

THEORY OF CHANGE

THE CHALLENGE

Children, youth, and families, especially those most in need, lack access to high-quality out-of-school time learning and enrichment opportunities that promote child and youth success, support working families, and increase positive community outcomes.

THE PURPOSE

The purpose of the California AfterSchool Network is to **increase access to high-quality** out-of-school time programs that support success for all children and youth.

THE VISION

For California to boast an abundance of high-quality out-of-school time opportunities that enable children and youth to maximize their potential.

THE MISSION

To provide professionals, advocates, and community members the tools and resources necessary to build high-quality out-of-school time programs in California.

ORGANIZATIONAL GOALS

CAN is “of the field and for the field”, serving as a collaborative nexus for diverse out-of-school time stakeholders to collectively address significant field needs and advance innovation.

CAN is a catalyst for quality, building capacity by promoting a shared vision of program quality and advancing a culture of continuous improvement.

CAN is a one-stop communication hub providing information on tools, data, resources, policies, and practices for all out-of-school time stakeholders.

ANTICIPATED CHANGES

Strong and diverse government, business, school, and community partnerships support out-of-school time programs for all children and youth.

State and local policy decisions prioritize high-quality out-of-school time opportunities.

Programs and staff have the resources and capacity to implement and continuously improve out-of-school time programs.

Children and youth benefit from high-quality out-of-school time learning and enrichment opportunities, resulting in positive developmental, academic, and wellness outcomes and increased readiness for college, career, and civic life.

WE KNOW THAT



- **All children and youth can achieve** a high level of success when provided the opportunity.
- Out-of-school time programs **improve academic, social, and emotional development** of children and youth.
- Out-of-school time programs help **mitigate economic, educational, and health inequities** in our communities.
- Supporting out-of-school time professionals with resources and professional development results in a strong out-of-school time workforce and **continuous quality improvement** of programs.
- **The out-of-school time field is innovative**, and innovation spreads when out-of-school time professionals come together to learn and share.
- Children and youth benefit from **strong partnerships** between educators, out-of-school time professionals, policy makers, community organizations, and families.