



Montgomery County Collaboration Council

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Vision

All Montgomery County children and youth will be successful in school and in life.

We see children and youth making smart choices, improving academic performance, discovering their talents, strengthening life skills, and preparing themselves for adulthood.



Current major areas of focus:

- Children With Intensive Needs
- infoMontgomery
- Many Voices for Smart Choices
- Social Justice for All Youth
- Positive Youth Development (Excel Beyond the Bell)
- Professional Development
- Data and Information



Mission of the Excel Beyond the Bell Initiative

Inspire children and youth to realize their full potential by building a sustainable system offering safe, quality and accessible out-of-school time programs.



We will accomplish our mission by collaborative practice that addresses funding, quality, accountability and communications – all essential elements that will jointly promote:

- Increased numbers of children and youth participating in quality programs
- Increase in the variety of culturally-competent programs and opportunities
- Increased funding and sustainability of programs and the system
- Better resource allocation to fit community needs and youth preferences



Partnerships

- Montgomery County Recreation Department
- Montgomery County Schools
- Community-Based Organizations



Funding Sources

- **Governor's Office for Children**
- **Maryland State Department of Education**
- **Montgomery County Government**
- **City of Takoma**
- **Cafritz and Polinger Foundations**

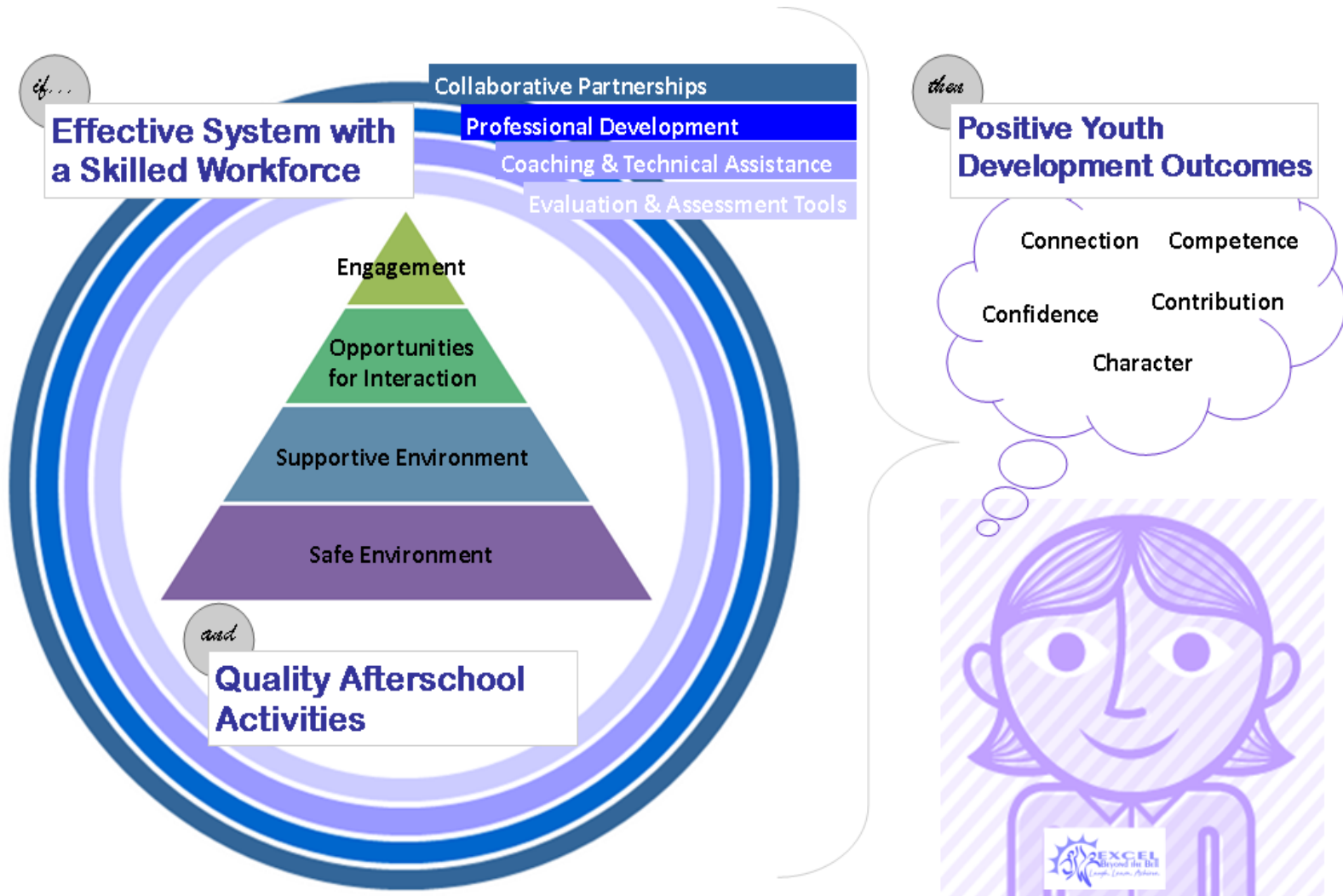
The Research Says....

A strong positive correlation between participation in quality afterschool programs and achieving educational success and positive youth development (social-emotional learning and critical thinking):

- School Attendance
- Engagement in Learning
- Test Scores and Grades
- School behaviors
- Self-concept and Decision-making
- Encouraging Parental Engagement

SOURCE: Evaluations Backgrounder: A Summary of Formal Evaluations of Afterschool Programs' Impact on Academics, Behavior, Safety and Family Life. Afterschool Alliance. January 2013.

Quality Programs → Youth Outcomes





Brief History

January 2007. *The Status of Out-of-School Time (OST) in Montgomery County* report issued by the Collaboration Council with Task Force findings and recommendations

FY 2008. County funded the Collaboration Council to create the system-building infrastructure

In FY 2011, the Collaboration Council began developing an extensive professional development system to ensure quality in out-of-school time programs including a network devoted to quality practices



Brief History

The One Dream Academy 21st Century Community Learning Center at Strathmore Elementary began in fall of 2010 and continues to this day as part of the Excel Beyond the Bell system

September 2011. Middle School Pilot began at three schools: Argyle, Loiederman and Clemente; expansion has continued each year and will serve Francis Scott Key Middle in January of 2017, the eighth school in the system

In FY16, the Collaboration Council received another 21st Century Community Learning Center grant to establish the ACE Academy at Essex House in Takoma Park and Park Montgomery in Silver Spring



For More Information....

www.collaborationcouncil.org

www.excelbeyondthebell.org