

***Soaring Beyond Expectations:***  
**A Statewide Afterschool Showcase**  
**May 19, 2011**  
**WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS**



**Session 1: 10:00 – 11:00**

**A. Title:** Staff Development Methods to Promote Personal and Professional Growth

**Room:** Classroom 1

**Presenters:** Tamika Chester, 21st CCLC Program Officer, New Jersey Department of Education

**Description:** Research in the out-of-school time (OST) field confirms that there is a strong connection between professional development for staff and positive outcomes for youth. When organizations make an investment in their staffs' success, they also make an investment in the overall success of the program. This session will provide participants with tips, tools and techniques for creating a professional development plan, maintaining a professional development record and identifying ongoing professional development opportunities and resources.

**B. Title:** Building Healthy Living for Teens through Nutrition and Fitness

**Room:** Kitchen

**Presenters:** Sharon Towler, 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC Coordinator; Robin Easter, Instructor; Ludine Pierre, Instructor, Impact 21 Community Development Corporation

**Description:** This workshop will provide a cooking demo of budget friendly, nutritional cooking techniques to encourage healthy food choices as well as providing an aerobic demonstration through dance and stepping.

**C. Title:** Making STEM Fun!

**Room:** Classroom 4

**Presenter:** Mike MacEwan, Director of 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC and STEM Initiatives, New Jersey School-Age Care Coalition

**Description:** You don't have to be a scientist to get these activities going; you just need to be ready to have fun! These projects will keep your students entertained and learning without even knowing it! The activities will offer open-ended, inquiry-based learning, allowing students to learn about the concepts of STEM by problem-solving. The activities will also be linked to the national core common standards.

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**Session 2: 11:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.**

**D. Title:** Developing 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers (CCLC) Staff into Action Researchers

**Room:** Classroom 4

**Presenter:** Bianca White, 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC Project Director; Georgia Kioukis, Internal Evaluator-Education Works, Inc.; Vonda Johnson, Paragon Applied Research and Evaluation

**Description:** The implementation of action research is a requirement for all Cohort 7, 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC sites. Action research can be an intimidating endeavor to introduce to after school staff and expect their buy-in of this process. This workshop will present the strategies used to introduce action research to 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC after school staff and how staff created their own action research plans, served as “critical friends” to one another when presenting those plans and, in turn, became action researchers.

**E. Title:** Improving the Quality of Afterschool Programs: A Practical Guide to Evaluation

**Room:** Classroom 1

**Presenter:** Neil Naftzger, Senior Research Associate, Afterschool Programming, Learning Point Associates, Chicago

**Description:** This workshop will highlight practical tools, strategies, and resources to obtain and use program data to help improve the quality of afterschool offerings. This workshop will also demonstrate how to use evaluation-related data to design activities with intentionality, monitor student engagement, and use feedback and reflection strategies to drive program improvement.

**F. Title:** Building the Bridge Between After School and School Administration

**Room:** Kitchen

**Presenters:** Anthony Petito, 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC Project Director; Tamira Chapman, Site Coordinator; Arts and Education Center

**Description:** This workshop will emphasize the importance of creating a shared vision and garnering commitment for afterschool program goals from school boards, administrators and regular school day teachers. The workshop will provide strategies, tools and real life examples of creating effective partnerships.

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**Session 3: 1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.**

**G. Title:** To the Beat: Getting Students Excited about Dance and Stage Performance

**Room:** Kitchen

**Presenter:** Kelly Beirne, 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC Project Director, Gloucester City School District

**Description:** The workshop will discuss how the students are exposed to dance, proper steps, stage presence and incorporation of their own creativity into dance class. Tactics will be given that are used in order to keep participants motivated and working hard. The lessons pay off in a culminating showcase open to parents, staff and the community.

**H. Title:** Learn.Do.Earn. – The Hiring Game

**Room:** Classroom 4

**Presenters:** Dana Egreczky, Vice President, NJ Chamber of Commerce; Sue Herring, Director of Programs, NJ Chamber of Commerce

**Description:** This workshop will demonstrate the Hiring Game, which provides students with an engaging learning experience that simulates the hiring process that businesses use every day. This exercise builds upon the information that students learn in the LearnDoEarn classroom lessons, and allows them to apply it to real-world situations.

**I. Title:** Staff Development Methods to Promote Personal and Professional Growth

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