of ACI a number of full time after-school providers, special program providers, Metropolitan School Districts, and the Archdiocese of Indianapolis have joined in the drive to sustain and expand the after-school opportunities for youth in Indianapolis.



A student in Young Audiences of Indiana programming at Stephen Decatur Elementary

The AfterSchool Coalition of Indianapolis meets bi-monthly throughout the year. On alternative months, ACI's four committees meet along with its ad hoc committees. The committees are: Business, Media, Events, and Training/Standards/Evaluation. The ad hoc committees consist of the Web-site and Mapping/Demographics committees.

The AfterSchool Coalition of Indianapolis supports not only the efforts of after-school programs in Indianapolis but throughout the State of Indiana with its affiliation in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center Partner Network. The CCLC Partner Network is composed of after-school programs throughout the State of Indiana.

The Coalition is continuing to work with school corporations and youth agencies to improve the lives of our children and youth in Indianapolis and across the State of Indiana. ACI is dedicated to reaching out to our youth beyond the school hours. Providing youth with sound after-school activities, both in academic and social development.

For more information in regards to the AfterSchool Coalition of Indianapolis, Contact David Klinkose, Ed.D. After School Programs Coordinator at 317-327-5527 or dklinkos@indygov.org.