



The Technical Assistance and Training Program for Mentoring System Involved Youth welcomes you to our monthly E-Newsletter. We hope the information will be useful to you and we encourage you to share this newsletter with other staff and agencies that are also mentoring system involved youth. If you find a particular Web site, research article, or helpful fact, we encourage you to send them to us and we will disseminate to the listserv.

Quote of the Month:

When you reach for the stars, you may not quite get one,
but you won't come up with a handful of mud either.

~ Leo Burnett

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**Mentoring System
Involved Youth Highlights**

Finding the Rhythm of the Evaluation

By this time, most of the programs have ironed out most of the kinks for recruiting matches and mentees and making matches. Although each project now has identified the most productive sources of referrals for your program, the evaluation has not yet been seamlessly integrated into your activities.

During the site visits currently in progress, Hilary has been recruiting ideas that programs have used successfully to integrate the evaluation into their program activities and that may help you to do so. As part of our efforts to assist you, PIRE is launching a two month experiment called "Testing the Impact of Rewards in Data Acquisition". Look for an e-mail with details—but what is important is that each program has a chance to win up to \$360.00 by June 2009—depending on how thoroughly the evaluation is implemented.

Meanwhile, we would like to remind all programs that **three months** after youth and mentors have been matched both youth and mentors need to complete the Match Survey that describes what they think of their respective mentor and mentee. **Nine months** after intake (that is after six additional months) they are to repeat all three surveys—the two youth surveys completed at intake and one match survey and the mentor repeats the match survey only.

Look out for the e-mail about the contest next week, but start collecting data **NOW**.



Toolkit on Mentoring Immigrant Youth

MENTOR has released a new resource titled *Mentoring Immigrant and Refugee Youth: A Toolkit for Program Coordinators* to help mentoring organizations better understand and serve America's growing immigrant and refugee youth population. These youth are more likely to face stress related to exclusion, poverty, and separation from family. Developed with funding from the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, the toolkit has 10 modules addressing topics such as population characteristics, an immigrant youth needs assessment, and recommendations for working with these populations, defining program parameters, cultural competence tips and matching mentors with immigrant youth. To download this free resource, go to www.mentoring.org/immigrant youth.

Annual Report Describes OJJDP's Efforts on Behalf of Youth

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) has released its *2008 Annual Report*. The report provides information on OJJDP's activities in fiscal year 2008 to promote early intervention and delinquency prevention, support faith-based and community organizations, expand mentoring, improve the juvenile justice system, ensure public safety, curb child exploitation, combat youth gangs, and serve tribal youth. The report concludes with an overview of OJJDP's information dissemination efforts. To access OJJDP's *2008 Annual Report*, please visit <http://www.ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/publications/PubAbstract.asp?pubi=247013>.

Fact Sheet Highlights Youth Gang Survey

OJJDP has released *Highlights of the 2007 National Youth Gang Survey*, a two-page fact sheet prepared by OJJDP's National Youth Gang Center. The fact sheet summarizes findings from the survey and provides data on the number of gangs, gang members, and gang-related crime. Based on survey results, it is estimated that approximately 27,000 gangs and 788,000 gang members were active in the United States in 2007. To learn more, go to <http://www.ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/publications/PubAbstract.asp?pubi=247164>.

KIDS COUNT Data Center Now Offers Community-Level Data

Want to find out how kids are faring in your county or school district? The Annie E. Casey Foundation has redesigned the KIDS COUNT Data Center to feature local data in addition to hundreds of indicators of child well-being for cities, states, and the nation as a whole. The Data Center allows users to create their own maps, graphs, or charts to use in presentations or post on their Web site or blog. To access the KIDS COUNT Data Center, go to <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>.

Solving the Data Puzzle: A “How To” Guide on Collecting and Sharing Information to Improve Educational Outcomes for Children in Out-of-Home Care

This guide explores how child welfare and education agencies can best work individually and in collaboration to improve data collection and information sharing by focusing on children in foster care. The guide is divided into two sections: a *Manual* and *Tools*. The *Manual* provides details on relevant legal and policy considerations, as well as examples from around the country engaging in this important work. The *Tools* section provides checklists to guide education and child welfare agencies in self-assessment and collaboration. To read the guide, go to <http://www.abanet.org/child/education/publications/solvingthedata puzzle.pdf>.

New Survey Finds State Child Welfare Budgets Are Being Scaled Back, While Need for Services Increases

Although child welfare spending has increased for at least a decade, several factors—driven by the current recession—may be converging to threaten states' capacity to serve abused and neglected children. A new Child Trends study, *Federal, State, and Local Spending to Address Child Abuse and Neglect in SFY 2006*, summarizes key findings from a survey of all 50 states and the District of Columbia regarding their child welfare expenditures in state fiscal year (SFY) 2006—the latest year for which data are available. For more information, go to http://www.childtrends.org/Files//Child_Trends-2009_02_17_FR_CWFinancePaper.pdf.

New Web Site Helps Policymakers Improve Outcomes for Children and Families

PolicyForResults.org is a new Web site dedicated to helping policymakers improve outcomes and opportunities for children and families, including strategies for maximizing the federal stimulus funding and managing state budgets. The Web site was developed by the Center for the Study of Social Policy in partnership with issue experts from across the country through a grant from the Annie E. Casey Foundation. For more information, visit <http://www.policyforresults.org>.



Date: June 4–6, 2009

Location: Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Title: Promoting Positive Child and Youth Development: Thriving in Tight Times

Sponsor: University of Pittsburgh School of Education

Description: In response to the current financial crisis, the University of Pittsburgh's Applied Developmental Psychology Program in collaboration with the Academy of Educational Development has dedicated their second annual Summer Institute to helping professionals in all roles and disciplines develop positive approaches for working with children, youth, and families and keep their agency/program effective during challenging financial times. The objectives of the Summer Institutes are that participants will learn best practices for strengthening relationships with children and youth; design cost-effective activities to enhance health, well-being, and learning; build economic empowerment and new strategies to fund your program; enhance youth participation and entrepreneurship; and network and consult with colleagues.

Web site: <http://www.education.pitt.edu/news/newsdetails.aspx?id=357>

Date: July 20–24, 2009

Location: Portland, Oregon

Title: Summer Institute on Youth Mentoring

Sponsor: Portland State University

Description: The Summer Institute on Youth Mentoring, organized by Dr. Tom Keller at Portland State University, is an event that brings together researchers and practitioners in the mentoring field to discuss the research and examine its implications for program policies and practices. Sessions include ample time for participants to think critically and creatively about their own program issues and explore opportunities for innovation.

Web site: <http://www.youthmentoring.ssw.pdx.edu>



How to Get Stimulus Money

Youth Today has posted new information about how organizations can apply for the various streams of funds through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. This posting will be updated as more information becomes available in the coming days and weeks. Go to Stimulus Funds and Youth Work, located at

http://www.youthtoday.org/publication/article.cfm?article_id=2740.

These grant opportunities may be applicable to you or partner organizations.

Title: OJJDP FY 09 Field Initiated Demonstration Program

Funder: OJJDP

Description: The purpose of the Field Initiated Demonstration Program is to foster innovations and advancements in juvenile justice-related practice at the local, state, and tribal government levels. The program's goal is to demonstrate the practical implications for policy and practice of innovative programs that enhance juvenile justice and delinquency prevention. Authorization for this program may be found in the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 2002.

Award: Up to \$300,000

Eligibility: State governments; county governments; city or township governments; public and state controlled institutions of higher education; federally recognized Native American tribal governments; and nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education.

Deadline: May 26, 2009

For more information:

<http://www07.grants.gov/search/search.do?&mode=VIEW&flag2006=false&oppld=46751>

Title: Violence Prevention and Intervention Grant

Funder: American Psychological Foundation (APF)

Description: APF's Violence Prevention and Intervention Grant program supports nonprofit organizations or educational institutions that support the implementation of innovative community programs aimed at preventing violence. APF will consider requests for seed money to establish promising interventions proposed by community-based organizations or to provide funding for established community programs that have been deemed successful.

Award: Up to \$20,000

Eligibility: OJJDP invites applications from public agencies (including state agencies, units of local government, public universities and colleges, and federally-recognized Indian tribal governments) and private organizations (including faith-based community organizations).

Deadline: June 1, 2009

For more information: <http://www.apa.org/apf/violence.html>

Title: OJJDP FY 09 Mentoring Research Program

Funder: OJJDP

Description: OJJDP seeks to enhance what is known about mentoring as a prevention strategy for juvenile delinquency. While mentoring appears to be a promising intervention for disadvantaged youth, more evaluation work is needed to determine the components of a mentoring program that are necessary for bringing about positive youth development. OJJDP seeks proposals to evaluate the effectiveness of paid versus volunteer mentors within an existing mentoring program. The evaluator will conduct both a process and an outcome evaluation measuring the success of both paid and volunteer mentor programs in preventing delinquency. This initiative is authorized by the Department of Justice Appropriations Act, 2009, Pub. L. 111-8.

Award: Up to \$3,500,000

Eligibility: State government; county governments; city or township governments; public and state controlled institutions of higher education; Federally recognized Native American tribal governments; and nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education.

Deadline: June 2, 2009

For more information:

<http://ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/grants/solicitations/FY2009/MentoringResearch.pdf>

Title: Mentoring Children of Prisoners

Funder: Administration for Children and Families' (ACF) Administration on Children, Youth and Families' (ACYF) Family and Youth Services Bureau (FYSB)

Description: This RFP comes from the Administration for Children and Families' (ACF) Administration on Children, Youth and Families' (ACYF) Family and Youth Services Bureau (FYSB), and is designed to support the creation and maintenance of one-on-one mentoring relationships between children of incarcerated parents and caring, supportive adult volunteer mentors. The intent of this program is to support the establishment or expansion and operation of mentoring programs, using a network of public and private community entities, in areas with substantial numbers of children of incarcerated parents. The MCP program is designed to be a community-based mentoring program in which children and youth ages four up to age 18, are appropriately matched with an adult mentor, who has been screened and trained, for a one-on-one (one mentor/one youth), friendship-oriented (non curriculum-based) mentoring relationship.

Award: The average award is \$211,163 per year. (Note award ceiling is \$1 million, and \$9 million has been allocated for all grants)

Eligibility: State government; county governments; city or township governments; public and state controlled institutions of higher education; Federally recognized Native American tribal governments; and nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education.

Deadline: June 19, 2009

For more information: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/grants/open/HHS-2009-ACF-ACYF-CV-0022.html>

Title: Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Local Funding Partnerships 2009-2010

Funder: Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

Description: The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Local Funding Partnerships (LFP) program forges relationships between the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) and local grantmakers to fund promising, original projects that can significantly improve the health of vulnerable people in their communities.

Award: Up to 14 matching grants of between \$200,000 to \$500,000 each will be awarded.

Eligibility: Projects must be new, innovative, collaborative and community-based. Significant program expansions—into new regions or to new populations—may also be considered. Please note that these funds may not be used to maintain existing projects.

Deadline: July 7, 2009

For more information: <http://www.rwjf.org/applications/solicited/cfp.jsp?ID=20605>