



After School Matters- Call Script to State Legislators

SCRIPT:

Hello, my name is <<Your Name>>. I am a constituent in <<Name of Elected Official>>'s district calling to ask for [his or her] support of After School Matters and its programs.

The recent proposed cut in the Fiscal Year 2017 budget would be detrimental to the development of young people across the city.

As I hope <<Name of Elected Official>> can agree, our teens are our future, and an investment in them is an investment in our community—**every dollar counts**. After School Matters helps keep youth safe and productive during the critical hours after school and during the summer.

Last year more than 15,000 teens participated in After School Matters, but nearly 40,000 applied. I ask for <<Name of Elected Official>>'s support to reinstate the \$2.4 million in funding for After School Matters. The skills teens gain in After School Matters programs prepare them for success in college, school and beyond.

<<INSERT PERSONAL THOUGHTS>>

CLOSING REMARK: A loss of State funding would mean the loss of life-changing experiences for our teens. Thank you for your time.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- 89% of After School Matters teens live in high-poverty communities.
- Nearly 800 program providers serve our teens.
- After School Matters offers more than 1,000 programs across the city each year.
- There are close to 400 program sites – including 71 high schools – which provide flexibility to teens and increased opportunities for Chicago communities in need of resources and support.
- After School Matters teens regularly have higher Freshmen On-Track, high school graduation, and college enrollment rates than their peers.
- **While over 15,000 teens participated in After School Matters last year, nearly 40,000 applied.**