



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:

Vision without action is merely a dream.
Action without vision just passes the time.
Vision with action can change the world.
~ Joel Barker

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**Mentoring System
Involved Youth Highlights**

Thanks to everyone who was able to join us or contribute to our recent webinar on Sustainability. As we continue to delve deeper into considering how to address long term sustainability of your programs, an important aspect will be dialog within this group. Please be sure to email any questions, concerns and suggestions to the MSIV listserv.

Prepare for the Future

A key concern in sustaining each of your programs is the covering financial expenses for the program. Sustainability planning includes preparing for both the scarce AND abundant funding

cycles. But how do you prepare for tomorrow's abundance today? Below are a few tips of how you can position your program to reap future rewards.

Invest in Staff Capacity: Offer brief training or professional development opportunities for staff. These can be project specific (e.g. writing case management notes, involving parents and families), or general (e.g. planning, time management). These sessions not only demonstrate the agency's commitment to staff, but also build staff's effectiveness on the project, and ultimately build program capacity.

Build Program Visibility: Make sure people know about your program through informational presentations, low/no-cost advertising (such as radio PSAs), and word of mouth. Keep your program and agency name in the forefront.

Track Program Impact: Document program activities, data, and anecdotes of how the program makes a positive impact on the behavior and in the lives of youth, their families, and mentors. Collect the data no matter how small the impact may seem. Progress is usually made in many small steps over time.

Share Information on Program Impact: Each time you meet with mentors, families, or partners, be sure to share an example of how the mentoring relationship has helped a young person achieve. These examples inspire **and** demonstrate your results.

Build Partnerships and Collaborations: Just as individuals are increasingly relying on personal support systems, agencies also need the support of others doing similar work. Reach out to other organizations and individuals to share ideas and resources. You might find ways to avoid duplicating efforts and money.

These tips do not require significant financial investment. Yet they help lay a strong foundation of solid performance and build awareness and support for your program. The TATP team will share with each site a sustainability planning tool to help you build this foundation further. And as always, if you have additional ideas please share your best practices and suggestions with the group via the MSiy listserv by sending an email to 'msiy @ mailman . edc . org'.



Boys & Girls Club Study Released

In 2005, at the request of the Boys & Girls Clubs of America, Public/Private Ventures (P/PV) launched a national longitudinal study of Club participants to take a broader look at "the whole club experience" in order to more fully document its potential. In their report, *Making Every Day Count: Boys & Girls Clubs' Role in Promoting Positive Outcomes for Teens*, P/PV set out to examine how Club participation is related to the youths' positive and healthy development in the three outcome areas Boys & Girls Clubs of America has established as core to meeting its mission: good character and citizenship, academic success, and healthy lifestyles. The final report, the third in a series of reports from the evaluation, examines how the youth in the study changed over time in these three outcome areas, and the relationship between levels of

participation and outcomes. To read the report, go to http://www.ppv.org/ppv/publications/assets/295_publication.pdf.

Informal Mentors and Trajectories of Antisocial Behaviors

This paper examines the role of informal mentors in trajectories of antisocial behavior using the findings of a nationally representative sample of youth, *The National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health*. Informal mentors, specifically relatives and teachers were found to be more likely among youth who never engaged in antisocial behaviors while community and friend mentors were likely among those who followed desistance paths. Instrumental support from a mentor was key in facilitating desistance. Young people who felt close to their mentor were also less likely to engage in antisocial behaviors. Full text of the paper is available through http://convention2.allacademic.com/meta/p_mla_apa_research_citation/1/0/3/1/7/p103173_index.html.

Bulletin Provides Data on Juvenile Arrests

Juvenile Arrests 2007 summarizes 2007 juvenile crime and arrest data reported by local law enforcement agencies and cited in the FBI report *Crime in the United States 2007*. Overall, there were 2 percent fewer juvenile arrests in 2007 than in 2006 and arrests for juvenile violent crime decreased 3 percent. To read the bulletin, go to <http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/ojdp/225344.pdf>.

Free Nonprofit Micro e-MBA

The Free Management Library offers free online courses on nonprofit management that you can take yourself and/or use as a capacity building tool for the organizations you support. Each module takes between 10 and 40 hours to complete. The courses were developed by Carter McNamara, MBA, Ph.D. Online courses include the following:

- Role of Chief Executive Officer (Executive Director)
- Developing Basic Skills in Management and Leadership
- Building and Maintaining Your Board of Directors
- Developing Your Strategic Plan
- Designing and Marketing Your Programs
- Managing Finances and Taxes in Your Nonprofit
- Developing Your Fundraising Plan
- Staffing and Supervising Your Employees and Volunteers
- Designing Your Program Evaluation Plans (including outcome-based evaluations)

To learn more about the courses, go to http://www.managementhelp.org/np_progs/org_dev.htm.

Report on Crime, Violence, Discipline, and Safety in Public Schools Released

The National Center for Education Statistics looked at 2007–08 school survey data on a range of issues dealing with school crime and safety, such as the frequency of school crime and violence, disciplinary actions taken, and school practices related to the prevention and reduction of crime. The report presents the tables and data for each of the survey questions, including the number and percentage of schools reporting incidents of gang-related crime, percentage of schools using a selected violence prevention program, and percentage of schools that had a written plan for a specific crisis situation. The report can be accessed at <http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2009326>.

Conferences and Events

Date: June 24–26, 2009

Location: Deerfield, Illinois

Title: Mentors 2100 Do It Yourself Train-the-Trainer

Sponsor: Perrone-Ambrose Associates, Inc.

Description: Instructors complete a three-day Train-the-Trainer program in which they work with the leader's guide, receive instruction in the training presentations, and practice leading the experiential exercises to be conducted with future program participants. The instructors also receive an in-depth briefing on the learning theory and methodology behind the various segments of the program. The session will cover all segments of the organization's mentoring program, including mentor training, mentee training, link-up session, check-up meeting, final stretch meeting, and transition meeting.

Web site: <http://www.paamentoring.com>

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>

Date: July 30, 2009

Location: Kalamazoo, Michigan

Title: Interviewing Skills and Mentor Screening

Sponsor: Christian Life Center

Description: In this interactive session, participants will learn the importance of volunteer screening and about some of the tools available to assist programs in meeting quality program eligibility screening. Participants will learn and practice techniques for interviewing potential mentors and mentees.

Web site:

http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mentormichigan/Upcoming_MM_Workshops_2009_final_269552_7.pdf

Date: August 11–13, 2009

Location: Westfield, New Jersey

Title: Effective Management Training for Afterschool

Sponsor: New Jersey School-Age Care Coalition

Description: This training will focus on the administrative components of a quality afterschool program. Included will be effective systems to manage fiscal resources and administrative policies, evaluation and outcomes, workplace issues, strategies for recruitment and retention, staff development and training, ideas for building a family-responsive program, building a

"learning organization," leadership and management styles, and working collaboratively with schools and communities.

Web site: <http://www.njsacc.org/wordpress/?p=920>



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

Title: Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) FY 09 Second Chance Act Youth Offender Reentry Initiative

Funder: OJJDP

Description: The Second Chance Act of 2007 supports a comprehensive response to the increasing number of people who are released from prison, jail, and juvenile facilities each year and are returning to their communities. The Second Chance Act will help juvenile participants released from residential confinement to transition successfully back into society. Section 101 of the act authorizes grants to state and local governments, territories, and federally recognized Indian tribes that they may use for demonstration projects to promote the safe and successful reintegration of individuals who have been incarcerated into the community.

Eligibility: State governments, county governments, federally recognized Native American tribal governments

Deadline: June 15, 2009

For more information:

<http://www07.grants.gov/search/search.do?&mode=VIEW&flag2006=false&opId=47245>

Title: Strategic Enhancement to Mentoring Programs

Funder: OJJDP

Description: This solicitation invites eligible applicants to propose research and evidence-based enhancements to mentoring programs based on three strategies: (1) involving the parents and family in activities and services, (2) delivering structured activities and programs for the mentoring matches, and (3) developing training and support for mentors.

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

Deadline: June 15, 2009

For more information: <http://ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/grants/solicitations/FY2009/SEMP.pdf>

Title: Gang Prevention Youth Mentoring Program

Funder: OJJDP

Description: OJJDP seeks applications for the Gang Prevention Youth Mentoring Program to establish mentoring programs that offer core services and engage youth with activities that enable them to practice healthy behaviors within a positive prosocial peer group. The target population includes youth at risk for gang involvement, delinquency, and violence.

Eligibility: OJJDP invites applications from private organizations, federally recognized Indian tribes, nonprofits (including faith-based, community, and tribal organizations), and public agencies (including schools, colleges, universities, and units of local government) in communities that have completed a comprehensive community gang assessment.

Deadline: June 15, 2009

For more information:

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

Title: Disney Minnie Grants

Funders: Youth Service America and Disney

Description: These grants of \$500 are for children (ages 5–14) or the organizations that engage them, to implement youth-led service projects that address the issues of poverty, hunger, education, environment, global citizenship, sustainable community development, and disaster prevention and relief. Applications are accepted from all over the world. Projects will take place in the months of September–November 2009.

Eligibility: Eligible applicants include children (ages 5–14); or older youth (ages 15–25) who design a project that engages children (ages 5–14) as volunteers; or recognized groups/organizations who engage younger youth (ages 5–14) as volunteers. The term *youth* is equivalent to young people, including children. For this grant, children (ages 5–14) should have a significant part in planning and implementing the service project.

Deadline: June 15, 2009

For more information: www.ysa.org/awards

Title: Compassion Capital Fund (CCF) Demonstration Program

Funder: The Administration for Children and Families (ACF), Office of Community Services (OCS)

Description: The Demonstration Program will award funds to experienced organizations to deliver capacity building services to faith-based and community organizations through the provision of training, technical assistance, and subawards. The CCF Demonstration program focuses on building the capacity of faith-based and community organizations and programs working in the following social service priority areas: low-income individuals seeking to gain greater access to State and Federal benefits and tax credits; low-income individuals seeking to secure and retain employment, earn higher wages, and obtain better-quality jobs; low-income individuals and families in need of financial education, credit counseling, and access to individual development accounts and other asset building strategies; the homeless; elders in need; at-risk youth, including Native American youth; and families in transition from welfare to work.

Eligibility: State governments, county governments, city or township governments, public and state-controlled institutions of higher education, Indian/Native American Tribal governments (Federally recognized and other than Federally recognized), nonprofits with 501(c)(3) IRS status (other than institutions of higher education), nonprofits without 501(c)(3) IRS status (other than institutions of higher education), private institutions of higher education, for-profit organizations (other than small businesses), small businesses, special district governments, and independent school districts are eligible for the grant.

Deadline: June 22, 2009

For more information: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/grants/open/HHS-2009-ACF-OCS-EJ-0009.html>