



Native Youth Out-of-School Time Education

Vision Statement: Every Native young person should have access to a high-quality out-of-school time experience with educational and enriching programming during afterschool and the summer months.

Background

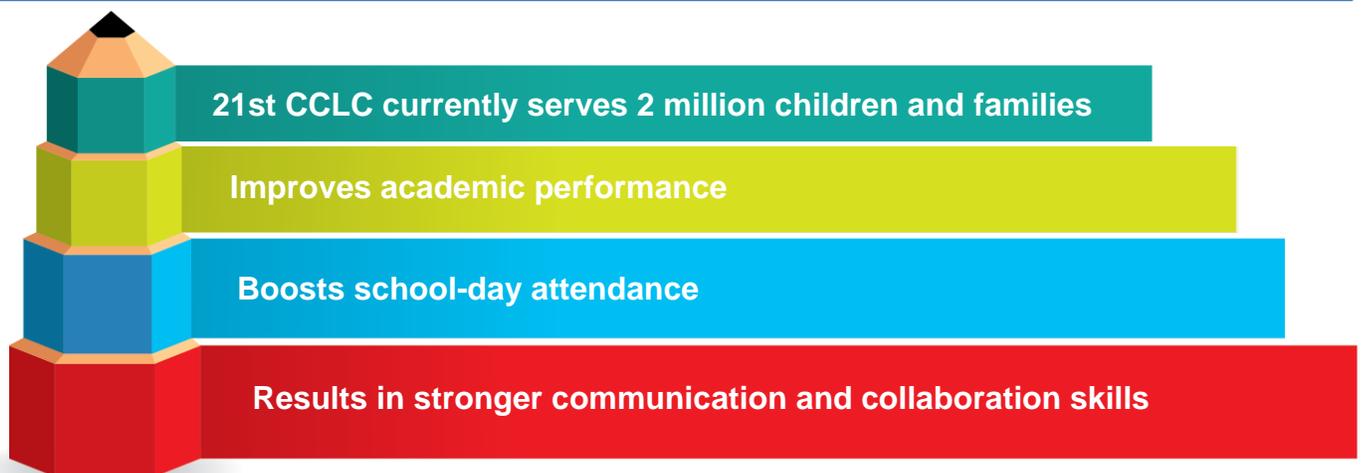
Nita Lowey 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) provide high quality academic programming to a diverse group of Native children from pre-K to 12th grade in communities nationwide. 21st CCLC programs provide academic enrichment opportunities for children during out-of-school time, including before-and after-school and over the summer, offering academic support and enrichment programs, social emotional learning, STEM activities, tutoring and physical activities.



Every dollar invested in Boys & Girls Clubs **returns \$9.60** in current and future earnings and cost-savings to their communities.

Among Native Club Teens, 94% expect to graduate with 83% reporting receiving A's & B's.

This initiative is currently the **only federal funding source** dedicated exclusively to **out-of-school time education programs**. 7.7 million school-age children are alone and unsupervised afterschool. Cutting or eliminating funding for 21st CCLC would have a **devastating impact nationwide**.



We ask Congress to increase access to high-quality out-of-school time programming for Native youth by supporting \$2.5 billion for **Nita Lowey 21st Century Community Learning Centers** in the FY 2022 Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations.

Out-of-School Time

Currently, Native youth spend more time out of school than in, making quality and impactful out-of-school time (OST) an economic, moral and national imperative for the country. 21st CCLC programs make it possible for more youth to participate in out-of-school time programs like the ones Boys & Girls Clubs provide that keep youth learning, growing and having fun.

As the nation's largest youth service provider for Native Youth, Clubs meet the needs of working families and local communities, keeping young people safe, providing opportunities for improving academic success, and building character and leadership skills, which helps increase youth resiliency and reduces high-risk activity.



Native Boys & Girls Clubs that have secured 21st Century Community Learning Center (21st CCLC) funding include: Boys & Girls Club of Border Towns (ME), Red Lake Nation Boys & Girls Club (MN), Boys & Girls Clubs of Tahlequah (OK), Boys & Girls Clubs of Rosebud (SD), Boys & Girls Clubs of the Missouri River Area (SD), and Lower Brule Boys & Girls Club (SD).

Native Success Story

The **Boys & Girls Club of Tahlequah, Oklahoma** receives 21st Century Community Learning Center (CCLC) funding at 9 of their 13 sites. Unit Director Sharon Ballew of **Tenkiller Unit**, just completed her third year implementing 21st CCLC programming. The Club is located on Cherokee Nation, where **82%** of youth are Native and the site serves an average of **170 youth per day**. 21st CCLC programming takes place Monday through Friday and reaches Native youth ages Kindergarten through 8th grade.



21st CCLC funding ensures that Native youth have access to programming that will help improve their studies. The Tenkiller Unit focuses on providing youth with academic support, cultural enrichment, social-emotional learning, STEM activities, tutoring and physical activities. The Club also partners with the **Cherokee Nation**, and an Elder from the Tribe visits the Club each week to teach youth how to perform traditional basket weaving, beading and clay work. **The Tenkiller Unit employs Club staff members who are fluent in their Native language to help youth with homework, arts, and crafts while also teaching traditional Cherokee songs.**

Nita Lowey 21st Century Community Learning Centers Outcomes

- More than 2 in 3 regularly attending students improved homework completion
- More than 2 in 3 regularly attending students improved class participation
- 1 in 2 regularly attending students improved math and Language Arts grades