Why Out-Of-School Time?

Out-of-school time is defined as programming occurring during the school year or summer that includes structured activities for groups of students, is overseen by an adult, expects regular attendance, and is provided in a physical location, such as a school or community-based facility.

After-school Programs Keep Kids Safe
1 in 5 kids are alone and unsupervised from 3-6 p.m., the hours when youth are most likely to engage in risky behaviors.

After-school programs provide children with a safe-environment, academically enriching activities, mentors who care about them, healthy snacks and meals, and opportunities for physical activity.

Inspires Learning
More than 70% of students in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) after-school programs express more interest in and knowledge about careers in science.

Children from low-income families who have consistent participation in quality after-school programs see improvement in work habits, demonstrate higher levels of persistence, boost school attendance, reduce the likelihood of dropping out of school, and have reduced disciplinary incidents.

Helps Working Families
73% of Allegheny County parents agree that after-school programs help working parents keep their jobs.

Youth in after-school programs have access to enriching activities, safe places, and caring adults when out of school. Enrichment activities build human and cultural capital and help to define children’s interests and skills.

Our Partners

Grades K-5
- ACH Clear Pathways
- Center That CARES
- Ozanam
- Schenley Heights Community Development
- Neighborhood Learning Alliance at the Thelma Lovette YMCA

Grades 6-8
- Center That CARES

Grades 9-12
- Oakland Planning and Development Corporation’s School2Career & Future Makers
In 2010, McAuley Ministries introduced a four-year initiative to enhance the quality and capacity of out-of-school time programs serving residents of the Hill District, Uptown, and West Oakland. The Board committed an annual investment of $400,000 for a total of $1.6 million.

In 2014, the Board renewed and increased our investment in out-of-school programs to $500,000 per year in 2014 through 2017 (four years), for a total investment of $2,000,000.

In 2018, the McAuley Ministries Board renewed and increased a four-year commitment of $700,000 per year for a total investment of $2,800,000.

Through December 2019, McAuley Ministries has awarded $6,161,809 in grants to out-of-school time initiatives, paying out $5,583,717.
Neighborhood Learning Alliance (NLA) In summer 2019, 26 high school students took a 4-credit college chemistry class, which included attending classes and labs twice a week throughout the summer, tutoring, and worksite placements in medical or research labs at Magee-Womens Research Institute & Foundation, UPMC, and other facilities around Pittsburgh. Through the Learn & Earn program, NLA was able to pay the students for the class hours, tutoring, and work placements. With assistance from McAuley Ministries, NLA paid the students’ tuition, purchased their books, and hired the professors and tutors for the class. All 26 students completed the class with a C or better and received 4 college credits.

Oakland Planning and Development Corporation’s (OPDC) School2Career & Future Makers are youth programs that help break the cycle of poverty by preparing at-risk youth for college and career success. High school students receive academic support and paid internship opportunities with employers across Pittsburgh.

The School2Career program operates year-round, beginning with a paid summer orientation. During the school year, students receive free tutoring, paid internships, Microsoft Office 2016 training and certification, SAT preparation, and help with applying to colleges.

Thanks to funding from McAuley Ministries, OPDC launched Future Makers, an enrichment program for 7th-12th grade students. Through Future Makers, Oakland and Hill District youth engage in hands-on experiences in STEM, business, arts, health care, and college preparation. The program extends OPDC’s School2Career mission through offering high school and middle school students interactive activities to explore college and career opportunities during specialized workshops.

Center That CARES features after-school cooking classes for middle and high school boys and girls. Each week, the students learn about different cuisines, then prepare those foods.
The Citizen Science Lab introduced the SeaPerch project, establishing teams of middle and high school students from the Hill District to train for, enter, and compete in the SeaPerch Challenge, an underwater robotics competition. The annual competition equips students with resources to build an underwater Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV) in an out-of-school setting. Here, students work together on the wiring for their ROV.

Venture Outdoors partners with the Center That CARES to offer after-school programming that exposes children to outdoor opportunities. Above, the boys’ group, grades 3-5, learned about fire-building. Once building a fire, they enjoyed s’mores. Below, the girls’ group, grades 3-5, learned about snowshoe hiking equipment and trying to walk in snowshoes (without snow).

SWSG is a multi-generational mentorship program for girls and women in Pittsburgh. Each year, they serve more than 730 girls in grades 3-5, 300+ college-age women mentors who work with girls, and more than 110 professional women who volunteer and mentor college women. Through a curriculum-based program that features strong female role models, SWSG’s vision is that every girl and woman realize her inner strength to dream and do.
Out-Of-School Time Infrastructure

Allegheny Partners for Out-Of-School Time (APOST)

- A partnership of funders, intermediaries, and providers dedicated to building a quality Out-of-School Time (OST) system that will contribute to the healthy, successful development of young people as they progress through their school years, graduate from high school, and enter into adulthood.
- Strives to improve quality and access to OST opportunities for children and youth in Allegheny County.
- An advocate on behalf of the OST community, specifically the need to secure and sustain dedicated funding.
- Supports the implementation of system-building efforts that increase collaboration and efficiency between OST programs working in the same geographical footprint.
- Builds strategic partnerships at the local, state, and national levels that represent the needs of Pittsburgh’s OST community and enhance the presence of OST as a critical stakeholder in Pittsburgh’s learning networks.

Out-Of-School Time Facilities

McAuley Ministries has provided financial support to out-of-school time facilities that helps community partners to maintain programming.

The Jeron X. Grayson Center (Center That CARES)
In 2012, a $150,000 grant was awarded to renovate the recently purchased Ozanam Cultural Center to be used for out-of-school time programs for middle and high school students, incorporating technology to appeal to adolescents and teens, and provide a site to teach about the effect of gun violence on families.
In 2016, $35,000 was granted to update facility items worn from 16 years of service: flooring, fixtures, and furniture, plus install systems to enhance security for staff, students, and volunteers.
In 2017, $50,000 was granted to expand and develop the Grayson Center campus to support programming; provide additional parking, lighting and signage; establish a youth entrepreneur market that allows teens and young adults to showcase and market their emerging businesses; and eliminate blight by transforming a vacant lot that has been used for illegal dumping.

ACH Clear Pathways
In 2019, a $200,000 grant was awarded to assist ACH Clear Pathways in securing and developing a property in the Hill District which will serve as a permanent location for their arts programming.

Schenley Heights Community Development Program
In 2018, a grant of $8,500 was awarded to support installation of a security camera, alarm, and access system at the sites housing their after-school and early childhood programs.
In 2019, $10,000 was granted to replace a high-mileage vehicle requiring exorbitant repair costs. The vehicles are used to transport 80 children from 17 participating schools to after-school programming.

Oakland Planning and Development Corporation
In 2010, $25,175 was awarded for renovation of the program site to add technology for the School2Career program.

The Hill Youth Partnership for Enrichment (HYPE)

A grassroots collaborative effort of Hill District youth service providers, the Hill District Education Council, Pittsburgh Public Schools, and community members, focusing on engaging more youth from kindergarten through twelfth grade in after-school and summer programs.

HYPE Goals
- Engage a greater number of Hill District youth.
- Improve the quality of current programs.
- Serve as a model for other communities.