

PROGRAM QUALITY SELF-ASSESSMENT (QSA) TOOL **Ten Elements of Quality Afterschool Programming**

#1 ENVIRONMENT/CLIMATE

A quality program provides a safe, healthy, and nurturing environment for all participants, staff members, and families.

#2 ADMINISTRATION / ORGANIZATION

A quality program has well-developed systems and sound fiscal management to support and enhance worthwhile programming and activities for all participants.

#3 RELATIONSHIPS

A quality program develops, nurtures, and maintains positive relationships and interactions among staff, participants, families, and communities.

#4 STAFFING / PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

A quality program recruits, hires, and develops diverse staff members who understand, value, and promote high-quality practices.

#5 PROGRAMMING / ACTIVITIES

A quality program provides a well-rounded variety of activities and opportunities that support the physical, social, and cognitive growth and development of all participants.

#6 LINKAGES BETWEEN DAY & AFTER SCHOOL

A quality program has its staff work closely with school staff to ensure that afterschool academic components and activities are aligned with and enrich school standards and curricula.

#7 YOUTH PARTICIPATION / ENGAGEMENT

A quality program provides opportunities for youth to participate in planning, to exercise choice, and to engage in a rich variety of offerings.

#8 PARENT / FAMILY / COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

A quality program establishes a strong partnership with families and communities in order to achieve program goals.

#9 PROGRAM SUSTAINABILITY / GROWTH

A quality program has a coherent vision/mission and a plan for increasing capacity that supports continuing growth.

#10 MEASURING OUTCOMES / EVALUATION

A quality program has a system for measuring outcomes and using that information for on-going program planning, improvement, and evaluation.