

Building a Professional Workforce, Quality Programs & Healthy Youth

BOSTnet was founded in 1987 with a mission to expand access to quality, affordable out-of-school time (OST) opportunities in Massachusetts that challenge, reward and inspire children and youth. For twenty years, BOSTnet has worked to strengthen OST programs through innovative research, leadership and quality improvement initiatives. BOSTnet's approach to quality is grounded in an understanding that well-run afterschool and OST programs support resiliency and build developmental assets in children and youth that help them grow into productive and engaged adults. Creating transformative change in afterschool requires a focus on quality learning environments that are fun, intentional, supportive, engaging and safe.

You can do a lot of good work in twenty years, and BOSTnet has had great success developing effective solutions to address barriers to access and quality in OST. Along the way, we helped build a field—one that is more professional, organized and legitimate. We will continue this work in the coming years, focusing on expanding quality opportunities for youth through workforce development, field building and advocacy.

In 2009, BOSTnet will become the Massachusetts affiliate of the National Afterschool Association, expanding our network statewide! This is an exciting opportunity for us to provide services and strengthen the voice of afterschool to make the case for continued investment in strategies that expand the delivery system of providers, build consistent quality, increase participation and support program leadership.

BOSTnet's 4th Annual *All Means ALL* Conference Elevates the Importance of Inclusion in Afterschool

It has become clear to us that our *All Means ALL* Conference is a special and unique event. We are unaware of other ongoing conferences – *nationwide* – that are dedicated, specifically, to the goal of increasing the capacity of afterschool and out-of-school time programs to include children and youth with physical disabilities, developmental disorders and behavioral problems. Afterschool and OST staff learned new strategies and approaches to inclusion that they can use in their programs every day.

New workshops and presentations by Senator Thomas McGee and Representative Marie St. Fleur engaged more than 170 participants in a day of networking and professional development. 2009 will see our 5th Annual AMA conference and we are excited to mark this milestone with a broader set of partners and an expanded set of workshops providing new perspectives and new strategies for afterschool educators.

BOSTnet Celebrates 20 Years!



BOSTnet Executive Director Maryellen Coffey honors five individuals for their ongoing dedication to children and youth in the city of Boston as part of our 20th Anniversary Celebration at the State Street Foundation, October 21st, 2007. (l-r: Linda Whitlock, Elaine Fersh, Kerry Sullivan, Maryellen Coffey, Chris Gabrielli, Eli Wolff.)

"It was a great day of learning for me. Great presenters, tons of useful information/networking!"

-4th Annual AMA attendee, October 3, 2008

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Audited Financials

	Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2008	Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2007
Revenue:		
Government Contracts	47,698	59,472
Foundation, Corporate & Individual Grants	415,877	656,787
Other Income	61,342	77,998
TOTAL REVENUE	524,917	794,257
Expenses:		
Program Services	484,288	634,773
General and Administration	129,765	141,211
TOTAL EXPENSES	614,053	775,984
Change in net assets	(89,136)	18,273
Net Assets (beginning)	1,218,323	1,200,050
Net Assets (end)	1,129,187	1,218,323

Recent Publications

Monthly e-newsletter, the *BOSTnet BUZZ*

Developing Spaces by and for Teens in Out-of-School Time Programs

Quarterly *State of the Field Reports*

Interactive Maps! – to locate disability inclusion services

BOSTnet's Guide to Boston's Before & After School Programs
(New! pdf version available)

Behavior and Emotional Support Assessment Tool

Advocacy in Action - BOSTnet Hits the State House

On April 25th 2008, BOSTnet staff visited the offices of each member of the Boston delegation in the House of Representatives to encourage their support of Rep. St. Fleur's amendment to increase the ASOST grant to over \$5 million. Armed with a fact sheet and our *Guide to Boston's Before and After School Programs*, we highlighted the importance of expanded funding for Boston's rich OST offerings. We are happy to say that in June, Governor Patrick signed the state budget that included \$5.55 million for the ASOST grants. **Advocacy works!**

BOSTnet's Leadership in Action

- Member of the Massachusetts Special Commission on Afterschool and Out-of-School Time (ASOST) to develop a set of recommendations for OST.
- Co-Chair of the Department of Early Education and Care (DEEC) Workforce Taskforce subcommittee on Core Competencies
- Member of the DEEC Advisory Committee
- Member of the Massachusetts Afterschool Partnership Advisory Team and Policy Subcommittee
- Member of the Department of Public Health Coalition for the Prevention of Youth Violence
- Co-Chair, *Achieve Boston*, a partnership to build out-of-school time professional and workforce development systems in Massachusetts

The Year By the Numbers....

287	Attendees at monthly Leadership Roundtables & Half-day Forums
177	Attendees at the 3 rd Annual <i>All Means All</i> Conference
100	Attendees at the <i>Families Matter!</i> Conference
201	Organizations represented at BOSTnet events in FY08
1,365	Subscribers to our monthly e-newsletter, the <i>BOSTnet BUZZ</i>
4	State of the Field Reports published
187,889	Visits to the BOSTnet website in FY08
3,000	Copies of the <i>BOSTnet Guide to Boston's Before & After School Programs</i> printed & distributed
1,425	OST opportunities for children and youth added to BOSTONavigator, an online database, through a partnership with the City of Boston and Boston After School and Beyond.

Leadership Roundtables Reach New Highs and New Audiences

For 14 years, BOSTnet's Roundtables have been providing afterschool workers training and networking opportunities to improve their ability to serve families and children. In fact, they are the only ongoing, **FREE**, professional development opportunity in the city of Boston. This year, we have expanded our Roundtables to the North Shore through a partnership with For Kids Only Afterschool, Inc., and the United Way. Our 6 Roundtables this fall in Boston and the North Shore have attracted over 250 participants from direct staff with barely a week of experience to seasoned directors with over 25 years in the field.

"BOSTnet's Roundtables are great! They provide my staff with monthly trainings on the topics we need to improve how we serve our kids—positive behavior supports, quality environments, project-based learning and family engagement. Its all relevant, high quality training." -Afterschool Program Director, November 2008

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