WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

KA’OHE WONG
School’s Out Washington
Program Quality Division Director
kwong@schoolsoutwashington.org
OPENING THOUGHT:

Young people can thrive when they feel **SAFE** and **SUPPORTED** to **LEARN** and **LEAD**.

*From David P. Weikart Center for Youth Program Quality, Introduction to the Active Participatory Approach*
Welcome & Introductions
Community Builder

School's Out Washington
*Who is SOWA? What do we do?*

Program Quality in Washington State
*Quality Standards*

Closing
OUR MISSION:

School’s Out Washington (SOWA) provides services and guidance for organizations to ensure all young people have safe places to learn and grow when not in school.

SOWA builds systems to support quality afterschool, youth development, and summer programs for young people in Washington.
OUR WORK:
SOWA serves a critical role as an expert and backbone organization for the Expanded Learning Opportunities field. We work to ensure high-quality programs are available so all of Washington’s youth—especially low-income youth and youth of color—can have the opportunities they deserve to thrive.

SOWA serves these program through a four-pronged approach:

- Racial Equity
- Quality & Training
- Grants & Funding
- Policy & Advocacy
OUR RACIAL EQUITY COMMITMENT:

At SOWA, we are committed to addressing how racial disparities impact young people in our communities. We believe that access to high-quality expanded learning opportunities is essential for closing the opportunity gap and challenging inequity. We strive to increase access to high-quality programs for youth of color so that they have the opportunity to reach their full potential.
WAYS TO BE INVOLVED:

• Washington Expanded Learning Opportunities Network
  – Affiliate of National Afterschool Association

• Advocacy Day for Youth Development
  – January 21, 2020

• What’s up at the Capital: Bi-Weekly ELO Legislative Updates
  – January 23 – May 1, 2020
Join the Network!

- Formulation of Legislative Policy Proposals
- Free Training and Information
- Free Membership to the National Afterschool Association

https://www.schoolsoutwashington.org/pages/waelonetwork
JOIN US IN OLYMPIA FOR ADVOCACY DAY!

REACHING FOR THE STARS
Advocating for programs that help youth shine

January 21st, 2020
8 am - 3:30 pm
United Churches of Olympia
110 11th Ave SE, Olympia WA 98501

REGISTER NOW:
https://yd_advocacyday20.eventbrite.com

Sponsored by:
ADMINISTERING GRANTS:

SOWA administers grants that allow programs to increase access, improve program quality, and start or expand services.

- Best Starts for Kids
- Feed Your Brain
- Refugee School Impact Program
King County’s [Best Starts for Kids](#) and School’s Out Washington are partnering on the implementation of the Quality Out-of-School Time strategy. This strategy seeks to fund organizations working to provide access to consistent, high quality and culturally relevant summer and afterschool programming to underserved communities and geographies.
KING COUNTY BEST STARTS FOR KIDS:

Funding to expand programming to youth in underserved communities or geographies

Access to the Out-of-School Time Quality Improvement System

More youth engaged in higher quality Expanded Learning Opportunities
FEED YOUR BRAIN:

The Feed Your Brain Rural Funding project provides funding and training to schools, community-based organizations, and tribes running summer learning programs in rural areas of central and eastern Washington state.

OUR PARTNERS:
REFUGEE SCHOOL IMPACT PROGRAM:

Washington State is one of 41 states receiving Refugee School Impact (RSI) funds from the federal Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR). Funds are issued to Washington’s Office of Refugee and Immigrant Assistance (ORIA), which contracts with School’s Out Washington to administer the program.

Through the RSI Program, School's Out Washington works to support local school systems impacted by significant numbers of refugee children and youth, ages 5-18, in the country less than three years.
QUALITY & TRAINING:

- Quality Improvement System
- Washington Assessment for Youth Programs
- Community Workshops
- Online Courses
- Bridge Conference
- Customized Training
- Elevate Washington
REGIONAL OFFICES:
As a statewide agency, School’s Out Washington has local offices to support ELO organizations, programs, and staff

- King County
- Pierce County
- Spokane County
REGIONAL PROGRAM QUALITY MANAGERS:

Benjamin Baird  
Spokane County & Eastern Washington Region

Janell Jordan  
King County

Holy Chea  
Pierce & Kitsap Counties
TRAINING & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

SOWA offers professional development workshops for afterschool and youth development (AYD) professionals in programs serving children and youth in grades K-12.

• Monthly trainings in each of our regions
  – Free trainings for WA State licensed School-Age Child Care providers
• Full-day training symposiums in local areas
• Customized trainings to meet the specific needs of your team
• Annual professional development conference in October

Check our website regularly for updates and new trainings!
This year’s Bridge Conference theme was Looking Back, Facing Forward and explored the importance of culture and the role it plays in shaping and empowering young people and their communities.

The Bridge Conference is the premier conference for expanded learning professional in the Pacific Northwest.

October 28-29, 2019
Hyatt Regency at Seattle's Southport

Artwork created by local Tlingit artist, Crystal Christopherson
PROGRAM QUALITY IN WASHINGTON STATE

PROGRAM QUALITY MATTERS
• High quality out-of-school programs produce positive social, emotional, and academic gains
• Many programs do not implement quality practices

PROGRAM QUALITY IS MEASURABLE
• Research and practice agreement about the features of a quality learning environment

PROGRAM QUALITY IS MALLEABLE
• When programs focus on strengthening instructional practice aligned with quality, they can influence program outcomes
Begins with setting the standard.

Data should be reliable and feel relevant.

Acknowledge needs of adult learners – process is participatory.

CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT PROCESS

PROGRAM QUALITY IN WASHINGTON STATE
PROGRAM QUALITY STANDARDS:

• Established Program Quality Standards with an aligned assessment process
• Program Quality Standards define what we mean when we use the term “quality” and provide common language to the field
• Intentionally broad and inclusive so they can apply to all afterschool and youth development programs serving youth ages five to young adult
PROGRAM QUALITY IN WASHINGTON STATE

PROGRAM QUALITY STANDARDS

The Quality Standards are divided into nine domains:
1. Safety & Wellness
2. Cultural Competency & Responsiveness
3. Relationships
4. Youth Leadership & Engagement
5. Program & Activities
6. Assessment, Planning & Improvement
7. Ongoing Staff & Volunteer Development
8. Leadership & Management
9. Family, School & Community Connections
WASHINGTON'S QUALITY IMPROVEMENT SYSTEM

**Define**
- Program Quality Standards
- Individual Core Competencies

**Assess**
- Assessment Tools
  - Reliable External Assessors
    - Youth
    - School Age
    - Summer Learning
    - Social Emotional Learning
  - Host External Assessor Reliability trainings
  - Collect data, produce site & aggregate reports
  - Manage 300+ assessments per year

**Support**
- On-site Coaching
- Professional Development/Aligned Training

**Quality Standards & Core Competencies**
- Established Program Quality Standards with an aligned assessment process
- Program Quality Standards define what we mean when we use the term “quality” & provide common language to the field
- Core Competencies define the skills & knowledge individuals need to provide quality services

**Program Quality Coaching & Training**
- Youth Program Quality Coaches statewide
- Offer monthly Youth Work Methods trainings in Hub Counties
- Host Welnat Training of Trainers: Youth Work Methods & Management
- Host Quality Peer Learning Community Meetings
PROGRAM QUALITY IN WASHINGTON STATE

Increase Youth Engagement

Increase Youth Participation

GOAL
Improve Youth Outcomes
Social/Emotional & Academic

Quality Improvement System

Define Quality Practice
Assess Quality Practice
Support Quality Practice

Program Quality Standards
Assessment Tools
Professional Development/Aligned Training
On-site Coaching

Individual Core Competencies

Program Quality Standards

Assessment Tools

Professional Development/Aligned Training

On-site Coaching

Individual Core Competencies
Young people can thrive when they feel **SAFE** and **SUPPORTED** to **LEARN** and **LEAD**.

*From David P. Weikart Center for Youth Program Quality, Introduction to the Active Participatory Approach*
GUIDING PRINCIPLES OF ACTIVE PARTICIPATORY APPROACH:

• Promote **Safe Spaces**

• Provide **Positive Supports**

• Create **Opportunities to Learn**

• Create **Opportunities to Lead**
ACTIVE PARTICIPATORY APPROACH AND WA STATE PROGRAM QUALITY STANDARDS:

Promote Safety
- Safety & Wellness
- Cultural Competency & Responsiveness

Provide Positive Supports
- Relationships
- Ongoing Staff & Volunteer Development
- Family, School, & Community Connections

Create Opportunities to Learn
- Program & Activities
- Relationships

Create Opportunities to Lead
- Youth Leadership & Engagement
- Program Activities

From David P. Weikart Center for Youth Program Quality, Introduction to the Active Participatory Approach and Washington State Quality Standards for Afterschool and Youth Development Programs
ACTIVE PARTICIPATORY APPROACH AND YOUTH WORK METHODS TRAINING

Promote Safety

- Structure and Clear Limits
- Reframing Conflict

Provide Positive Supports

- Ask-Listen-Encourage
- Building Community

Create Opportunities to Learn

- Active Learning
- Cooperative Learning

Create Opportunities to Lead

- Planning and Reflection
- Youth Voice

From David P. Weikart Center for Youth Program Quality, Introduction to the Active Participatory Approach
ENGAGE WITH US!

SCHOOL’S OUT WASHINGTON
www.schoolsoutwashington.org
@SchoolsOutWA

KA’OHE WONG
Program Quality Division Director
kwong@schoolsoutwashington.org