



Your source for programmatic quality offerings & exclusive opportunities designed for BOOST grantees & statewide affiliates.

Upcoming May Trainings & Events

We're excited to share a strong lineup of May training opportunities designed to support your program in strengthening quality, staff practice, and youth engagement as you prepare for summer.

From hands-on Youth Work Methods training sessions to our statewide Summer Spark: Ignite for Impact, these sessions are designed to provide practical strategies you can take back and implement immediately.

Featured in this Issue:

- [Featured Event | Summer SP-ark: Igniting The ImP-act](#)
- [Youth Work Methods Training: Baxley, GA](#)
- [Youth Work Methods Training: Columbus, GA](#)
- [Youth Work Methods Training: Dalton, GA](#)

Featured Event | Summer Spark: Igniting the Impact



The Georgia Statewide Afterschool Network (GSAN) invites you to attend **Summer Spark: Igniting the Impact**, a dynamic professional learning experience designed to support out-of-school time professionals in preparing for a successful and engaging summer. This session will focus on:

- Intentional summer program planning
- Youth engagement strategies
- Creating impactful and meaningful learning experiences

Participants will have the opportunity to explore practical tools and strategies to strengthen program delivery and enhance outcomes for youth during the summer months.

This event is ideal for program leaders and staff seeking to elevate their summer programming and maximize their impact.

BOOST Grantees: One participant per organization may register **at no cost** using code: **BOOST**

Summer Spark: Igniting the Impact

Date: Thursday, May 7, 2026

Time: 9 am-1 :00 pm

Location: 7035 Houston Rd
Macon, GA 31216

[Register](#)

Youth Work Methods Training: Structure & Clear Limits + Ask, Listen, Encourage

forum

FOR YOUTH INVESTMENT

Kick off the month with a training focused on strengthening **program structure and staff-youth relationships**. The Georgia Statewide Afterschool Network (GSAN), in partnership with the David P. Weikart Center for Youth Program Quality, is excited to offer a Youth Work Methods Training focused on **Structure & Clear Limits** and **Ask, Listen, Encourage**.

These interactive sessions are designed to equip youth development professionals with practical, hands-on strategies to strengthen program quality and improve daily interactions with youth.

- **Structure & Clear Limits** supports staff in creating clear expectations, consistent routines, and a safe, supportive environment where youth can thrive.
- **Ask, Listen, Encourage** focuses on building positive relationships through effective communication strategies that promote youth voice, engagement, and connection.

Together, these methods provide a balanced approach to strengthening both **program structure and staff-youth relationships**, helping teams create environments that are both supportive and engaging.

Participants will leave with tools and strategies they can **immediately implement** in their programs.

Youth Work Methods Training

Date: Friday, May 1, 2026

Time: 9:00am-3:30pm, Doors open at 8:30am

Location: 656 S Main St,
Baxley, GA 31513

[Register](#)

Youth Work Methods Training: Building Community + Cooperative Learning

forum

FOR YOUTH INVESTMENT

The Georgia Statewide Afterschool Network (GSAN), in partnership with the David P. Weikart Center for Youth Program Quality, is pleased to offer a Youth Work Methods Training focused on **Building Community** and **Cooperative Learning**.

These sessions are designed to help programs create engaging, inclusive environments that support strong relationships and meaningful youth participation, especially as programs preparing for **summer!**

- **Building Community** focuses on creating a welcoming and inclusive environment where youth feel safe, connected, and valued.
- **Cooperative Learning** provides strategies to actively engage youth through group-based activities that promote teamwork, problem-solving, and shared responsibility.

This high-energy, interactive training will equip staff with practical strategies to foster positive group dynamics and increase youth engagement, making it especially impactful for programs preparing for summer.

Participants will walk away with ready-to-use strategies to strengthen program culture, engagement, and collaboration.

Youth Work Methods Training

Date: Tuesday, May 5, 2026

Time: 9:00 am-1 :00 pm

Location: Comer Recreation Center, 107 41st St,
Columbus, GA 31904

[Register](#)

Youth Work Methods Training: Youth Voice+ Intro to Active
Participatory Approach

forum

FOR YOUTH INVESTMENT

Close out the series with a training focused on **youth engagement and empowerment**. The Georgia Statewide Afterschool Network (GSAN), in partnership with the David P. Weikart Center for Youth Program Quality, is offering a Youth Work Methods Training focused on **Youth Voice** and the **Introduction to the Active Participatory Approach (APA)**.

This training is designed to deepen staff understanding of how to meaningfully engage youth by centering their voice and participation in program design and delivery.

Participants will explore how to:

- Create opportunities for youth to share ideas, make choices, and take ownership
- Apply the Active Participatory Approach as a framework for engaging youth
- Foster environments that support youth leadership and voice

This session is ideal for programs looking to move beyond basic engagement and strengthen youth-centered practices that promote leadership, autonomy, and meaningful participation.

Youth Work Methods Training

Date: Wednesday, May 13, 2026

Time: 9 am-1 :00 pm

Location: Boys & Girls Clubs of North Georgia
Dalton, 1013 Underwood St, Dalton, GA 30721

[Register](#)

Don't Miss Out

We encourage you to take advantage of these opportunities and send members of your team to build skills, strengthen practice, and prepare for a successful summer.

Want to invite other members of your organization to receive these quality support emails? Want to get updates on afterschool funding opportunities? [Sign UP to receive UP-dates from Georgia Statewide Afterschool Network](#)



