



our mission

The mission of **Partnership for Children and Youth** is to ensure that school-age children and youth living in low-income communities have the support and the opportunities they need and deserve to be successful in school and in life. We help schools secure the resources necessary to provide after school, summer and other expanded learning programs, nutritious meals, and access to health and mental health care—the things we know children need to succeed and thrive. The ultimate beneficiaries of our work are children and youth from low-income communities. Our primary clients are those institutions that provide critical support services to underserved children—including schools and school districts, community-based agencies and local governments.

2011 objectives

Expanding Learning Opportunities for Children in California's Low- Income Communities

In 2011, the Partnership is working to both deepen and broaden the scope of our commitment to children and families in the Bay Area's lowest-income communities. Building on our core initiatives—community schools, after school and summer—we have added two new project areas, while continuing to play an expanding role in shaping state and federal education policy.

After School and Summer Programs, Community Schools and California Department of Education

After School and Summer Program Technical Assistance for Affordable Housing Developments

In launching this new strand of technical-assistance work, the Partnership will utilize our extensive knowledge, experience and relationships in after school and summer learning support to help **build and sustain the quality and availability of programs for children in low-income housing** in our region. In 2011 we are working closely with nonprofit developer Eden Housing to establish three pilot sites in Hayward and San Leandro.

Summer Program Training and Technical Assistance Since 2009 we have been adapting our after school technical assistance experience and expertise to the summer learning environment. This work has resulted in a **summer technical assistance model with tools and quality measures** that has been tested and refined over two summers in five California communities: Oakland, San Francisco, Gilroy, Fresno and Whittier. In 2011 we will provide technical assistance to an expanded cohort of summer program sites, such as state- and federally-funded after school grantees that have supplemental funds for summer programs and are interested in building or improving the quality of their programming. Among the new communities and programs with whom we'll engage are the Sacramento City School District, LA's BEST and THINK Together, based in Santa Ana.

State Superintendent of Public Instruction Transition Partnership for Children and Youth Executive Director **Jennifer Peck** began 2011 as **Director of the Transition Advisory Team for Tom Torlakson**, the newly-elected California State Superintendent of Public Instruction. The Transition Team provided strategic advice on key issues impacting California students, schools, school districts and the California Department of Education. Jennifer was responsible for ensuring that the 54-member Transition Team carried out its work in a timely, efficient and effective manner. She is also serving as an advisor to the Superintendent on after school and summer programs, as well as on community schools.

Policy and Advocacy

Elementary and Secondary Education Act Reauthorization The Partnership continues in 2011 to lead a coalition of program providers and advocates across California and the nation promoting specific improvements to the **21st Century Community Learning Centers** program, the primary federal funding stream for after school, weekend and intersession programming for low-income schools. In March 2011, the Partnership was included in a small, select group of after school and expanded learning advocates to discuss 21st CCLC policy with Senator Harkin's Education Committee staff, and we have been invited to work closely with them on developing expanded learning policy for ESEA. The Partnership also continues to work closely with House Education Committee Ranking Member George Miller on his expanded learning policy positions in the interest of strengthening 21st CCLC and related funding streams.

California Community Schools Advocacy Network (CCSAN) In 2010 the Partnership launched **CCSAN**, a statewide effort to create a supportive policy environment for **community schools** in California. CCSAN keeps community-school administrators, collaborators and policy makers informed of and ready to act upon emerging state and federal policy issues.

Local Education Agency Medi-Cal Billing Option Advocacy Working with **Senator Loni Hancock** and advocates such as the California School Health Centers Association and the Los Angeles Unified School District, the Partnership helped to correct an error in California's application of the rules about reinvesting reimbursements from the LEA Medi-Cal Billing Option. This correction will increase California school districts' ability to participate in the program and draw down critical federal Medicaid funds.

Senate Bill 429 (DeSaulnier) The Partnership is working with **Senator Mark DeSaulnier** on **SB 429**, which would make beneficial changes to the After School Education and Safety (ASES) and 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) programs. Specifically, SB 429 increases flexibility around the use of summer ASES and 21st CCLC supplemental grants in order to maximize student attendance and increase student learning. The bill is being sponsored by **Tom Torlakson**, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, and co-sponsored by Partnership for Children and Youth, and Children Now.

Assembly Bill 760 (Gordon) The Partnership is working closely with **Assemblyman Rich Gordon** on **AB 760**, which would make several improvements to the **Healthy Start** program. This bill is an important vehicle for educating policymakers about the importance of the **community school approach**—supporting schools and students through interagency partnerships. AB 760 is jointly sponsored by Partnership for Children and Youth, and the California School Health Centers Association.

a bit of background

In 1997, a group of leaders from government, education, philanthropy, business, the nonprofit sector and community-based organizations saw the critical need to collectively address the persistent poverty affecting children and families in the Bay Area region. In response, those civic leaders formed the **Bay Area Partnership**. In 2001, the Partnership established itself as a non-profit intermediary focused on bringing critical public resources and support to low-income communities and advocating for policy changes that enable the successful use of public dollars at the local level. In 2010, to reflect our growing role in state and federal education policy, we changed our name to **Partnership for Children and Youth**.