WHO WE ARE

We are the only statewide organization dedicated to expanding access to high-quality out-of-school time programs in Virginia. The Virginia Partnership for Out-of-School Time (VPOST) serves as the leader in the out-of-school-time field. We have created, and continue to strengthen, a coordinated statewide network of program providers that work together to meet the needs of Virginia families.

Mission: To build a network of quality out-of-school-time programming for all Virginia children and youth.

Vision: A future where all Virginia families have the out-of-school-time support they need to thrive.
Partnership is in Our Name

Working alongside program providers, partners, and advocates, VPOST creates a comprehensive network of out-of-school-time stakeholders in Virginia. Our Leadership Advisory Council informs and guides all our work. Organizational seats are held by the below organizations.
Total Revenue: $456,036
Total Expenses: $338,339

By creating public and private partnerships with statewide supporters, and connecting providers with each other to resources and Quality Standards, we’re building a statewide network of identifiable providers with the capacity and ability to meet the needs of Virginia families while providing engaging learning opportunities that will help kids build successful futures.
VPOST advocates for increased access to engaged learning opportunities and quality out-of-school-time programming that will better meet the needs of Virginia communities.

Access to Out-of-School Time Programs in Virginia

Surprisingly, little has been known about the landscape of access to out-of-school time programs in Virginia. With approximately 163,854 Virginia children alone and unsupervised after school, where are the gaps? Where are OST programs located in Virginia? Are there program deserts? Etc.

These questions have driven VPOST to launch our Out-of-School Time Program Access Map. The maps provided show where there are known programs and compare them against various factors of interest such as working families, poverty, and legislative districts.
There were discussions on the importance of investments in STEM, workforce sustainability, and school safety.

In May, 2022, VPOST’s Virginia delegates met virtually with the offices of Senator Kaine and Warner and the offices of Congressman Good, as well as Congressman Bobby Scott.

The delegation, which consisted of VPOST staff, Youth STEM Ambassadors, and a staff member from NextUp RVA, made the case for sustained federal investments in afterschool and summer learning programs.

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Virginia Partnership for Out-of-School Time

In 2022, VPOST along with JMU X-Labs, were awarded $185,000 from the Charles Mott Foundation to build the Virginia Youth Entrepreneurship Strategies (Yartnering with 13 high school-based 21st Century Community Learning Center programs where they designed, developed, and implemented a curriculum for afterschool learning in entrepreneurship (ES) Program.

VPOST coordinates a statewide network of schools, community organizations, businesses, elected officials, donors, and supporters that work together to foster relationships and expand quality out-of-school time programs and services for all Virginia children.

Virginia is rich in out-of-school time Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) learning programs but they were not coordinated on a state level. VPOST began addressing this void by the forming the Virginia Coalition for Equity in OST STEM Programs. The coalition brings together key stakeholders with a dedicated interest in collaborating to increasing access and quality of STEM-based out-of-school time opportunities for girls, and other underrepresented youth.
In fall of 2022, VPOST co-hosted a virtual, multi-state conference, alongside Delaware, Maryland, and West Virginia: A Constellation of Afterschool Stars: Illuminating the Field. Featuring electric speakers from each state and over 250 members from the out-of-school time field in attendance!

The entire conference was executed with the spirit of excellence.

This event was fantastic. It was engaging throughout.

Quotes from most recent Conference Attendees

VPOST connects schools and direct-service providers to professional development opportunities, out-of-school-time programs to Quality Standards, and donors to opportunities.
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In October, our Leadership Advisory Council met in-person for a two day retreat to communicate the shared goals of our organizations and plan for the future of the OST-field.

Members discussed numerous ways their expertise can further the vision of VPOST, covered our various accomplishments that we conquered as a council, and planned our goals for the future of ways we can continue to help children and families around Virginia.
VPOST leads the Out-of-School-Time field by building and strengthening an identifiable, statewide network and guiding local and state-level policies.

Throughout 2022, VPOST worked tirelessly on creating a Guide to the Virginia Childcare Process for School-Aged Afterschool Programs. This tool is intended to be used by programs across the Commonwealth in aiding their applications and/or exemptions for licensure.

Responses received from our focus group were positive and we are excited to see how this guide further impacts the OST-field as we continue working towards our mission of building a network of quality out-of-school-time programming for all Virginia children and youth.