



# Full-service Schools Roundtable

December 2006

*"partnering for Boston students' success"*  
443 Warren Street • Dorchester, MA 02121 • 617 635 6537  
[www.fullserviceschoolsroundtable.org](http://www.fullserviceschoolsroundtable.org)

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**SAVE THE DATE!**  
Join us for the next  
**Roundtable Meeting**  
February 6<sup>th</sup>, 9 – 11:30 am  
**The Boston Foundation**  
*(more details in January)*

## Roundtable Report

### Investing Sustainably in Boston's Children and Youth A Study of Financing and Systems Innovations

With support from the Wallace Foundation, The Boston Foundation, and an anonymous foundation, the Full-Service Schools Roundtable and Boston After School & Beyond have commissioned the Boston Sustainability and Systems Study. The goal is to conduct research that will position Boston to advance the sustainability of its student services, with a special focus on out-of-school time, full-service community schooling, and cross-systems collaboration.

Community Matters and The Finance Project, two respected organizations with extensive experience in these areas of work, are conducting the study, which will generate data, provide analyses, and make recommendations for changes in local policy and practice for improved financing for these programs and services.

The success of this effort depends on the involvement of a set of key informants who play active, leadership roles in education, out-of-school time, human services, mental health, prevention, health care access, and children's advocacy, both in Boston and elsewhere. The consultant team is currently in an intensive research phase and, on December 11<sup>th</sup>, facilitated a focused dialogue with Roundtable members and key stakeholders. For more information regarding this study, please contact Marta Gredler at [mcredler@boston.k12.ma.us](mailto:mcredler@boston.k12.ma.us) or 617-635-6537.

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## What's Happening with Roundtable Members

### Allston-Brighton Family Network Wins Mayor's Award for Excellence in Children's Health

The city's top award for supporting the health of children went to a community program for its work in supporting the developmental needs of Allston-Brighton's youngest children.

"Tending to the health and well being of our youngest Bostonians is so important," Mayor Thomas M. Menino said. "We know that a kid's best hope in reaching his or her full potential is to get the best possible start in the first five years of life. The Allston-Brighton Family Network is a beacon of hope in a time when these types of programs never seem to get the support and recognition that they deserve. I am so pleased to join our partners in making this award," the Mayor Menino said.

*"Parenting is hard work. In giving this award to the Allston-Brighton Family Network, the City and two of its most prestigious health institutions are validating the notion that supporting families early in their development will have significant impact on health and education outcomes."*

- Matt LiPuma, Executive Director, Family Nurturing Center of Massachusetts, on the recent Mayor's Award for Excellence in Children's Health

The Mayor's Award for Excellence in Children's Health is an annual award given in partnership with the Office of Boston Mayor Thomas M. Menino, Children's Hospital Boston, and the Harvard School of Public Health.

The Allston-Brighton Family Network (ABFN), a program of the Family Nurturing Center of Massachusetts, has been providing outreach and support to hundreds of parents and young children in the Allston-Brighton neighborhood of Boston -- many of whom are underserved and at risk of social isolation.

Source: City of Boston Mayor's Office press release, December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2006

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## Upcoming Funding Opportunities

### American Library Association Sara Jaffarian School Library Program Award

The purpose of this award is to recognize, promote, and support excellence in humanities programming in elementary and middle school libraries that serve children in grades kindergarten through eight. The American Library Association Public Programs Office, in consultation with the Public and Cultural Programs Advisory Committee and the American Association of School Librarians, will present a professional development and training opportunity to promote and encourage other school libraries interested in developing outstanding humanities programs. The cash award will be payable to the school for the purchase of programmatic materials or the development of additional programming by the winning school library.

**Funds Available:** \$4,000 cash plus promotion as a model program at a training session for other libraries.

**Eligibility:** Elementary and middle school libraries and school library programs serving grades K-8.

**Contact:**  
Sara Jaffarian School Library Program Award  
American Library Association  
50 E. Huron  
Chicago, IL 60611  
Telephone: (800) 545-2433  
Link: [www.ala.org/ala/ppo/jaffarianaward.htm](http://www.ala.org/ala/ppo/jaffarianaward.htm)

**DEADLINE:** February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2007

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### National Center for Family Literacy Verizon Tech Savvy Awards

The National Center for Family Literacy administers the Verizon Tech Savvy Awards for organizations that use technology as a way to promote and enhance family literacy.

**Funds Available:** \$5,000 for a regional award (4 available); \$25,000 for the national award (1 available)

**Eligibility:** Not-for-profit organizations with tax-exempt status

**Contact:**

National Center for Family Literacy  
325 West Main Street, Suite 300  
Louisville, KY 40202  
Telephone: (502) 584-1133  
FAX: (502) 584-0172  
Link: [www.famlit.org](http://www.famlit.org)

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## For Your Information

*Learning About Boston's New Birth-to-Five Planning Process  
A Meeting for Community Leaders*

Presented by Mayor Thomas P. Menino, United Way President Milton Little,  
and Community Partners

Prevent the achievement gap, promote school readiness, and ensure the healthy development of Boston's youngest children! Learn about the newly-funded, yearlong planning process, share your thoughts on the best supports for early childhood learning and development, and find out about ways to get involved.

January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2007

3:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Boston Public Library

McKim Conference Room

700 Boylston Street, Boston, MA

- Enter on Dartmouth Street -

Space is limited.

Please RSVP by January 9<sup>th</sup> to [Katie.Britton@cityofboston.gov](mailto:Katie.Britton@cityofboston.gov)

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### DELTAS/Bridging the Gap Training Series

*Working with English Language Learners, Part II*

(Attendance at Part I is not required)

January 16, 2007

9:45am: Breakfast & Registration

10:00am-12:00pm: Workshop

Madison Park High School

Lower Cafeteria

55 Macolm X Boulevard

Roxbury, MA

For more information, contact Rachel Green at (617) 635-1578  
or [rgreen2@boston.k12.ma.us](mailto:rgreen2@boston.k12.ma.us)

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The Leadership Institute & Harvard University Extension School  
present

*Youth Arts for Social Change:  
A Course for  
Afterschool Workers, Teachers, and Other Educators*

Spring Term:

Saturdays, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Feb. 10 & 24, Mar. 10 & 24, Apr. 7 & 21, May 5 & 19

## Full-service Schools Roundtable Staff

**Marta Gredler,**  
Executive Director

**AnnaLisa Prada-  
Fiutak,**  
Program Director

**Norah Kyle,**  
Graduate Intern

This course will address how to integrate a range of creative practices into conventional and unconventional public school settings including afterschool programs. It features a series of six, hands-on sessions led by local artists representing a variety of genres, including theatre, dance, music, visual arts, documentary photography and film. (4 credits)

For more information, contact Rachel Green at (617) 635-1578  
or [rgreen2@boston.k12.ma.us](mailto:rgreen2@boston.k12.ma.us)

or  
Harvard University Extension School  
51 Brattle Street, Cambridge, MA 02138  
(617) 495-4024  
[www.extension.harvard.edu](http://www.extension.harvard.edu)

**The Boston Sustainability and Systems Study** seeks to answer two questions:

How can Boston generate more and better services for students, during in-school and out-of-school time?

How can a more strategic and better integrated approach to delivery of services across systems and disciplines be financed and sustained?

Visit our website to search past newsletters for funding information:

[www.fullserviceschoolsroundtable.org](http://www.fullserviceschoolsroundtable.org)

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BOSTnet's After-School Access Project  
presents

*Promoting Positive Behavior in Out-of-School Time Programs  
Workshop Series*

Join BOSTnet's yearlong workshop and forum series to share ideas on addressing behavioral issues, strategies for supporting positive behavior support models, gather resources for out-of-school time programs, and more!

January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2007  
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
United Way of Boston

Please RSVP by email to [info@bostnet.org](mailto:info@bostnet.org)  
or by calling (617) 720-1290

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Frontiers of Health Science Series  
Presents

*Murder is No Accident: Understanding Violence as a Public Health Problem*

Friday, January 19, 2007  
6:45 pm  
Museum of Science, Boston

Violence is one of the leading causes of death and disability for youth in the United States. Presentation will look at youth violence as a public health issue and share what parents, teachers, community members, and others can do to address the epidemic of youth violence facing children in Boston and Beyond.

With

Howard Spivak, *Tufts-New England Medical Center*  
Deborah Prothrow-Stith, *Harvard School of Public Health*

Event is free and open to the public. No reservations needed. Seating is on a first-come, first-served basis. Doors open at 6:15 pm. See Museum of Science lobby for room location.

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Race, Culture, Identity and Achievement

Seminar Series

*Critical and Inclusive Classrooms for All Children:  
Reflections from Two Educators*

Featured Speakers:

Sonia Nieto, *Professor Emerita of Language, Literacy and Culture  
at the School of Education, UMass Amherst*  
Mary Cowhey, *1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Teacher, Jackson Street Elementary School,  
Amherst, MA*

February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2007  
4:00 - 6:00 p.m.  
Wheelock College  
in the Wheelock Family Theater  
200 The Riverway, Boston, MA

For information and to register, visit [www.achievementseminars.com](http://www.achievementseminars.com)

The Full-service Schools Roundtable appreciates support for its work from The Boston Foundation, Herman and Frieda L. Miller Foundation, Jessie B. Cox Charitable Trust, and an anonymous foundation

The mission of the Full-service Schools Roundtable is to advance the healthy development and academic success of students in Boston through integrated school/community partnerships. In alignment with BPS goals, the Roundtable increases Boston's capacity to provide comprehensive, school-based supports for children, youth, and families.

*Community Schools Online*  
Hosted by the Coalition for Community Schools

Join Community Schools Online to receive updates on developments in the field of community schooling and on the work of the Coalition!

To join, please email [ccs@iel.org](mailto:ccs@iel.org)



*Save the Date!*

Health Care for All's Annual Policy and Organizing Conference  
*"New Challenges, New Opportunities"*

Friday, March 30, 2007  
DoubleTree Westborough  
5400 Computer Drive, Westborough, MA

Registration and ticket sales information available soon!

Email: [hcfaconferenceinfo@hcfama.org](mailto:hcfaconferenceinfo@hcfama.org)  
Phone: 617-275-2859  
Web: [www.hcfama.org](http://www.hcfama.org)

## New & Noteworthy

*Children's Mental Health in the Commonwealth: The Time is Now*  
A New Campaign for Children's Mental Health

The Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (MSPCC), Children's Hospital Boston and Health Care For All (HCFA) have announced a long-term campaign calling for major reform of the state's mental health care system for children, which they described as "a complicated maze of fractured care,

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AnnaLisa Prada-Fiutak  
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inadequate insurance coverage, programs too few and far between, and access defined by limitations in covered diagnoses and services.”

The campaign kickoff is the release of “Children’s Mental Health in the Commonwealth: The Time is Now,” co-authored by the MSPCC and Children’s. The paper describes a mental health care system that is seriously flawed, resulting in an estimated 100,000 children in Massachusetts who do not receive the mental health care they need, and outlines a specific set of guidelines to address these challenges.

“We’ve had enough with talk and good intentions,” said Marylou Sudders, president of MSPCC and former state commissioner of mental health. “The time has come to act—to introduce a bold vision and systemic change, not incremental efforts. We propose a mental health system for children that focuses on prevention, timely diagnosis and appropriate intervention.”

“The stakes are very high, and we are confident that the legislature and Governor-elect Patrick will act,” added David DeMaso, MD, chief of Psychiatry at Children’s. “Too many kids are falling through the cracks in our mental health care system. And the consequences for these children and their families can be devastating and tragic.”

MSPCC and Children’s are honored to collaborate with HCFA’s Children’s Health Access Coalition (CHAC) in driving a legislative campaign to advocate for these recommendations. The Coalition, consisting of advocacy and community organizations, families, legal and mental health advocates, and health care providers seeks to eliminate fragmentation of the mental health care system and create a more coherent mental health policy. With this campaign, the Coalition aims to:

- Establish evidence-based principles and standards for the delivery of culturally competent children’s mental health services
- Pass of a comprehensive mental health parity law that would place mental health on par with physical health and provide comprehensive insurance coverage of mental health care
- Provide pediatricians, preschools and early childcare settings, public schools and the juvenile justice system with resources to detect and screen for, diagnose and treat mental health problems.

An estimated 70 percent of the children and adolescents in Massachusetts who need mental health services do not receive them. This campaign offers an opportunity to address an increasingly significant public health challenge of mental illness in children, which is more prevalent than leukemia, diabetes and AIDS combined.

“Mental health is a critical part of a functioning health care system,” said John McDonough, executive director of Health Care for All. “As we move forward to implement this historic health reform legislation, we need to ensure that this part of the system works seamlessly for children. These reforms will rationalize the delivery of mental health services, emphasize preventive care and reduce long-term health care costs.”

The decision by the U.S. District Court in January 2006 in the *Rosie D. v. Romney* case provided a powerful impetus for creating an integrated mental health care system that provides coverage for prevention, timely diagnosis and effective treatment for all children needing mental health care. In that case, Judge Michael A. Ponsor decided that the Commonwealth of Massachusetts violated the federal Medicaid Act by failing to provide appropriate home based mental health care to an estimated 15,000 children.

“It is our hope that together we seize the opportunity to provide a high quality, mental health care system for all children of the Commonwealth,” said Sudders. “Nothing less should be acceptable.”