



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the citizens of Key West are firmly committed to quality afterschool programs and opportunities because they:

- Provide safe, challenging, and engaging learning experiences that help children develop social, emotional, physical and academic skills.
- Support working families by ensuring their children are safe and productive after the regular school day ends.
- Build stronger communities by involving students, parents, business leaders and adult volunteers in the lives of young people, thereby promoting positive relationships among youth, families and adults.
- Engage families, schools and community partners in advancing the welfare of our children.

WHEREAS, approximately 1.5 million children and youth in Florida are waiting right now for a spot in an afterschool program, many of whom have no place to go after school.

WHEREAS, many afterschool programs across the state are facing funding and staffing shortfalls so severe that they are being forced to close their doors and turn off their lights.

WHEREAS, the City of Key West is committed to investing in the health and safety of all young people by providing expanded learning opportunities that will help close the achievement gap and prepare young people to compete in the global economy.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Teri Johnston, Mayor of the City of Key West along with the entire City Commission of Key West, Florida do hereby proclaim October 28th, 2021 as

“Lights on Afterschool” Day

in the “Southernmost City of the Continental United States”. And I urge all the people of Key West to invest and engage in proven afterschool programs and activities that ensure the lights stay on and the doors stay open for all children after school.

WITNESS my hand and seal of the City of Key West, Florida, this 19th day of October 2021.

Teri Johnston
Mayor and the City Commission
of the City of Key West, Florida