



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:

In everyone's life at some time, our inner fire goes out. It is then burst into flame by an encounter with another human being. We should all be thankful for those people who rekindle the inner spirit. ~ Albert Schweitzer

Mentoring Initiative for System Involved Youth Highlights

ANNOUNCEMENT! Cross-Site Training to Be Held in April 2008

Mark your calendars for the next cross-site training for all four grantees. The MISIY team will be meeting at the Hotel Monteleone in New Orleans, Louisiana, April 15–17 for a 2 ½ day training, which will include targeted technical assistance and opportunities to interact with expert consultants. All grantees will have the chance to share their program's progress as well as updates on their action plans. We will be in touch with more information. Stay tuned!

Useful Resources

Audio Recording: Youth Aging Out of Foster Care

Chapin Hall released new findings about youth aging out of foster care at a congressional briefing in Washington D.C. on December 12, 2007. Rep. Danny K. Davis (D-IL) introduced the program, which featured panelists discussing the challenges that these former foster youth face in areas such as education, employment, and health. This briefing was cosponsored by Chapin Hall, the Jim Casey Youth Opportunities Initiative, and the American Public Human Services Association. Click here to [listen to the audio recording](#).

Compare Foundations with Trend Tracker

With [Trend Tracker](#), a new charting and graphing tool provided free by the Foundation Center, nonprofits can quickly create summary presentations of fiscal data for a specific funder or compare up to five grant makers in up to four fiscal categories—assets, giving, expenditures, and gifts received. The data may be generated in a bar chart, line graph, or table format. Trend Tracker contains data from 2000 to 2005 for

the nation's top 20,000 foundations. To use this tool, visit <http://charts.foundationcenter.org/iodaweb/indGrants.aspx>.

MTV Reality Show Features Three Young Adults Reentering from Prison

MTV recently aired a *True Life* episode: "I'm Getting Out of Prison." This video follows three young individuals as they reenter their life and the challenges, struggles, and sanctions they face throughout this process. The video is presented in six segments (with some commercial interruptions) and shows a straightforward account of their three stories. As young adults, they face some of the same issues as adolescents reentering into the community. To view the video, please go to <http://www.mtv.com/overdrive/?id=1579396&vid=203282>.

Report Gives Overview of Foster Care Entry and Exit Patterns

A new Chapin Hall report provides a general overview of what happens when children are placed in foster care, based on a sample of nearly 350,000 children admitted to foster care for the first time between 2000 and 2005. The report includes changes in the number of children in care, chances of entering care, placement type, movement, and exit rates. The report uses data from the Multistate Foster Care Data Archive, a repository of administrative data provided by state child welfare agencies to Chapin Hall to support research and development in the child welfare field. Read the report, [Foster Care Dynamics 2000-2005: A Report from the Multistate Foster Care Data Archive](#), by Fred H. Wulczyn, Lijun Chen, and Kristen Brunner Hislop.



Date: Feb. 25–27, 2008

Location: Washington, D.C.

Title: Child Welfare League of America 2008 Annual Conference

Sponsor: Child Welfare League of America

Description: This conference will feature presentations that discuss the relationship between outcomes, integration, and public policy and that demonstrate how to build public will and achieve positive change for children.

Website: <http://www.cwla.org/conferences/2008nationalrfp.htm>

Date: March 9–12, 2008

Location: St. Louis, Missouri

Title: 35th National Conference on Juvenile Justice

Sponsor: National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges and National District Attorneys Association

Description: This conference offers juvenile justice professionals a national perspective on the issues they face in their day-to-day efforts to make a difference in the lives of children and families. The sessions at the conference will highlight effective practice and programs, offer tips and tools, provide an opportunity for networking, and inspire and invigorate participants. Breakout sessions include a wide variety of topics, from truancy and safe schools to gangs to family violence to child abuse and neglect to juvenile sex offenders and substance abuse.

Website: <http://www.ncjfcj.org/content/view/1054/315/>

Date: March 12–14, 2008

Location: San Francisco, California

Title: Strengthening Connections between Parents and Children Affected by Substance Abuse, HIV and Incarceration

Sponsor: National Abandoned Infants Assistance Resource Center (AIA)

Description: Parents who struggle with drug addiction, HIV, and/or incarceration face many personal and institutional barriers to developing and maintaining healthy relationships with their children. The primary

purpose of this conference is to promote practices that help to strengthen these relationships and minimize trauma and attachment disorders among infants and young children. This national conference features a combination of plenary and panel presentations, focused workshops, and interactive discussions that address parent-child relations for families affected by substance abuse, HIV, and incarceration.

Website: http://aia.berkeley.edu/strengthening_connections

Date: March 18–20, 2008

Location: Washington, D.C.

Title: 2008 National GAINS Conference

Sponsor: GAINS Center

Description: The focus of the 2008 GAINS Center conference is to increase the knowledge base around mental health programs and policies that involve people in the criminal and juvenile justice systems.

Website: <http://www.gainscenter.samhsa.gov/2008conference/>



These are just a couple grant opportunities that may be applicable to you or partner organizations.

Title: California Youth Investment Programs

Funder: Pacific Forest and Watershed Lands Stewardship Council

Description: In 2008, as part of its Youth Investment Program, the Stewardship Council will grant between a total of \$2 million and \$2.5 million in funding to improve the lives of underserved youth in northern and central California by providing greater access to outdoor experiences, from urban parks in the city to watersheds in the wilderness. In 2008, there are four different grant rounds: three rounds focused on outdoor and environmental education programs and one on building parks and playgrounds.

Award: \$15,000–\$250,000 depending on the grant

Eligibility: Be a federally and California exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and/or classified as a public charity or a public agency, school district, federally recognized tribe, or a fiscally sponsored project of an exempt organization; serve youth within the geographic scope of the Stewardship Council in Northern and Central California; serve youth who are between the ages of 13 to 18 (non-school-based projects), or between 7th and 12th grades (school-based projects); and have been in existence for at least one full calendar year (with the exception of the Catalyst Fund for grassroots organizations).

Deadline: Various

For more information: http://www.stewardshipcouncil.org/youth_investment/rfps_and_applications.php

Title: Grants to Aid Children

Funder: Ronald McDonald House Charities

Description: Ronald McDonald House Charities (RMHC) and its global network of local chapters provide grants and program services designed to make an immediate, positive impact on children in need around the world. RMHC provides grants to nonprofit, tax-exempt organizations whose national or global programs help improve the health and well-being of children. Programs that focus on a specific community or area should submit grant requests to a local RMHC Chapter (http://www.rmhc.org/search_cm/) for consideration.

Eligibility: Not-for-profit, tax-exempt charitable organization. U.S. charities must have a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status letter on file with the Internal Revenue Service

Deadline: April 28, 2008

For more information: <http://www.rmhc.com/grants/#apply>