



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:

*The unselfish effort to bring cheer to others will be the beginning of a happier life for ourselves.
~ Helen Keller*

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**Mentoring System
Involved Youth Highlights**

October Cross-Site Working Meeting, October 19–21, 2009

The Technical Assistance and Training Program (TATP) team is excited about the upcoming cross-site working meeting, **The Journey: From Vision to Outcomes**, being held October 19–21, 2009, at the Hotel Indigo in Newton, Massachusetts. This 2 ½ day, inspiring and interactive cross-site meeting will focus on telling our stories to sustain our programs. During our time together we'll have an opportunity to work with several leaders in mentoring and youth work.

The TATP team will be contacting each site for a brief assessment and to assist with developing your video presentations. Please be sure to contact Ivy if you haven't heard from the TATP, or if you'd like further assistance.

We look forward to seeing you.

Useful Resources

Report Reviews Research on Preadolescents in the Criminal Justice System

The Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas at Austin has released the report *From Time Out to Hard Time: Young Children in the Adult Criminal Justice System*. The report analyzes available data to provide a comprehensive look at how the nation treats preadolescent children who commit serious crimes and offers related recommendations for the consideration of policymakers. It finds that more than half the states permit children aged 12 and under to be treated as adults for criminal justice purposes. In 22 states, plus the District of Columbia, children as young as seven can be prosecuted and tried in criminal courts, where they may be subject to severe sanctions, including long prison terms, mandatory sentences, and placement in adult prisons. To read the report, go to <http://www.utexas.edu/lbj/news/images/file/From%20Time%20Out%20to%20Hard%20Time-revised%20final.pdf>.

Updated National Youth Gang Survey Analysis Now Available

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's (OJJDP's) National Youth Gang Center has posted updated findings and analyses from OJJDP's National Youth Gang Survey (NYGS) on its Web site. Conducted annually since 1995, NYGS is a systematic survey of law enforcement agencies across the nation that assesses the presence, extent, and characteristics of local gang problems. The National Youth Gang Center Web site provides survey data from 1996 through 2007. Available data include annual numbers of gangs and gang members from 1996 through 2007, the change in the number of gang-problem jurisdictions from 2002 to 2007, and gang member demographics. To access this youth gang resource, visit <http://www.iir.com/nygc/nygsa/>.

OJJDP Bulletin Provides Strategies to Reduce Disproportionate Minority Contact

OJJDP has published *Reducing Disproportionate Minority Contact: Preparation at the Local Level*. The bulletin, the first in OJJDP's new DMC series, describes strategies that states and communities can use to reduce disproportionate minority contact with the juvenile justice system. A companion to OJJDP's [Disproportionate Minority Contact Technical Assistance Manual](#), the bulletin includes guidance drawn from the manual and provides useful information on the context in which local preparation to address disproportionate minority contact takes place. The bulletin is available online at <http://ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/publications/PubAbstract.asp?pubi=240604>.

Report Assesses YouthBuild Youth Offender Grants

The U.S. Department of Labor's (DOL's) Employment and Training Administration has released the report *Evaluation of the YouthBuild Youth Offender Grants*. The report summarizes findings from an implementation and outcomes evaluation of DOL's YouthBuild Youth Offender grants. The evaluation consisted of two rounds of site visits in 2007 to each of the 34 grantees to examine their program designs and implementation, the characteristics of the participants they served, and the outcomes they obtained. The report is available online at http://wdr.doleta.gov/research/FullText_Documents/Evaluation%20of%20the%20YouthBuild%20Youth%20Offender%20Grants%20-%20Final%20Report.pdf.

Planning and Implementing Institutionwide Projects

Institutionwide projects (IWP) allow state agencies (SAs) to use Title I, Part D, Subpart 1 funds in coordination with other federal and/or state funds to serve all students in an institution or program. IWPs allow an SA to upgrade the entire educational and transition efforts of its institution or program. To assist administrators who are interested in implementing IWPs for the first time as well as those who are currently operating IWPs, the National Evaluation and Technical Assistance Center for the Education of Children and Youth Who Are Neglected, Delinquent, or At Risk has developed its newest brief, *Planning and Implementing Institutionwide Projects*. The brief provides an overview of IWPs and their benefits for Part D programs, key steps to consider when creating and operating an IWP, and common mistakes made in the implementation process. Additionally, the brief includes examples and tools that can be adapted by administrators to assist in the implementation effort. This publication is designed specifically for administrators of state Title I, Part D, programs who work within state education agencies or SAs. To access the brief, go to <http://www.neglected-delinquent.org/nd/resources/spotlight/iwpBrief200908.asp>.

Online Resource Assists Federal Staff Working with Community Initiatives

The Coordinating Council on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention has developed an online resource that is designed to assist federal staff working with Comprehensive Community Initiatives (CCIs), also known as Community Change Initiatives. Developed through a collaboration among the U.S. Departments of Justice and Health and Human Services and other federal partners, the cciTools for Federal Staff equips staff to plan, support, and help sustain CCIs. The information that the Web site provides will also be of interest to community groups, private foundations, technical assistance providers, and evaluators, among others. Visitors to the site may also register for either the October 6 or October 22, 2009 Webinar, moderated by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's Robin Delany-Shabazz, which will provide an orientation to the tools' use. The cciTools for Federal Staff Web site may be accessed at <http://www.ccitoolsforfeds.org/index.asp>.

Conferences and Events

Date: October 19, 2009

Location: St. Paul, Minnesota

Title: Partnership for Quality: Mentoring's Next Ten Years

Sponsor: Mentoring Partnership of Minnesota

Description: This professional development opportunity focuses on supporting quality and excellence in youth mentoring programs. Conference features include workshops presented by local and national practitioners, two workshops hosted by Keynote Speaker Dr. Michael Karcher, a Great Ideas Exchange supporting quality mentoring, and networking.

Web site: <http://www.mentoringworks.org/>

Date: October 22–23, 2009

Location: St. Louis, Missouri

Title: [BJS/JRSA 2009 National Conference](#)

Sponsor: Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) and the Justice Research and Statistics Association (JRSA)

Description: This conference brings together justice system professionals from all levels of government and academia to share the latest data and research, discuss ways of improving the quality of justice data and research in the states, and promote the use of statistics and research to develop policy. The program includes more than 20 panel sessions on systemwide topics, including community corrections, domestic violence, gangs, recidivism, reentry, substance abuse, tribal data, and victimization, among others.

Web site: <http://www.jrsa.org/events/conference/index.html>

Date: January 21–22, 2010

Location: Redwood Shores, California

Title: Youth Mentoring 2.0: The Impact of Technology on Programs and Relationships

Sponsor: Friends for Youth

Description: From program management to volunteer recruitment, from mentor screening to match monitoring, from how mentors communicate with program staff to how they communicate with their mentees, and from agency marketing to soliciting donors, new technology can have a direct effect on youth mentoring programs. This year, Friends for Youth addresses some of these aspects of how technology—such as online program management systems, social networking tools, and Web marketing—either helps or hinders youth mentoring relationships and the programs that support them. The goal is for participants to walk away with concrete tools and practical suggestions to easily implement into their new or existing programs, making both attendees and their programs stronger and better able to serve their communities.

Web site: <http://www.friendsforyouth.org/MentoringInstitute.html>

For more information: info@mentoringinstitute.org or 650-559-0200



This grant opportunity may be applicable to you or partner organizations.

Title: Target Field Trip Grants Program

Funder: Target

Description: Target will award 5,000 grants of up to \$800 each for the upcoming school year for educational field trips to museums and other places.

Award: 5,000 grants of up to \$800 each

Eligibility: Education professionals who are at least 18 years old and employed by an accredited U.S. K–12 public, private, or charter school.

Deadline: November 3, 2009

For more information: <https://targetfieldtripgrants.target.com/register.php>