America’s students face many obstacles that can potentially derail their journey to a healthy, rewarding and productive life. Thankfully, afterschool programs across the country are helping students make the right decisions by inspiring learning, providing safe and supportive environments, and giving students the essential supports they need to succeed in school and beyond.

Afterschool keeps kids safe

Youth crime in Nebraska peaks between the school bell and the dinner bell.

Juvenile crime and victimization peaks in the hours after school, **yet 1 in 5 kids are left on their own during these hours.** Afterschool programs provide safety and supervision, while linking kids with mentors who discourage negative behaviors, such as aggression and drug and alcohol use. **For every dollar invested in afterschool programs, $2.50 is saved in crime-related costs.**

*Afterschool Alliance, Afterschool Supports Students’ Success, May 2016.*
Americans value Expanded Learning Opportunities

According to recent surveys...

- 82% of school superintendents from across the country agree that afterschool programs are important.¹

- Three in four voters say afterschool programs are “an absolute necessity” for their community.¹

- Researchers calculate that every $1 invested in afterschool programs can yield as much as a $3 savings to taxpayers.

- Support for afterschool crosses party and ideological lines. 88% of Democrats, 84% of Independents and 76% of Republicans agree on the need for an organized activity or safe place for children and teens after school.³

- A U.S. Department of Justice study shows that each high-risk youth who is prevented from adopting a life of crime through participation in afterschool programs saves taxpayers between $1.7 million and $2.3 million.⁴

- Parents miss an average of five days of work per year due to a lack of afterschool care. Decreased worker productivity related to parental concerns about afterschool care costs businesses up to $300 billion per year.⁵