



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:

"Whether you think you can, or think you can't...you're right!"
~ Henry Ford (inventor)



Announcement from the Technical Assistance Team

We're excited to announce that the TATP team has now visited every site and seen firsthand your work with the youth and mentors. In the next few weeks, we'll be contacting you to further discuss the upcoming September Conference, including the grantee best practices workshops.

We have an important note from the PIRE Evaluation Team:

Kudos from your evaluation team.

We are happy that all the sites have youth and mentors in matches! Congratulations.

Remember to complete the intake process:

1. Youth and parents or case managers must complete both the Youth Background Information Form and Youth Behavior Survey, and
2. Mentors must complete the Mentor Background Questionnaire and the Mentor Survey.

Please mail completed forms to Hillary at PIRE. We're working to get results of your data back to you.

Happy Matching!
Hilary and Matt
PIRE



Supporting Success: Improving Higher Education Outcomes for Students from Foster Care: A Framework for Program Enhancement

Casey Family Programs has developed a framework providing program development tools for college counselors, administrators, and professors to help education professionals define a plan for improving their institution's support for students from foster care. The framework includes 12 support elements that have been widely reviewed by those working to promote improved college success for students from foster care. To download the framework, please go to <http://www.casey.org/Resources/Publications/HigherEdFramework.htm>.

Helping Young Offenders Return to Communities

Funded by SAMHSA's Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT), the Young Offender Reentry Program (YORP) aims to teach young offenders how to stop the cycle of crime and recidivism, get treatment for substance abuse and mental health issues, and become active in their communities. The SAMHSA newsletter outlines the effect the program has had in key areas such as abstinence, employment and education, and stable housing, and also includes a "What Works" section that explains the three basic principles of YORP. To learn more, go to http://www.samhsa.gov/SAMHSA_News/VolumeXVI_3/article1.htm.

Building Afterschool Capacity at the National Level: The Community Schools Model: Building Capacity for Out-of-School Time Programs

The Charles Stewart Mott Foundation sponsored a forum examining capacity-building efforts in Afterschool/Out-of-School Time (OST) programs by utilizing a community schools strategy as a part of a three-part series. The forum examined how various approaches of involving the community in and with schools are supporting youth and families, adding to the richness of OST learning, and expanding services for youth. An overview of the May 14, 2008 forum can be found here: <http://www.aypf.org/forumbriefs/2008/fb051408.htm>.

Good Foster Care Improves Mental Health in Adulthood

Researchers from Harvard Medical School performed the first ever controlled follow-up study examining the long-term health effects of foster care programs. The study followed 659 foster care alumni into adulthood more than a decade after they left foster care. Researchers found that the extremely high rates of mental and physical disorders typically found among adult alumni of public foster care programs were significantly reduced among alumni of a private foster care program staffed by highly trained social workers with low caseloads and good access to quality services. To learn more about the study, visit <http://psychcentral.com/news/2008/06/03/good-foster-care-improves-mental-health-in-adulthood/2397.html>.

Federal Report Features Children's Well-Being

The Federal Interagency Forum on Child and Family Statistics has released *America's Children in Brief: Key National Indicators of Well-Being, 2008*. The Forum has published this report every year since 1997 which includes detailed information on the welfare of children and families, alternating between a comprehensive report and a condensed version that highlights selected indicators, as is the case this year. This year's report addresses such topics as family and social environment, economic circumstances, health care, physical environment and safety, behavior, education, and health. To read the report, go to <http://www.childstats.gov/pubs/index.asp>.

Tribal Youth Focus Group Report Will Guide OJJDP Efforts

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) has released the report *Building Brighter Futures in Indian Country: What's on the Minds of Native Youth?* The report captures the meeting of the 2007 Tribal Youth Focus Group, which was composed of boys and girls, aged 10-17, from 20 tribes across the United States and their chaperones. By holding the focus group, OJJDP gathered information that it hopes will result in more responsive programs and ultimately ensure a brighter future for many of these children. To read the report, visit <http://ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/typ/download/223353.pdf>.

The BOOST-er High School Summit Seeks Out-of-School Time Professionals to Facilitate Workshops

The BOOST-er High School Summit is seeking qualified high school out-of-school time professionals to facilitate workshops for a national audience. The summit is being held November 5-6, 2008 at the Bahia Resort Hotel in San Diego, California. Topic areas include but are not limited to:

- Academic Achievement
- Career Development
- College Readiness
- Participation Retention
- Program Models
- Promotions
- Risk Behavior Prevention
- Youth Culture
- Youth Development

Please visit www.boostconference.org/booster and complete an online RFP by August 8, 2008 to be considered. If you have any questions, please contact Tia Quinn at tia@rescuescg.com.



Date: August 6, 2008 and August 8, 2008, 10:30 am

Title: America Learns: Making Sure Tutors & Mentors Report Child Safety Concerns

Sponsor: America Learns Performance Measurement Learning Network

Description: This 30-minute webinar addresses how you can help ensure that your volunteers always report safety concerns they have for their mentees. The webinar will give two immediate actions you can take to better capture and track your mentors' concerns as soon as they arise.

Web site: <https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/254001181> (8/6/08) and <https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/418293378> (8/8/08)

Date: September 14-17, 2008

Location: San Diego, California

Title: 13th International Conference on Violence, Abuse and Trauma

Sponsor: Institute on Violence, Abuse and Trauma

Description: The conference covers all aspects of violence; abuse and trauma prevention; intervention; and research. This includes intimate partner violence, child maltreatment, youth violence, judicial issues, sexual assault, disabilities, treatment of victims and offenders, elder abuse, trauma, and more. The special theme this year is Promoting Peace Integrating Practice, Research, and Policy.

Web site: <http://www.ivatcenters.org/Conferences/Conferences-International.htm>

Date: October 20, 2008

Location: St. Paul, Minnesota

Date: October 20, 2008

Title: 9th Annual Minnesota Mentoring Conference, Building Bridges to Better Futures

Sponsor: Mentoring Partnership of Minnesota

Description: The Minnesota Mentoring Conference draws participants from across the country and around the world. The conference features workshops, networking opportunities, and an environment in which to share and exchange ideas with other mentoring professionals. The Minnesota conference features keynote speaker Michael Brandwein, a three-time Emmy award-winning television programs writer and expert on communicating with young people. Brandwein is best known for his highly practical,

"use-it-immediately" approach and entertaining and engaging teaching methods. Early-bird registration deadline is September 22.

Web site: http://www.mentoringworks.org/Mentoring_Conference.html



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

Title: Mentoring Programs for At-Risk Tribal Youth

Funder: Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

Description: This solicitation invites applicants to propose the continuation, expansion, or enhancement of initiatives that will assist in the development and maturity of community programs to provide mentoring services to populations that are underserved due to locations, shortage of mentors, or emotional behavioral challenges of the targeted population, or other such situations identified by the community in need of mentoring services.

Award: \$1,000,000 to \$2,000,000 for a period of up to 2 years

Eligibility: Applicants are limited to national tribal organizations and national organizations, including community, secular, and faith-based nonprofit organizations.

Deadline: 8:00 p.m. E.T., on August 4, 2008

For more information: <http://ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/funding/FundingDetail.asp?fi=108>

Title: Pay It Forward Mini-Grants

Funder: Pay It Forward Foundation

Description: Pay It Forward Mini-Grants go to one-time-only, service-oriented activities that young people would like to perform to benefit their school, neighborhood, or greater community. Projects must contain a "pay it forward" focus, which is based on the concept of having one person do a favor for others, who in turn do favors for others, and so on, so the results grow exponentially.

Award: Maximum of \$500

Eligibility: K-12 youths.

Deadline: Applications accepted starting September 15, 2008

For more information: <http://payitforwardfoundation.org/educators/grant.html>