



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:

Start by doing what is necessary, then what is possible, and suddenly you are doing the impossible.
~ St. Francis of Assisi



Announcement from the Technical Assistance and PIRE Teams

The MSIY Technical Assistance Team and PIRE teams are grateful for the opportunity we had either to meet or to renew friendships with each of you in New Orleans. Learning more about your successes and challenges will help us as we work with you in effectively implementing your programs and developing and implementing evaluation strategies that work for your differing needs. We appreciate the commitment with which all the grantees are embarking on the next stages of your projects, particularly the evaluation component. Please contact us at any time if we can help with any aspect of your work, particularly the evaluation implementation.

Please continue to refine and work on your Action plans. MISY TATP will follow-up with each of you soon to further review your Action plans and ways we can support the progress you began in New Orleans.

As well, look for an email in the coming week from PIRE to set up a monthly evaluation call. We want to touch bases with each of you to continue the discussions we began in New Orleans and will want to discuss important upcoming issues, such as the payment for the comparison group recruiting with each project. We also would like to have your feedback regarding customizing the SharePoint web site to fit your needs and the issues around its present format.

Please don't hesitate to contact any of us with questions or suggestions. We know that working together we can continue to support the MISY goals to achieve and document the positive changes that mentoring makes in the lives of our youth.



Understanding the State of Knowledge of Youth Engagement Financing and Sustainability

This report from the Finance Project provides critical information on the costs, funding sources, financing strategies, and sustainability of youth engagement. Included are also several profiles of youth engagement programs that have implemented various promising strategies to finance and sustain their work. This publication is available at <http://www.financeproject.org/publications/YouthEngagementReport.pdf>.

New Tool Available to Educate Teens about Dangers of Substance Abuse

Community Action-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA), in partnership with the Newspaper in Education (NIE) Institute, the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America (PhRMA), and the Consumer Healthcare Products Association (CHPA), has published a 16-page newspaper supplement to help educate parents and teens about the dangers of abusing drugs and alcohol. This new supplement, titled *Stay Smart, Don't Start: The Truth About Drugs and Alcohol*, includes a special section on prescription and over-the-counter (OTC) medicine abuse. To download the supplement, go to <http://www.cadca.org/coalitionsonline/documents/StaySmartDontStartsupplementFINAL.pdf>.

Evaluation of Independent Living Programs for Foster Youth

The Children's Bureau in the Administration for Children and Families contracted with Chapin Hall and other research institutions to evaluate select independent living programs for youth who age out of foster care. Two new reports evaluate a tutoring/mentoring program and a classroom-based life skills training program, both in Los Angeles County, California. To download the reports, go to http://rs6.net/tn.jsp?t=nodwlr cab.0.few6prcab.6njaa9n6.0&ts=S0357&p=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.chapinhall.org%2Farticle_abstract.aspx%3Far%3D1476.

Evaluating Children's Advocacy Centers' Response to Child Sexual Abuse

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) has published *Evaluating Children's Advocacy Centers' Response to Child Sexual Abuse*. Children's Advocacy Centers were developed to create a sensitive environment for child abuse interviews, provide victims and their families with medical and child protection services, and coordinate abuse investigations. This bulletin describes the findings of a study by researchers at the University of New Hampshire's Crimes Against Children Research Center that evaluated the effectiveness of the centers' response to child sexual abuse. To read the bulletin, please visit <http://ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/publications/PubAbstract.asp?pubi=240233>.

Statistics on Out-of-Home Services for Emotional or Behavioral Problems among Youth

The Office of Applied Studies, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), has released a report on findings of data from 2002 to 2006 of 12- to 16-year-olds receiving out-of-home services for emotional or behavioral problems in the past 12 months in a hospital, a residential treatment center, or a foster care or therapeutic foster care setting. The report includes comparative data among youth using these out-of-home services by gender and age and discusses how these services have changed in the past 20 years. To read the report, go to <http://download.ncadi.samhsa.gov/prevline/pdfs/NSDUH08-0918.pdf>.

COPS Publication Addresses Prison Recidivism

"Planning and Assessing a Law Enforcement Reentry Strategy," developed by the Council of State Governments Justice Center and the Police Executive Research Forum, addresses the challenges that are unique to those who are reentering society from prison and those who work with these individuals to keep them from returning to the criminal justice system. This material does not constitute a step-by-step guide in creating and implementing a reentry program but rather provides an overview of topics that should be considered and addressed within that development process. Recognizing that each jurisdiction is unique, this toolkit allows each agency to assess its unique circumstances and develop a plan of action

that best suits its situation. Download the toolkit at
<http://www.cops.usdoj.gov/files/RIC/Publications/LE%20Reentry%20Strategy.pdf>.



Date: October 5–8, 2008

Location: Reno, Nevada

Title: Juvenile Probation and Justice Management Conference

Sponsor: National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges

Description: Under the theme "What Works? Evidence-Based Practice," sessions will address such topics as motivational interviewing and multisystemic therapy. A separate track will look at issues and challenges in working with juvenile sex offenders, including the Adam Walsh Bill and its effect on juveniles. Management training will be offered in conjunction with the University of Nevada and the National Juvenile Court Services Association for those working in management or hoping to move to management.

Web site: <http://www.ncjfcj.org/content/view/1126/315/>

Date: November 4–6, 2008

Location: San Diego, California

Title: BOOST-er High School Summit

Sponsor: National BOOST-er Advisory Board

Description: The goal for this all-inclusive BOOST-er Summit is to bring together key stakeholders in the high school out-of-school time field to share promising practices for the encouragement and development of quality programs and to create change in the communities we serve. The workshops will cover topics affecting today's high school programs, including: Academic Achievement; Promotions; Risk Behavior Prevention; Program Models; Youth Culture, Career Development, College Readiness, Youth Development, and Participation Retention.

Web site: www.boostconference.org/booster

Date: January 29–30, 2009

Location: Redwood Shores, California

Title: 10th Anniversary Mentoring Conference: The First Decade of Innovation and Excellence

Sponsor: Friends for Youth

Description: Friends for Youth is celebrating 10 years of providing high-quality workshops, presentations, and keynote speakers to mentoring professionals with another two-day conference featuring mentoring experts from across the country. The conference will feature half-day pre-conference courses on Thursday, January 29th, and a variety of presentations, including two keynote speakers, on Friday, January 30th.

Web site: <http://www.friendsforyouth.org/MI-Conference.html>



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

Title: State Farm Good Neighbor Service-Learning grants

Funder: State Farm Companies Foundation and Youth Service America

Description: With support from the State Farm Companies Foundation, Youth Service America is offering the annual State Farm Good Neighbor Service-Learning Grant for youth-led community improvement projects across the United States and Canada (Alberta, Ontario, and New Brunswick provinces only). These grants of up to \$1,000 support teachers and service-learning coordinators in engaging students (aged 5–25) to implement service-learning projects for Global Youth Service Day, April 24–26, 2009. We encourage semester-long projects that are launched on Martin Luther King Day on January 19, 2009, and extend through Global Youth Service Day (GYSD).

Award: Up to \$1,000

Eligibility: Must be a resident of the 50 states or the District of Columbia, or the Canadian provinces of Alberta, Ontario, and New Brunswick. Must be a teacher or professor who currently teaches in a public, private, faith-based, charter, or higher education institution within the 50 states, the District of Columbia, or the Canadian provinces above OR be a school-based service-learning coordinator, whose primary role is to coordinate service-learning projects in a school or university as described above. Projects must be youth-led and must take place on one or more days of GYSD (April 24-26, 2009).

Deadline: October 15, 2008

For more information: www.YSA.org/awards

Title: Knight News Challenge

Funder: The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation

Description: The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation has launched the third year of the Knight News Challenge, a contest awarding as much as \$5 million for innovative ideas using digital experiments to transform community news and information exchange. With the slogan “You Invent It. We Fund It!” the contest is open to community-minded innovators worldwide, from software designers to journalists to citizens and students of any age.

Award: Up to \$5 million

Eligibility: Winning entries must have three elements: (1) use of a digital media, (2) delivery of news or information on a shared basis to (3) a geographically defined community. Entries must be open-source and share the software and knowledge created.

Deadline: November 1, 2008

For more information: <http://www.newschallenge.org/>