

## **Youth Resource Connections**

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### **Headlines**

**Department of Labor's Secretary Elaine Chao Announces the Theme for 2006 National Disability Employment Awareness Month.** Secretary Chao announced that "Americans with Disabilities: Ready for the Global Workforce" will be the theme for October's National Disability Employment Awareness Month. She also noted that the 2006 theme highlights the fact that workers with disabilities are an underutilized and ambitious group of Americans eager to pursue their career dreams. For additional information, visit:  
<http://www.dol.gov/opa/media/press/odep/odep20060804.htm>.

**U.S. Department of Labor Announces Grants to Train Hurricane-Impacted Workers.** DOL's Secretary Elaine Chao awarded \$298,500 in grants to three Historically Black Colleges and Universities. These institutions in Alabama—Shelton State Community College; Louisiana—Dillard University; and Mississippi—Jackson State have established education and job training assistance programs to help displaced workers and unemployed individuals gain occupational skills. Each school will receive \$99,500. They will also work with their local One-Stop Career Centers, faith and community-based organizations and employers to help hurricane impacted workers acquire skills and services to transition to local trade occupations. For more information visit:  
<http://www.dol.gov/opa/media/press/eta/eta20060766.htm>.

**DisabilityInfo.Gov Receives American Association of Webmasters Gold Award.** DisabilityInfo.Gov, a comprehensive one-stop federal Website for disability-related information and resources, has received the American Association of Webmasters (AAWM) 2006 Gold Award for outstanding design and quality of content. This website is managed by the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy and receives content contributions from 21 federal agencies. To view the website, visit: <http://www.disabilityinfo.gov>.

**The Federal Collaborative Moves Forward with 2006 Shared Youth Vision Initiative.** In early January, the Federal Partners consisting of representative from existing and new agencies from the U.S. Departments of Labor, Education, Health and Human Services, Justice, Housing and Urban Development, the Corporation for National and Community Service, and the Social Security Administration initiated phase II of the Shared Youth Vision. The federal partners have undertaken several activities: 1) hosted a meeting for interagency workgroup members and partner agency executives to inform them about the roll out strategy for this initiative, 2) convened an "Advance" (retreat) to discuss collaboration and strengthening service delivery strategies across federal, state, and local funding streams around serving the neediest youth population, and 3) sponsored a conference call with federal, states/territories and Federally Recognized Tribal Governments youth serving entities. Approximately 300 individuals representing 44 states, the District of Columbia, and 12 tribal governments and Alaska native communities participated. The call provided an opportunity for federal partners to engage state teams, and to provide an update regarding upcoming initiatives: "the 2006 Advanced Level Technical Assistance Shared Youth Vision Forums" scheduled for this fall and "the Follow-Up Pilot

State Project” scheduled to commence in early 2007. For more specific information on the federal partnership activities and progress to date, visit: <http://www.doleta.gov/ryf/>.

**New Federal Register Notice on Annual Lower Living Standard Income Level (LLSIL) for 2006.** The ETA has published the Secretary of Labor’s annual LLSIL under Title I of the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) of 1998. The Secretary of Labor annually determines the Lower Living Standard Income Level (LLSIL) for uses described in the Law. The LLSIL is available in the June 1 Federal Register at: <http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/01jan20051800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2005/pdf/05-9384.pdf>.

**New Advisory Notice on “New Strategic Youth Vision for the Delivery of Youth Services under the Workforce Investment Act (WIA)”.** ETA released this notice to inform states and local areas of the expansion of the agency’s strategic vision – originally set forth in TEGL 3-04 to serve out-of-school and our most at-risk youth, including Indian and Native American youth and youth with disabilities under the WIA. To view the TEGL published May 9, visit: [http://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/corr\\_doc.cfm?DOCN=2224](http://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/corr_doc.cfm?DOCN=2224).

**DOL Hosts Webinar on Launching Career Pathways.** The DOL’s Division of Youth Services hosted a Webinar on May 23<sup>rd</sup> that highlighted strategies and practices designed to help staff effectively work with youth in planning an “informed” career path. The Webinar also focused on ways to determine effectiveness so that service providers can ascertain impact of the program on participants. To view an archive of the Webinar, visit: [http://www.workforce3one.org/public/skillbuilding/webinar\\_info.cfm?id=97](http://www.workforce3one.org/public/skillbuilding/webinar_info.cfm?id=97).

**DOL Hosts Webinar on Alternative Pathways to Educational Success.** The DOL’s Division of Youth Services hosted a Webinar on May 9<sup>th</sup> that focused on the definition of and need for alternative education. The characteristics of quality alternative education programs were presented, as well as general alternative models of education, delivery, and funding. Two program models were highlighted which exemplified quality characteristics and demonstrated innovative approaches to education service delivery. To view the archived Webinar, visit: <http://dol.breezecentral.com/p91899113/>.

**New Advisory Notice on PY 2006 Wagner-Peyser Common Measures and Performance Goals.** ETA released Training and Employment Guidance Letter (TEGL) 29-05 to inform states of the guidelines for (a) Negotiating Program Year (PY) 2006 performance levels for Wagner-Peyser Act-funded activities under the common measures; and (b) re-negotiate Average Earning targets for the Workforce Investment Act Title IB Adult and Dislocated Worker programs. These negotiated performance goals for PY 2006 will be incorporated in the WIA and Wagner-Peyser Act Two-Year Strategic Plans. This TEGL also clarifies the set of youth measures to which states are accountable for the upcoming program year. To obtain a copy of the TEGL, visit: [http://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/corr\\_doc.cfm?DOCN=2225](http://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/corr_doc.cfm?DOCN=2225).

**Workforce Innovations 2005: Conference Registration and Hotel Available.** Workforce Innovations is the nation’s premier workforce investment conference designed for leaders and decision makers from workforce investment, education, and business. This year’s conference will be held in Anaheim, California on July 11-13. For more information visit: <http://www.workforceinnovations.org/>.

**Department of Justice's Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales Highlights Achievements under Project Safe Neighborhoods and New Initiatives on Combating Gang Violence.** On May 2<sup>nd</sup>, Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales highlighted the significant accomplishments of federal, state and local officials in combating gang violence and reducing gun crime through Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) before an audience of more than 1,300 members of PSN task forces. During his remarks, Gonzales announced the release of \$30 million in grants to support PSN anti-gang efforts, a new public service campaign aimed at educating youth about the impact of gun crime and gang violence, and directed all U.S. Attorneys through the country to host Gang Prevention Summits in their districts. To obtain additional information about this event, visit: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/newsroom/2006/OJP06262.htm>.

**Secretary Margaret Spelling at the U.S. Department of Education (DOEd) Delivers Remarks to the First National Summit on the Advancement of Girls in Math and Science.** Secretary Spelling delivered remarks at the first national summit and discussed the math-science gender gap in schools and its effect on females. Additionally, other leaders were present representing government agencies and community youth serving organizations and more than 100 scientists, explorers, and entrepreneurs. As a result of this event, DOEd established a partnership with the Girl Scouts to expand their initiative for promoting math and science to young women. To view Secretary Spelling's remarks, visit: <http://www.ed.gov/news/pressreleases/2006/05/05152006b.html>.

**The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) Announces update to Kids' Page Website.** The BLS has announced the addition of "Career Information for Kids" on their Kids' Page website. To view the website, visit: <http://www.bls.gov/k12/index.htm>.

### ***Funding Opportunities***

**U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) Announces Solicitation for Cooperative Agreements for Self-Employment Opportunities for People with Disabilities.** DOL's Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP) has announced the availability of up to \$5,000,000 to fund both a national technical assistance research cooperative agreement, and multiple cooperative agreements for sub-national research and technical assistance pilot projects to investigate, develop and validate systems models likely to increase self-employment opportunities for people with disabilities. Awards will be funded up to \$1.5 million and for a total up to \$3.5 million for 36 months. For additional information and instructions, visit: <http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/01jan20061800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2006/pdf/06-4669.pdf>. **Deadline: July 3.**

**U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Announces Funding Under the Compassion Capital Fund.** The Administration for Children and Families, Office of Community Services at HHS is accepting applications for new grants pursuant to the HHS Secretary's Compassion Capital Fund (CCF) authorized under Section 1110 of the Social Security Act governing Social Services Research and Demonstration Activities and the Department of Labor, HHS, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriation Act, 2006, Public Law 109-149. See Details below:

**Empowering Youth Program** will award funds to build the organizational capacity of experienced organizations and their partnering faith-based and community organizations to better meet the needs of America's disadvantaged youth. The lead faith-based or community organization (lead organization) will assist its faith-based and community partners through

technical assistance and training in four Communities Empowering Youth (CEY) critical areas: 1) leadership development, 2) organizational development, 3) program development, and 4) community engagement. HHS will award up to 100 grants ranging from \$300,000 to \$750,000. For more information, visit: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/grants/open/HHS-2006-ACF-OCS-IC-0141.htm>. **Deadline: July 10.**

**Targeted Capacity-Building** HHS' Office of Community Services will award funds to help build the capacity of faith-based and community organizations that address the needs of distressed communities. The Targeted Capacity Building Program will focus on capacity building among organizations addressing the following programmatic service areas: help for **at-risk youth**; help for the homeless; marriage education and preparation services to help couples who choose marriage for themselves develop the skills and knowledge to form and sustain healthy marriages; or social services to those living in rural communities. HHS will award up to 300 grants at \$50,000. For more information, visit: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/grants/open/HHS-2006-ACF-OCS-IJ-0036.html>. **Deadline: June 23.**

**Demonstration Program** HHS' Administration for Children and Families will award funds to experienced organizations to deliver capacity building services to faith-based and community organizations through the provision of training, technical assistance, and sub-awards. Intermediary organizations will assist faith-based and community organizations with capacity building activities in five critical areas: 1) leadership development, 2) organizational development, 3) program development, 4) revenue development strategies, and 5) community engagement. HHS will award up to 10 grants at \$500,000. For more information, visit: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/grants/open/HHS-2006-ACF-OCS-IJ-0036.html>. **Deadline: June 19, 2006.**

**U.S. Department of Education (DOEd) Announces Student Eligibility Option for New Academic Grants.** The DOEd announced guidelines for current college students and high school seniors to apply for new Academic Competitiveness Grants and National SMART Grants for the 2006-07 academic year. Students who completed rigorous coursework in high school or who are pursuing degrees in math, science and critical foreign languages are eligible for a portion of \$790 million in new federal funding for higher education. To qualify for either program, students must be: eligible for federal Pell Grants, U.S. citizens, and full-time students enrolled in a two- or four-year degree-granting institution of higher education. In addition, for Academic Competitiveness grants, a first-year student must not have been previously enrolled in a program of undergraduate education. To obtain additional information and an application for both Academic Grants, visit: <http://www.ed.gov/news/pressreleases/2006/05/05022006.html>. **Deadline: June 1 & November 1.**

**U.S. Department of Education (DOEd) Announces Funding Opportunities.** DOEd's Office of Postsecondary Education has announced funding opportunities under its Minority Science and Engineering Program (MSEIP). The MSEIP is designed to effect long-range improvement in science and engineering education at predominantly minority institutions and to increase the flow of underrepresented ethnic minorities, particularly minority women, into scientific and technological careers. DOEd has identified \$3,273,443 in Federal funding and expects to award 14 institutional project grants, 14 special project grants, and 4 cooperative agreements. For additional information and application instructions, visit: <http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/01jan20061800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2006/pdf/E6-8751.pdf>. **Deadline: July 24.**

**American Legion Child Welfare Foundation Accepts Requests for Applications.** The American Legion of Child Welfare Foundation is accepting proposals from nonprofit organizations for projects that meet one of the foundations two basic purposes: 1) To contribute to the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual welfare of children through the dissemination of knowledge about new and innovative organizations and/or their programs designed to benefit youth; and 2) To contribute to the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual welfare of children through the dissemination of knowledge already possessed by well-established organizations, to the end that such information can be more adequately used by society. Nonprofit organizations must contact the foundation in writing to request a copy of the grant application. For more information, visit: <http://www.cwf-inc.org/>. **Deadline: July 1.**

**The Charles A. Frueauff Foundation Accepts Applications from Nonprofit Organizations.** The Charles A. Frueauff Foundation provides grants to nonprofit organizations in the areas of higher education, social services, and health and hospitals. Applicants must be a 501(c)(3) social service agency, health care agency or hospital, or a private 4 year college or university. Grants awards are limited to organizations located in 26-29 states. For more information and to obtain application instructions, visit: <http://www.frueauffoundation.com/application/default.asp>. **Deadline: Open.**

**Prudential Foundation Accepts Applications for Direct-Service Programs.** The Prudential Foundation provides support to innovative direct-service programs that address the needs of communities in three areas: Ready to Learn, Ready to Work, Ready to Live. Nonprofit, charitable organizations and programs are eligible to apply. For more information and an application, visit: <http://www.prudential.com/productsAndServices/0,1474,intPageID%253D1444%2526InPrinterFriendly%253D0,00.htm>. **Deadline: Open.**

### ***Opportunities for Youth, Young Adults, and Teachers***

**Funds for Teachers Foundation Offers Funds for Teachers.** Funds for Teachers Foundation will award grants directly to teachers to support professional development opportunities of their own design. Eligible applicants can apply individually or as a team and must: a) work with students in grades pre-K through 12, and b) have a minimum of three years' teaching experience and be full-time teachers, spending at least 50% of their time in the classroom at the time the grants are approved and made. Grants will be awarded up to \$5,000 per individual and up to \$7,500 per team project. Teachers may request funding for fellowships up to \$5,000 per individual and up to \$7,500 per team project. For more information, visit: <http://www.channing-bete.com/funding/funding-topics/opportunities/fund-teachers.php>. **Deadline: Varies.**

### ***Publications***

**In Demand—Connecting Today's Students with the Careers of Tomorrow.** The latest issue of *In Demand—Connecting Today's Students with the Careers of Tomorrow* explores the high growth industry of Health Care and the many career opportunities it provides. The articles in the publication are designed to provide students as well as guidance counselors, parents and teachers with interesting and relevant information about career opportunities, education and the skills needed for various jobs in this employment sector. This issue offers resources to explore careers and tips about how to help students build successful futures in health care. For a copy of the magazine, visit: <http://www.careervoyages.org/indemandmagazine-main.cfm>.

**The Workforce Development System & the Professional Development of Youth Service Practitioners: Why Professional Development?** This informational brief identifies the benefits to the workforce development system, youth, and the community gained through the professional development of youth service practitioners. It includes a five-step plan for policymakers interested in supporting the professional development of youth service practitioners in their local areas. To view this document, visit: [http://www.ncwd-youth.info/assets/info\\_briefs/infobrief\\_issue19.pdf](http://www.ncwd-youth.info/assets/info_briefs/infobrief_issue19.pdf).

**Research Bibliography: Relations between Workforce Development and Child Outcomes in Four Human Services.** This bibliography was compiled by the Harvard Family Research Projects as part of a research review on the effects of workforce development on child outcomes in four human service sectors: child welfare, early childhood education, juvenile justice, and youth development. The review is guided by a broad model of workforce development that includes contextual factors such as workforce characteristics; individual professional development and organizational and policy supports that contribute to a high quality workforce; and the short- and intermediate-term outcomes leading to improved outcomes leading to improved outcomes for children and youth. For more information, visit: <http://www.gse.harvard.edu/hfrp/eval/issue32/bibliography.html>.

**Convergence: Trends Threatening to Narrow College Opportunity in America.** This report tracks a diverse array of factors at the federal, state, and institutional levels that are likely to converge in the coming decade with potentially serious negative consequences on higher education opportunity for low-income, minority, and other underserved populations. To download the report, visit: <http://www.ihep.com/organizations.php3?action=printContentItem&orgid=104&typeID=906&itemID=17717>.

**The Guide to Federal Resources for Youth Development** provides information on federal funds available to support youth development programs. The guide also lists more than 100 federal programs, including programs from the U.S. Department of Justice, which are cross-referenced to five core resources regarded as crucial to effective youth development. To view the guide, visit: [http://www.americaspromise.org/partners/federal\\_funding\\_guidelines.pdf](http://www.americaspromise.org/partners/federal_funding_guidelines.pdf).

**Ay Mija! Why Do You Want To Be An Engineer?** This publication tells encouraging stories of 12 Latina women who have overcome obstacles to obtain success in engineering. This publication is part of a 12 book series that will cover math, science, engineering and technology designed to target young Hispanic women or men.

### ***Program Resources***

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) publishes bimonthly electronic newsletter "**OJJDP News @ a Glance**" which highlights agency activities, publications, funding opportunities, and upcoming events. To subscribe to the newsletter and browse past issues, visit: <http://www.ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/enews/newsletter.html>.

**CD Rom: Passport 2 Opportunity** is a resource of the Reentry National Media Outreach Campaign. The CD was created for young people to explore issues related to juvenile justice and the positive and negative choices that influence their interactions with the criminal justice system. It takes a look at some of the sources for youth criminal activity, including poverty, violence, low self-esteem, lack of supports, resources, and peer pressure. It also profiles young men and women who discuss the community supports that allowed them to achieve success. For more information on this CD-ROM and to view the resource guide, visit: <http://www.reentrymediaoutreach.org/p2o.htm>.

### *Web sites*

**Center for Children of Incarcerated Parents** website provides information on high quality documentation and the development of model services for children of criminal offenders and their families. For more information visit: <http://www.e-ccip.org/>.

**The Family and Corrections Network's** website is designed to inform, support and empower families of prisoners and their supporters. To view the website, visit: <http://www.fcnetwork.org/>.

**MarcoPolo** website features seven discipline-specific websites that house Partner-created and reviewed internet-based lessons and resources at no cost and easily accessible to teachers and students. To view the website, visit: <http://www.marcopolo-education.org/index.aspx>.

**ElectrifyingCarrers.com** is a multimedia website which presents students, parents and guidance counselors with information to assist them in discovering diverse career opportunities available to young people interested in the electrical industry. For more information, visit: <http://www.electrifyingcareers.com/>.

### *Calendar of Events*

**June 9-14.** Indianapolis, IN. National Partnership for Juvenile Services 18<sup>th</sup> Annual National Juvenile Services Training Institute. For more information contact: (859) 622-2333 or visit: <http://www.npjs.org/>.

**June 18-20.** Seattle, WA. Points of Light Foundation and Corporation for National and Community Service. 2006 National Conference on Volunteering and Service. For more information contact (202) 729-8000 or visit: <http://www.volunteeringandservice.org/>.

**June 24-26.** St. Louis, MO. Center for Policy Alternative, "Breaking the Cycle: Practical Solutions for Juvenile Justice Reform." For more information contact: Diallo Brooks at 202-956-5150 or [dbrooks@cfpa.org](mailto:dbrooks@cfpa.org).

**June 24-27.** Rapid City, SD. Reclaiming Youth International. 2006 Seminar. For more information contact: (605) 647-5244 or visit: <http://www.reclaiming.com/>.

**July 10-12.** Sand Diego, CA. 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers 2006 Summer Institute. For more information visit: <http://www.synergytinc.com/21stcentury/welcome.htm>.

**July 13-14.** Boston, MA. National Institute for Out of School Time. Assessing Child and Youth Outcomes. For more information contact: (781) 283-2547 or visit: <http://www.niost.org/>.

**July 19-21.** Washington, DC. National Resource Center for Child Welfare Data and Technology. Making IT Work: Improving Data and Practice in a Time of Change. For more information contact: (877) 672-4829 or visit: <http://www.nrccwdt.org/>.

**NOTICE:**

**The Office of Youth Services is interested in hearing about new and innovative approaches which bring employers, educators and workforce systems professionals together to serve our communities' youth. If you would like to share projects or programs in your area please e-mail your information to the Office of Youth Services at [youth.services@dol.gov](mailto:youth.services@dol.gov).**

Thank you.

*Youth Resource Connections (YRC).* The Department of Labor (DOL), Employment and Training Administration (ETA) does not take responsibility for non endorsed DOL/ETA resources included in the YRC.

*We welcome your input.* Please let us know how these updates might be improved to better serve your needs. If you have comments contact the: Office of Youth Services at (202) 693-3030 or e-mail [youth.services@dol.gov](mailto:youth.services@dol.gov) .

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