



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:**

*It is literally true that you can succeed best and quickest by helping others to succeed.*  
~ Napoleon Hill

*Mentoring Initiative for System Involved Youth Highlights*

**Announcement from the Technical Assistance Team**

The meeting for all grantees that we cancelled in April is now rescheduled for the Hotel Monteleone in New Orleans, LA for September 16–18. Participants will be asked to arrive on Monday, September 15; the meeting will be all day September 16 and 17, and will end at 2:00 on September 18. Please begin to make arrangements. We will update you as we go forward with content information and an agenda.

As you know, Marisa Jones is no longer with the project. Chris Blaber, who has been a project director in EDC's Health and Human Development programs for over 15 years, is acting project director. We are actively recruiting a new project director and will let you know as soon as the role is filled. Secondly, Amanda Geller will be leaving on April 11 as she is moving to Guatemala to do youth development work with the Peace Corps. We are also actively recruiting for this position. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

*Useful Resources*

**Web-Based Mentoring Technologies**

Here are some online tools to use or replicate in your mentoring initiatives.

- Mentor Ohana, a Web-based software program developed in Hawaii offers participant matching and management as well as survey features.  
<http://www.mentorohana.org>
- iMentor Interactive (iMi) is an online platform that enables organizations to enhance existing, or launch new, mentoring programs and create alumni or peer-to-peer networks. iMi's tools and resources resolve the following key issues in managing a mentoring program: (1) recruiting and screening mentors; (2) matching pairs; (3) building relationships; (4) assuring safety and quality of

mentoring relationships; and (5) evaluating the effect these relationships have on youth.

[http://www.imentor.org/imentor\\_interactive/](http://www.imentor.org/imentor_interactive/)

- MentorPRO® is an online data tracking, and analysis tool that allows organizations to access and track data to better manage programs, monitor relationships, and evaluate outcomes. Designed to enhance the effectiveness of youth mentoring activities, this tool provides standardized measures and a common system for collecting, tracking and analyzing mentoring data.  
[http://www.mentoring.org/about\\_mentor/news\\_press/mentor\\_minutes/mentorpro](http://www.mentoring.org/about_mentor/news_press/mentor_minutes/mentorpro)
- Gaggle.Net is a safe Web-based Internet communication system for students where an adult maintains surveillance and control. The tools provided allow program staff to feel secure when giving their mentees access to e-mail and other Internet tools for e-mentoring purposes.  
<http://gaggle.net>

### **Casey's Family Programs' President and CEO William C. Bell Calls for Mentors**

At January's Guiding Lights Weekend in Seattle, William C. Bell reminded the audience of our responsibility to help smooth the way for others. "We do not exist just so we can achieve, our children can achieve, we can eat, drink and enjoy a comfortable retirement," he said. "We exist as an instrument so that, when used properly, others won't have to struggle as much as we may have." Watch the video of Bell's address here: <http://www.tvw.org/media/mediaplayer.cfm?EvId=2008010071&bhcp=1>.

### **Exploring Relationships of Youth Who Age Out of Foster Care**

Gina Miranda Samuels, Chapin Hall faculty associate, interviewed 29 young adults who aged out of foster care in order to better understand their existing support networks and how they learned to cope with people coming in and out of their lives. All the young adults in the study reported having a network that included friends as well as biological, adoptive, and foster family members, but most said they lacked emotional support. The study recommends that child welfare policy and practice address the social-emotional health of youth aging out of foster care as well as their economic and physical well-being. For the full report, please visit [http://www.chapinhall.org/article\\_abstract.aspx?ar=1466](http://www.chapinhall.org/article_abstract.aspx?ar=1466).

### **Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative: A Successful Approach to Comprehensive Reform**

The Annie E. Casey Foundation summarizes the core strategies of Casey's juvenile detention reform initiative, as well as results from four model sites around lower detention populations, enhanced public safety, budget savings, and improvement of the overall juvenile justice system. To read this brief, please see [http://www.aecf.org/~media/PublicationFiles/JDAI\\_splash.pdf](http://www.aecf.org/~media/PublicationFiles/JDAI_splash.pdf).



**Date:** April 23–25, 2008

**Location:** Las Vegas, Nevada

**Title:** Reaching Higher: Developing and Sustaining Human Potential through Mentoring and Coaching

**Sponsor:** International Mentoring Association

**Description:** The International Mentoring Association is sponsoring this conference as a forum for mentoring ideas, research, and practice in all fields of education, business, health and human services, community-based organizations, and government. Some session topics include designing mentoring programs; foundations of mentoring in education; incorporating safe practices into your program; virtual mentoring; peer mentoring; and mentoring for professional development.

**Web site:** <http://www.mentoring-association.org/Confr.html>

**Date:** June 23–26, 2008

**Location:** Atlanta, Georgia

**Title:** National Youth Gang Symposium

**Sponsor:** Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

**Description:** Under the theme Partnering to Prevent Gang Violence: From Faith-Based and Community Organizations to Law Enforcement, the symposium will feature workshops designed to enhance efforts by law enforcement, school personnel, faith-based and community organizations, policymakers, youth serving agencies, and others who are working together to combat youth gang problems.

**Web site:** <http://www.gangsymposium.org>



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

**Title:** Mental Health Collaboration Program Grants

**Funder:** Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), U.S. Department of Justice

**Description:** The Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program seeks to increase public safety through innovative cross-system collaboration for individuals with mental illness who come into contact with the criminal or juvenile justice systems. The program encourages early intervention for system involved individuals with mental illness; provides new and existing mental health courts with various treatment options; maximizes diversion opportunities for nonviolent offenders with mental illness and co-occurring disorders; promotes training for justice and treatment professionals on criminal justice processes and mental health and substance abuse issues; and facilitates communication, collaboration, and the delivery of support services among justice professionals, treatment and related service providers, and governmental partners. The Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) is seeking joint applications from eligible applicants seeking to plan, implement, or expand an adult or juvenile collaboration program.

**Award:** \$50,000–\$250,000 (depending on duration of grant)

**Eligibility:** Applicants should demonstrate a commitment to increasing public safety through innovative cross-system collaborations that improve responses to people with mental illnesses who come into contact with the criminal justice system. Eligible applicants are states, units of local government, Indian tribes, and tribal organizations.

**Deadline:** May 6, 2008

**For more information:**

<http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?&mode=VIEW&flag2006=true&opId=17040>

**Title:** Funding for Youth Programs

**Funder:** Entertainment Software Association Foundation

**Description:** The Entertainment Software Association Foundation is dedicated to supporting positive programs and opportunities that make a difference in the quality of life, health, and welfare of youth. The foundation seeks to harness the collective power of the interactive entertainment industry to create positive social impact in America's communities. The interactive entertainment industry supports geographically diverse projects and programs that benefit American youth of all races and denominations and both genders.

**Award:** Dependent on project and funding request

**Eligibility:** To receive funding, an organization making a grant request must meet the following criteria: be tax-exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service Code; seek funding for a specific project or program that is or will be in two or more states and serves youth between the ages of 7 and 18; and provide youth programs in one or more of the following areas: skills and personal development, general health and welfare, risk behavior prevention, education, and multimedia arts/technology related or applied. Please note that the foundation does not provide grants for general operating costs.

**Deadline:** April 15, 2008

**For more information:** <http://www.theesa.com/foundation/grant.php>

**Title:** Support for Education and Job Skills Programs

**Funder:** Staples Foundation for Learning, Inc.

**Description:** The mission of Staples Foundation for Learning is to provide funding to programs that support or provide job skills and/or education for all people, with a special emphasis on disadvantaged youth.

**Award:** \$5,000–\$25,000

**Eligibility:** To be eligible for consideration, the applicant organizations must have tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and align with the Staples Foundation for Learning's mission and focus on job skills and education. Organizations are eligible to apply for a grant once every 12 months.

**Deadline:** June 16, 2008, for a September 2008 decision

**For more information:** <http://www.staplesfoundation.org/>