

Virtual Professional Development

2025-26

Designed to Thrive: Building Positive Youth Development Strategies into Afterschool Experiences

- **Oct. 9, 2025** | 6:00-7:30 p.m.
 - "Brains, Bodies, & Big Feelings: Developmental Insights for Afterschool Success"
 - This Virtual PD session will offer the basics of the developmental process for children. It will focus mostly on the elementary/middle childhood ages and the important tasks and milestones that would be most related to how kids "show up" to programs.
- **Dec. 11, 2025** | 6:00-7:30 p.m.
 - "Positive Youth Development in Practice: What You're Already Doing (and Why It Works)"
 - This Virtual PD session will focus on an overview of Positive Youth Development (PYD) and the language of PYD. The training will broadly include reflection for how program staff are already doing PYD along with simple things that would make their program more PYD oriented.
- **Feb. 12, 2026** | 6:00-7:30 p.m.
 - "Rooted in Relationships: The Heart of Positive Youth Development in Afterschool"
 - This Virtual PD session will look at the importance of developmental relationships in the afterschool space. We will explore some commonly used developmental relationship models along with some specific techniques for supporting developmental relationships / youth-adult partnership.
- **Apr. 9, 2026** | 6:00-7:30 p.m.
 - "Built for Belonging: Designing Programs That Support Positive Behavior"
 - This Virtual PD session will explore ways to think about structuring the afterschool environment proactively to manage and reduce challenging behavior. The training will include research on program quality indicators while also looking at what can be done specifically in afterschool programs.