

Expanded Learning Opportunities in Washington

A \$2 million investment in Expanded Learning Opportunities (ELOs) will help prevent juvenile crime

Washington policymakers can help prevent juvenile crime by increasing access to high-quality Expanded Learning Opportunities. A state investment of \$2 million in high-quality Expanded Learning Opportunities in the 2019-21 biennium would nearly double the number of youth in high-quality programs by reaching 5,250 youth each year.

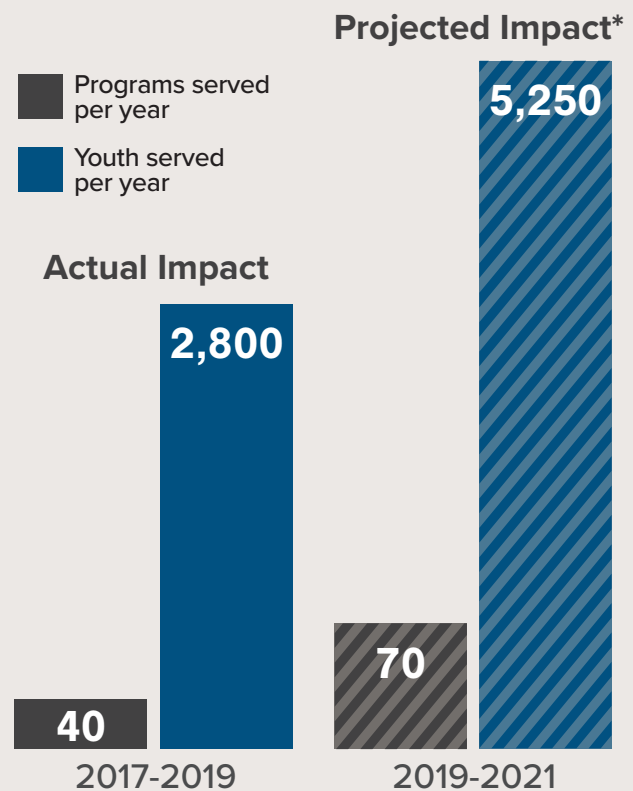
Expanded Learning Opportunities help prevent juvenile crime

The afterschool hours are a prime time for juvenile crime, experimentation with drugs and alcohol, and other risky behaviors.¹ One study of a high-quality expanded learning program aimed at crime prevention found a 40 percent reduction in adolescents' arrests.²

Continuing the Expanded Learning Opportunities Quality Initiative

Expanded Learning Opportunities deter youth from crime when they are *high-quality*.³ Washington's Expanded Learning Opportunities Quality Initiative is focused on increasing the quality of programs as well as the number of children reached. A \$2 million investment would

Reaching More Youth with High-Quality Programs



*Private investment will supplement state funding to reach more youth and programs.

Source: School's Out Washington

Spokane PAL

Fighting Crime and Growing Youth Through Community Building

Expanded learning opportunities not only provide experiences for students to learn and grow, but can support critical relationship building between youth and law enforcement. Spokane PAL (Police Activity League) launched in 2013 and expanded in 2015 in response to the mistrust between the police department and community members, especially youth. A summer program was created in partnership with Spokane Public Schools where school-age children can participate in STEM learning and sports while building positive self-identity and stronger relationships with local police.

bring high-quality Expanded Learning Opportunities to 10,500 more youth in total by providing quality improvements like tailoring support for programs that serve high-risk populations, including homeless youth, those in foster care, or youth who have interacted with the juvenile justice system.⁴

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¹ U.S. Department of Justice (2006). Juvenile Offenders and Victims: 2006 National Report. OJJDP Statistical Briefing Book. Retrieved from <http://www.ojjdp.gov/ojstatbb/nr2006/>; Fight Crime: Invest in Kids (2003, June). Proposed Federal Cuts Threaten After-School Programs.

² Heller, S. et al. 2015 (evaluation of the Becoming a Man programs)

³ Heller, S. et al. 2014 and 2015 (evaluations of One Summer Plus and Becoming a Man programs); Gambone et al. 2009 (evaluation of Boys and Girls Clubs); Cook, P. et al. 2015 (evaluation of Match Tutoring program).

⁴ School's Out Washington and Sparkwind. Expanded Learning Opportunities (ELO) Initiative 2017-19 Expansion Fact Sheet. Acquired through personal communication with David Beard at School's Out Washington.

Fight Crime: Invest in Kids

Thousands of police chiefs, sheriffs, prosecutors and violence survivors protecting public safety by promoting solutions that steer kids away from crime

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