

# 21st Century Community Learning Centers in Minnesota

Proving that what happens afterschool impacts what happens in school.

## A UNIQUELY MINNESOTAN APPROACH:

We don't like to brag (too much, anyway), but Minnesota's 21CCLC centers are doing a pretty darn good job. Minnesota kids who regularly attend<sup>\*</sup> a 21CCLC afterschool program **do way better** on the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessment (MCA) compared to youth who attend only a few times.

*\*=30x per year or more!*

## HOW MUCH BETTER? WAY BETTER!

Just look at how much more likely these youth are to be proficient on their MCAs than youth with low attendance:

### READING:<sup>1</sup>

**10%** MORE LIKELY TO BE PROFICIENT FOR FREE AND REDUCED-PRICE LUNCH STUDENTS

**70%** MORE LIKELY TO BE PROFICIENT FOR LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY STUDENTS

### MATH:

**53%** MORE LIKELY TO BE PROFICIENT FOR FREE AND REDUCED-PRICE LUNCH STUDENTS

*wowza!*

**125%** MORE LIKELY TO BE PROFICIENT FOR LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY STUDENTS

read on to see how Minnesota does it



“I come to be a good leader.”

HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR,  
YMCA BEACONS –  
EDISON HIGH SCHOOL  
AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM

### 21CCLC:

21ST CENTURY COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTERS. THE ONLY SOURCE OF FEDERAL FUNDS DEDICATED TO AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS.

“I’ve learned that partnerships are what make a program strong.”

MARY, PROGRAM DIRECTOR FOR B.O.L.T., LONG PRAIRIE-GREY EAGLE SCHOOLS



## THE **MAGIC** BEHIND THE MODEL

What makes Minnesota’s approach to 21CCLC work?

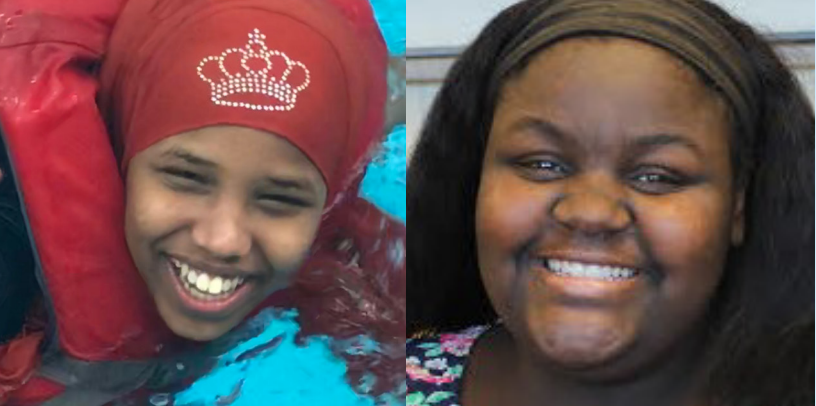
Each 21CCLC funded afterschool site is uniquely tailored to fill the gaps and meet the needs of their local community, so they all look a little different.

The “magic” is by intentionally incorporating these essential elements, they all **positively impact student success!** !



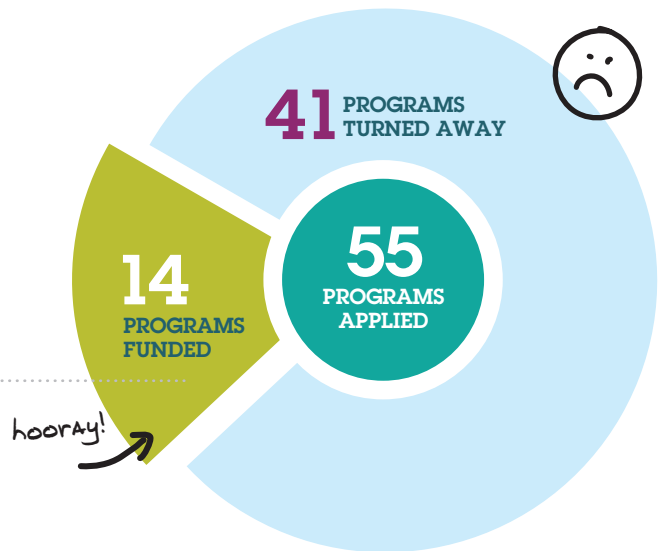
Plus, they're lots of **FUN!**





“I learn more about teamwork and myself.”  
MINNEAPOLIS MIDDLE SCHOOLER

**A HUGE FUNDING GAP**  
Federal funding covers only a fraction of the need



2017–2018 School Year:

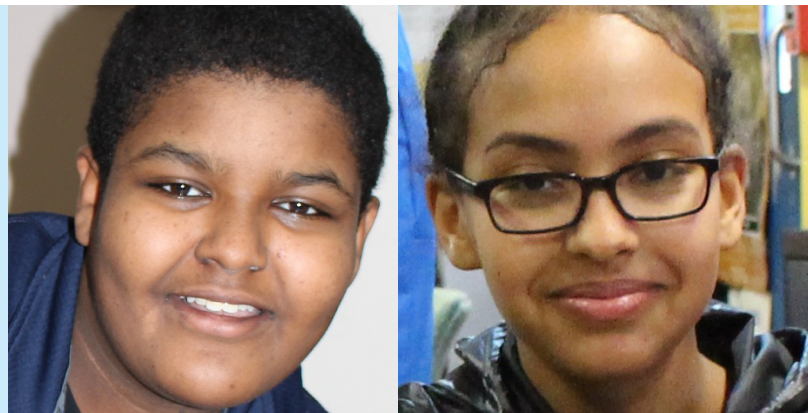
**55 ORGANIZATIONS & SCHOOL DISTRICTS** REQUESTED > **\$19.2M** TO SUPPORT YOUTH THROUGH 21CCLC

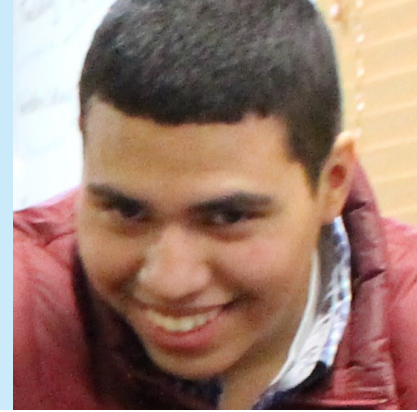
ONLY **\$7M** IN FEDERAL FUNDING WAS AVAILABLE<sup>2</sup> FOR NEW MN 21CCLCS > FUNDING ONLY **1/3** OF THE REQUEST

THAT'S A **\$12.1M** SHORTFALL LEAVING > **13K** MN YOUTH WAITING FOR A 21CCLC IN THEIR COMMUNITY

that's a lot of kids left waiting for a program!

“I see a different side to my students in the afterschool program. There's more homework completion, and more confidence comes into the classroom.”  
ASHLEY, B.O.L.T. TEACHER IN SCHOOL AND AFTERSCHOOL, LONG PRAIRIE-GREY EAGLE SCHOOLS





“If I did not come here, I would just be sitting on the couch.”

YOUTH FROM KEYSTONE COMMUNITY KIDS AT WEST 7TH COMMUNITY CENTER, ST. PAUL

## 21CCLC SUPPORTS YOUNG PEOPLE ALL ACROSS MINNESOTA

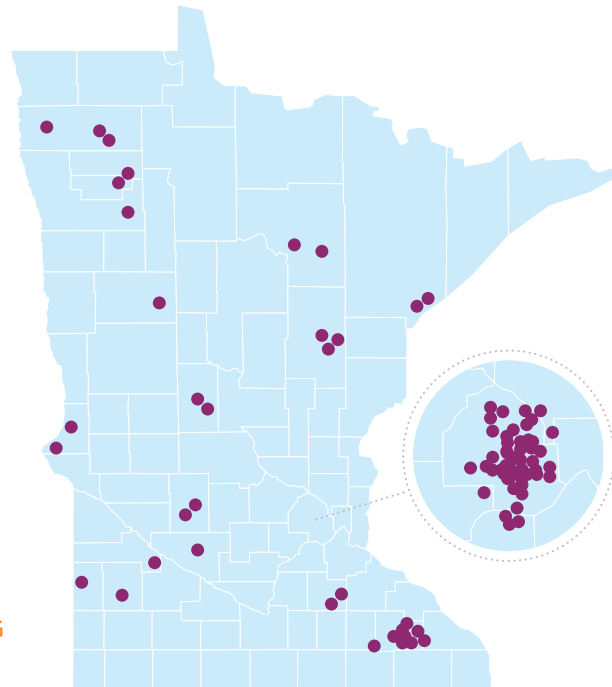
There are gaps to fill but still reasons to celebrate.

MORE THAN  
**23K**  
YOUTH STATEWIDE

**7** WEEKS ++  
OF SUMMER LEARNING  
ON AVERAGE!

**108**  
SITES STATEWIDE<sup>3</sup>

**51K** HOURS  
OF LEARNING TIME DURING  
THE SCHOOL YEAR



32  
21CCLC  
GRANTEES  
=  
108  
PROGRAM  
SITES

## YOUNG PEOPLE KNOW THEIR 21CCLC WORKS FOR THEM.<sup>4</sup>

Youth say their program helps them:

**66%**  
DO BETTER  
IN SCHOOL

**76%**  
TRY HARDER  
IN SCHOOL

**75%**  
GET HOMEWORK  
DONE



## BENEFITS BEYOND ACADEMICS.

Young people also have fun and connect with caring adults at their 21CCLC.<sup>4</sup>

**93%**  
“I LIKE  
COMING  
HERE”

**92%**  
“I HAVE  
FUN WHEN  
I’M HERE”

**88%**  
“THERE IS AN ADULT  
HERE WHO HELPS ME  
WHEN I HAVE A PROBLEM

We gratefully acknowledge the Minnesota Department of Education for providing data on 21CCLC in Minnesota, and give special thanks to the staff and young people at Keystone Community Services’ West 7th Community Center, Long Prairie-Grey Eagle Public Schools, Faribault Public Schools and MCA Beacons – Thomas Edison High School for sharing their stories and supplying the images used here. We extend additional thanks to the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation for funding that made this brochure possible.

1. MCA = Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments. Minnesota Department of Education, 21st Century Community Learning Centers (or 21CCLC) 2016-2017 school year data.  
2. Minnesota Department of Education, 21st Century Community Learning Centers (or 21CCLC) data. 21CCLC grants are awarded for a three-to-five-year period, so the 14 new programs that received 2017-18 funding are joining 13 21CCLC sites already in operation. Minnesota received \$11.6 million to support these 27 sites plus technical assistance, training, evaluation and administration.  
3. Almost all Minnesota 21CCLC provide programming at multiple sites. During the 2016-2017 school year, the 108 sites on this map were operated by 32 different 21CCLC grantees.  
4. Minnesota Department of Education, 21st Century Community Learning Centers 2016-2017 school year data.



A 21CCLC CLOSE UP:

# LONG PRAIRIE GREY EAGLE SCHOOLS' B.O.L.T. AND T.A.P. PROGRAMS



SERVING **218** ELEMENTARY YOUTH > **945** HOURS YEAR-ROUND



+ 267 secondary youth 865 hours!



## A Strong Tie to Classroom Success.

Through fun, high quality afterschool experiences, B.O.L.T. (Building Opportunities for Learning Together) and T.A.P. (Thunder Afterschool Program) are making **a big impact on in-school** learning for Long Prairie Grey Eagle students. They work closely with teachers to identify students who can most benefit from additional learning experiences and tailor their programs to meet those young people's needs. It's a strategy that's really paying off. For those youth in need of in-school improvement, teachers say 77% improved the quality of their homework, 75% improved their overall academic performance and 70% improved classroom participation.<sup>1</sup> That's a lot more learning!

## PARTNER HIGHLIGHT

### Community partners are key ingredient to workforce readiness

Thanks to deep community partnerships, this program is in its 9th year of offering Work-Based Learning, a workforce readiness program for high school students. Youth learn job skills, then through partnerships move on to real-world experiences at local businesses, non-profit organizations, government agencies and area hospitals.

## SOMETHING EXTRA SPECIAL!

### Afterschool STEM makes for more engaged school day learners

STEM Club is a weekly choice club for 5th & 6th graders that builds skills in Science, Technology, Math & Engineering. Through interactive hands-on experiments (like building circuit boards!) students reinforce school-day learning and share back with their class the next day. In high school, staff say STEM Club "alumni" tend to be at or above standards in STEM-related subjects.



TOP 5 PROGRAM OFFERINGS

- 1 Academic support in literacy, math, and science
- 2 Link Crew & W.E.B. (Where Everyone Belongs) youth leadership programs
- 3 Choice clubs like Chess, Robotics, Ultimate Frisbee, Cooking, Cultural Dance and Knowledge Bowl
- 4 Certified Nursing Assistant training
- 5 Special on-site presentations and off-site field trips expose youth to new learning experiences

“We help youth find their path to success.”

MARY ZASTROW, B.O.L.T. FINANCE & EVALUATION DIRECTOR



1. Results from Long Prairie Grey Eagle School B.O.L.T and T.A.P teacher survey. Thank you Long Prairie Grey Eagle Schools for providing this data.

## A 21CCLC CLOSE UP: FARIBAULT COMMUNITY SCHOOL



SERVING **385** YOUTH > **685** HOURS YEAR-ROUND



### When Families Do Better, Youth Do Better.

A 21CCLC since March 2017, Faribault Community School provides a safe place for kids to go afterschool. But more than that, it's a place for the community to gather, learn and grow together. Faribault Community School is passionate about meeting the needs of the **whole student** — so that means serving families too. How? Afterschool programming is the first priority, but second is family meal time and programs that align with the needs of parents, all designed to build a strong network of support for young people, families and the Faribault community.

### PARTNER HIGHLIGHT

#### Working together helps young people to read more

At Faribault Community Schools, young people are getting their read on. Each week young people visit the local library and pick out books. Since the partnership began, the Faribault Library has increased circulation of TumbleBooks (e-books) from 50 to 700 per month, an increase of 650 books!

now that's literacy in action!

### SOMETHING EXTRA SPECIAL!

#### Classes for parents support student success

Faribault Community Schools also kicked off the monthly Faribault Family Success Series – seminars for parents in English, Spanish and Somali. The seminars bring parents, teachers, and students together to strengthen relationships while tackling relevant topics that include Cyber Safety, Healthy Living & Nutrition, Increasing Literacy and the oh-so-popular My Child Did WHAT?

### TOP 6 PROGRAM OFFERINGS

- 1 Homework help
- 2 Choice clubs (Arts, Photography, Sports, etc.)
- 3 Makers' Space
- 4 Lego Engineering
- 5 Nightly Community Meals
- 6 Literacy programs for youth and adults

“From the start, our key focus has been on bringing the whole family together.”

CHARLES COOPER, FARIBAULT COMMUNITY SCHOOL COORDINATOR

## A 21CCLC CLOSE UP: COMMUNITY KIDS AT KEYSTONE COMMUNITY SERVICES



SERVING **150** YOUTH > **947** HOURS YEAR-ROUND



↑ that's almost as many hours as they spend in school!

### Community Center + Afterschool Program + Library = Success Multiplied

Community Kids works with 150 students from 25 different public, charter and private schools in St. Paul, to provide that extra **academic and personal support** every young person needs to be successful in school and life. At Community Kids, young people get homework help, connect with mentors, and become engaged learners through daily lessons and activities that are academic, active, and reflective, making learning fun and impactful. When summer rolls around, Keystone Community Kids puts the brakes on “Summer Slide” and instead puts learning into overdrive! Pre and post evaluations reveal that these youth head back to school in the fall better readers and stronger in math than they were at the start of the summer.<sup>1</sup>

#### PARTNER HIGHLIGHT

##### Libraries help afterschool expand literacy opportunities

Keystone’s Community Kids and the West 7th branch of the St. Paul Public Library share a location! This lends itself to a plethora of partnership opportunities: story times, digital photography workshops, summer reading programs, ordering books from the library that align with classroom themes and lessons, and even student author events staged in the library.



#### SOMETHING EXTRA SPECIAL!

##### Working hand in hand with the schools to improve academics

Keystone is the only community center in St. Paul authorized to provide St. Paul Public School’s (SPPS) Extended Day Learning Program where students can improve their skills with extra learning time. SPPS provides curriculum, teacher training, and reimburses Keystone’s teaching hours. It’s a solid investment. Community Kids Pre and post evaluations<sup>1</sup> confirm that these K-5th graders show huge growth in their schoolwork and are more likely to be proficient on standardized tests.

TOP 5 PROGRAM OFFERINGS

- 1 Lego League + hands-on STEM activities
- 2 Second Step lessons teach empathy, impulse control, and problem-solving
- 3 Check & Connect mentoring for middle and high schoolers
- 4 Tennis, soccer, basketball, and summer swimming lessons
- 5 Regular communication with classroom teachers

“We are successful because the community is invested in our program – parents, students, volunteers and partners.”

JULIE MURPHY, COMMUNITY KIDS PROGRAM DIRECTOR



1. Information courtesy of Keystone Community Kids. Evaluations are based on SPPS’ math and reading curriculum pre and post assessments. Additional assessments measure progress in sight word recognition, words per minute and reading engagement.

This case study was created with support from the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation.