

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Jodi Grant, Executive Director of the Afterschool Alliance

Since 2005, Jodi Grant has been Executive Director of the Afterschool Alliance, a non-profit public awareness and advocacy organization working to ensure that all children and youth have access to quality, affordable afterschool programs. This is done through advocacy on the state and national levels, education and sponsorship of events to raise awareness about afterschool programs, such as Lights on Afterschool.

As Executive Director, Jodi oversees all aspects of the Afterschool Alliance's work, building support and increasing funding for quality afterschool programs, setting goals and strategies for reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act and overseeing a team of top researchers, policy analysts and communications specialists who are creating materials and advocating for policies that will help us make afterschool programs available to all children across the country.

Prior to joining the Afterschool Alliance, Jodi served as Director of Work and Family Programs for the National Partnership for Women & Families. In that position, she worked to protect and to expand the Family & Medical Leave Act, and was a member of the team that successfully defended the law before the U.S. Supreme Court. Prior to that, she worked on Capitol Hill as General Counsel to the Senate Budget Committee and as Staff Director for a Senate Committee. Her legislative accomplishments include expanded support for the child tax credit, the Child Health Insurance Program and class size reduction. She also served as liaison to the National Governors' Association, where she worked closely with Republican and Democratic governors.

Jodi graduated from Yale University with honors in 1990 and was elected senior class president. She received her law degree from Harvard University, where she was elected class president (first marshal). As a student, she volunteered at an afterschool program. She currently serves on the Board of the Partners for Livable Communities and as a Trustee of America's Promise. Jodi, her husband and two children live in Bethesda, Maryland.