



AFTER-SCHOOL ALL-STARS – S&I 100 PROFILE

UPDATED GROWTH PLAN

Expanding Our Reach

As one of our leading strategic goals, After-School All-Stars has been committed to expanding our reach across the nation over the past two years. Since 2014, ASAS has opened chapters in Newark, NJ; Philadelphia, PA; Cleveland, OH; and Tampa, FL. In the fall of 2016, we will launch chapters in the San Francisco Bay Area and Seattle Puget Sound region. In all of ASAS' expansion sites there is a clear need for strong after-school networks that support schools' efforts to achieve academic success for students and the community's efforts to reduce crime and increase employment and income levels. In every new city we serve, we will work to support the highest need student populations and focus on serving students in the middle school grades.

Because after-school is an ideal environment to practice skill development and workforce readiness, ASAS serves students and their communities by helping them develop the skills necessary to succeed in the 21st century economy. Extensive research shows that unemployment and poverty are linked to higher crime rates as well as increased rates of physical and mental health issues such as depression, hypertension, obesity and diabetes. In our expansion efforts, ASAS has aimed to launch chapters in communities struggling to solve these intractable social problems. With the New York Life Foundation as our key partner in our expansion effort, ASAS is working to prepare at-risk students to be safe and healthy, to graduate high school and go to college, to find careers they love and then give back to their communities.

There is a great and urgent need for quality after-school programming in America. According to a [status report](#) by the National League of Cities, "high-quality after-school programs have been shown to increase school attendance, raise graduation rates and reduce the likelihood that young people will smoke, drink, use drugs or become teen parents.[...]Furthermore, Out-of-School-Time (OST) programs help cities reduce juvenile crime, promote healthy lifestyles and address childhood obesity and build an educated and skilled workforce.[...]Polling data suggests that the parents of more than 18 million children who are not currently participating in afterschool programs would send their children to a program if one were available." After-School All-Stars has watched many school communities transform over the course of ASAS' tenure at those schools. We have seen school safety, grades and test scores rise while dropout rates and teen pregnancies decline. Students have reported they feel more confident, safe, healthy, and equipped to tackle life's challenges as a result of participating in After-School All-Stars. As we conclude our chapter expansions, we look forward to focusing on our maximizing program quality and strengthening our evaluation capacity to impact greater numbers of young people each year.