

SEF SEPTA



~~~~~ After School Equality for All Children Coalition ~~~~~

## Our Mission

Our mission is to improve the overall available appropriate after-school services for all-age children; including children with special needs in Nassau County. There are a growing proportion of children entering the Nassau County public school system. We live in a time where both parents work full-time jobs. Furthermore, some households are headed by a single parent. Parents are looking for after-school services and can't find them. It's not equal education and opportunity if **ALL** children can't participate in programs that will benefit them in the long run. Studies have also shown that special needs children require more assistance with the general education curriculum. It is time for the federal and state government to help all children achieve their full potential.

## Research

Studies have shown that three out of four mothers with school-age children are employed, and two-thirds of them work full-time, there is growing need for after-school programs (Siegel & Welsh). "The Child Care Council of Nassau County has identified the need for more child care services for Nassau families. They estimate that over 80,000 children under the age of 13 need some form of child care (about half of these under six years old); but, as of May 1998, there were only 22,128 regulated child care slots available in the County. Thus, the demand may be four times the supply of available slots. This means that many families must resort to leaving their children in unregulated facilities, and with unmonitored care givers". Fast forward to 2011, the lack of services is still dilatory.

## Concrete Goals

There are two overall major goals we want to achieve. Our first major goal is to provide appropriate training for staff of existing after-school programs. Our second goal is to create a smaller (separate) after-school program for children with special needs; who work better in smaller settings with highly qualified teachers and aides.

Reference: Siegel, Larry J. and Welsh, Brandon C. *Juvenile Delinquency: Theory, Practice, and Law*, Tenth Edition 2009, 2006 Wadsworth, Cengage Learning. Print.

Sewanhaka Central High School District and the Elementary School Districts of Elmont & Floral Park-Bellerose (SEPTA)



*After School Equality for  
All School Age Children*