

# USE YOUR VOICE TO ADVOCATE FOR WHAT YOU BELIEVE IN!

In June, the California afterschool and expanded learning field won big, [increasing funding for the first time in a decade](#). However, the increase only goes halfway in meeting the needs of the field, and [federal afterschool funding continues to be threatened](#).

**It is clear that continued advocacy is needed to protect this investment!** We invite you to participate in a training aimed at identifying ways to enhance and grow local, ongoing, grassroots advocacy. Together, we can take advantage of the momentum built to further amplify and empower the voices of our field.



## Advocacy Retreat

*Presented in partnership with CalSAC, Expanded Learning Technical Assistance Unit of Los Angeles County Office of Education; CAN, and the Save After School Campaign*

**Saturday, November 4, 2017**

**8:00am – 4:00pm**

**Check in 7:30-8:00 Program starts at 8 am SHARP**

**9300 Imperial Highway, Downey, CA 90242**

**Room 281**

Register at: <http://aspire.lacoe.edu/event-type-groups/special-events> look for Advocacy training listing

<p><b>Other Information:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meals: Breakfast, lunch and snacks will be provided</li> <li>• Lodging: Shared lodging for one night is available for those traveling from outside the Los Angeles Area (check in Friday, check out Saturday)</li> <li>• Travel: Limited funds are available for travel support. Please identify if you will need support for travel when registering. We will confirm details upon confirmation of attendance.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Goals:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Foster a community of advocates for out-of-school time and expanded learning by building local networks of organizers and ambassadors</li> <li>• Create a plan of coordinated advocacy actions to raise awareness of the critical role these programs play for youth, families and communities</li> </ul> <p><b>Objectives:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deepen participants' understanding of the policy landscape impacting the out-of-school time and expanded learning field</li> <li>• Equip participants with skills, resources and support systems to implement local advocacy actions (i.e. host site visits, engage policymakers at Read Across America event, etc.)</li> <li>• Build the confidence and inspiration for participants to lead local advocacy actions</li> </ul>
<p><b>Commitment:</b></p> <p>By registering, participants commit to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fully participate in the retreat including being on time and staying until the end</li> <li>• Coordinate advocacy activities in their program/community through an event aligned with <a href="#">Read Across America</a> in March 2018</li> <li>• Advance local-level advocacy efforts with others in their area from now through June 2018 (i.e. call or write to legislators, attend the CA Afterschool and Summer Challenge in Sacramento, host a legislator for a site visit, etc.)</li> <li>• Participate in future advocacy trainings, webinars and learning opportunities</li> </ul>	

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