

**Name:** OSMAP Afterschool Activities

**Annotation:** This RFP from OSMAP (The Office of Substance Misuse and Addiction Prevention) contains an example of language that explains the role of shared risk and protective factors related to after-school programs. Funders could include similar language in RFPs. This highlights the blending of public and behavioral health work.

**Language:**

The Role of Shared Risk and Protective Factors:

Alaska research has shown an individual's social conditions and life experiences are associated with different types of behavior [2]. These social and personal influences can be described as risk and protective factors. Various risk and protective factors affect youth substance abuse, delinquency, and other risk behaviors. The more risk factors an adolescent has at the individual, family, school or community level, the more likely they are to engage in risk behaviors. The more protective factors present in an adolescent's life, the more likely they are to engage in prosocial and developmentally-healthy behaviors. Specifically, afterschool programs serve as a protective factor in mitigating a variety of risk factors.

National research also supports the protective role that after-school programs play in regards to social and behavioral outcomes. Studies have found that the peak in juvenile crime during after-school hours could be mitigated through adult supervision and activities for youth after school in order to keep youth off the streets and provide positive activities and role models [5, 6]. Other research has found associations between both parental supervision and unstructured time after school to delinquent behavior, substance use, high-risk sexual behavior, and risk-taking behaviors [7, 8, 9]. By providing a safe place and supervised time after school, teaching and promoting new skills, and offering opportunities for positive adult and peer interaction, after-school programs have the potential to positively impact youth developmental outcomes both short and long-term.