



Dear Parent and/or Guardian:

Last year, New Jersey After 3 provided comprehensive support to afterschool programs that served more than 12,500 children across 114 public schools, statewide. I write today to keep you informed of our situation so that you understand the impact that these recent budget cuts may have on your child and your afterschool arrangements as the new school year approaches.

As you may know, thanks to the concerns raised by parents, students, community leaders and others, New Jersey After 3 was successful in its effort to restore a small percentage of its State funding. However, this State budget allocation represents only 30% of the funding received last year and will result in a significant loss of services throughout all of the communities we served. The current levels of funding will mean fewer programs and fewer children and families served across the state. More specifically, last year we supported over 114 programs for over 12,500 students and this year we estimate that we will only support 25-30 programs reaching only 3,500 students. As our partner, we wanted to outline the process and timeline on decisions as we move forward so that you are informed and can best coordinate for the care and support for your child.

In order to make the process as fair and equitable as possible, New Jersey After 3 has asked all of its programs to apply for funding again this year, understanding that this support will be highly competitive because of limited resources. Proposals are due to New Jersey After 3 on August 20. Proposals will be scored and only the highest scoring proposals can be funded. New Jersey After 3 will announce these programs on September 7, and expect that programs launch no later than October 7. We wanted you to be aware of this situation so that you could plan effectively.

In order to be sensitive to your child's needs, we recommend that you 1) reach out to your child's school or previous afterschool provider to learn about their plans to provide afterschool programs for your child; 2) visit the New Jersey Afterschool Directory at [www.njafterschool.org](http://www.njafterschool.org) to learn about alternative solutions in your immediate community; and 3) visit the New Jersey After 3 website ([www.njafter3.org](http://www.njafter3.org)) after 4PM on September 7<sup>th</sup> to see what schools will have New Jersey After 3 programs during the 2010 – 2011 year. If you have any questions, please visit our website for next steps and specific contact information related to this challenge.

Thank you!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mark Valli".

Mark Valli  
President & CEO