

## **Youth Resource Connections**

### **NEWSLETTER**

#### **Youth Resource Connections**

*is a monthly newsletter that provides information, resources, and tools to workforce professionals who work every day to impact the lives of youth and young adults.*

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## **Headlines**

**ETA Hosted A WIOA Youth TA Series.** The Division of Youth Services (DYS) within the Employment and Training Administration launched "Our Journey Together: The WIOA Youth Program Technical Assistance (TA) Series" to support the workforce system in their programming efforts to improve outcomes for youth. DYS hosted the four webinars below over two days on October 24-25:

- [Our Journey Together: The WIOA Youth Program Technical Assistance \(TA\) Series Kick-off](#)
- [WIOA Youth Eligibility Live Question and Answer Session](#)
- [Coming Together at the Table—The Power of Youth Committees to Convene, Coordinate and Collectively Impact Youth Lives](#)
- [WIOA Youth Performance Accountability](#)

To obtain additional information and view an archive of all four events, visit:  
<https://www.workforcegps.org/events?t=archived>.

#### **Looking for more information and resources to support your youth program?**



Visit the **Youth Connections Community of Practice** for the latest training, promising practices, and technical assistance tools.

## Headlines

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**U.S. Secretary of Labor Acosta Announces National Apprenticeship Week For November 13-19, 2017.** U.S. Secretary of Labor Alexander Acosta announced that the third annual National Apprenticeship Week will be held November 13-19, 2017. Apprenticeships provide demand-driven education, allowing apprentices to earn while they learn – helping to close the skills gap between the skills job creators seek and job seekers need. To learn more, and to register your event for inclusion in a national listing of National Apprenticeship Week events, visit: <https://www.dol.gov/apprenticeship/NAW/>. To view the press release, visit: <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/osec/osec20171025>.

**U.S. Secretary of Labor Acosta Announces Membership of Task Force on Apprenticeship Expansion.** Following President Donald J. Trump's Executive Order Expanding Apprenticeships in America, U.S. Secretary of Labor Alexander Acosta announced members of the President's Task Force on Apprenticeship Expansion. The Task Force—representing companies, trade and industry groups, educational institutions, and labor unions—brings to the table substantial workforce development experience in addressing the nation's skills gap. To obtain additional information and view the press release, visit: <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/osec/osec20171016>.

**ETA Issues Change 1 to TEGL on Fiscal Year (FY) 2018 Advance Funding Levels Available October 2017 for Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Programs and Correction to the Amounts for Youth and Adult Small State Minimum Allotments.** The Employment and Training Administration (ETA) issued Change 1 to Training and Employment Guidance Letter (TEGL) 27-16, which provides states with revised allotment levels for WIOA Adult and Dislocated Worker FY 2018 funds, which became available to states on October 1, 2017. This Change 1 to TEGL 27-16 revises the funding available to states in October 2017 to reflect the 0.6791 percent reduction enacted in the short-term Continuing Appropriations Act for FY 2018 and corrects the amounts for Youth and Adult small state minimum allotments. To obtain additional information, visit: [https://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/corr\\_doc.cfm?docn=6643](https://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/corr_doc.cfm?docn=6643).

## Headlines

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**DOL Seeks Comments on Proposed Information Collection in Support of the Evaluation of the Youth CareerConnect Grant Program.** The U.S. Department of Labor's Chief Evaluation Office has published a request in the [October 3 FEDERAL REGISTER](#) seeking comments concerning the collection of follow-up survey data about the Evaluation of the Youth CareerConnect (YCC) Grant Program. The proposed information collection activities described in this notice will provide data for the randomized controlled trial (RCT) and quasi-experimentally designed (QED) studies and implementation evaluation of the YCC. In spring 2014, the Employment and Training Administration (ETA) in the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) awarded a total of \$107 million to 24 grantees to implement the YCC program. The program is a high school based initiative aimed at improving students' college and career readiness in particular employment sectors. The programs are redesigning the high school experience through partnerships with colleges and employers to provide skill-developing and work-based learning opportunities to help students prepare for jobs in high-demand occupations. **Comments due: December 4.**

**U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation Posts Blog: New Partnership Explores Data Sharing Between Students, Education, Business.** The U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation (USCCF) in partnership with the Lumina Foundation will explore the new public-private data infrastructure of the future. Through a new 12-month grant made by Lumina Foundation, USCCF will organize stakeholder forums and work groups to increase awareness and understanding on the problem to be addressed and the potential benefits to employers, credentialing partners, and learners. It will also explore the underlying technologies (e.g., linked data, blockchain) and standards that will make data more transparent and shareable—while avoiding unintended consequences. To learn more about this project and how to get involved contact: [jtyszko@uschamber.com](mailto:jtyszko@uschamber.com). To obtain additional information, visit: <https://www.uschamberfoundation.org/blog/post/new-partnership-explores-data-sharing-between-students-education-business>.

**Best Buy Announces New Support for Youth Workforce Development and Career Pathways.** Best Buy announced on October 25 that the company will substantially increase its commitment to under-served young people over the next three years. By 2020, the leading technology products and services provider will prepare one million youth a year for tech-reliant jobs through intensified training and career readiness programs. For additional information, visit: <http://philanthropynewsdigest.org/news/best-buy-to-expand-afterschool-tech-program>.

## Headlines

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**Citi Foundation's Youth Workforce Fund to Increase Access to Jobs, Including Apprenticeships and Internships, Among Youth.** [The Citi Foundation](http://www.citigroup.com/citi/news/2017/171024a.htm) announced the launch of the Youth Workforce Fund as part of its [Pathways to Progress](#) initiative to provide youth both in the U.S. and around the world with training and access to jobs, including paid apprenticeships and internships. In partnership with [America's Promise Alliance](#), 15 nonprofit organizations across the United States will expand their programming to provide a range of employment opportunities in various areas including environmental sustainability to robotics and culinary arts to coding. Collectively, the Youth Workforce Fund is expected to reach more than 5,000 youth across the country. To obtain additional information, visit: <http://www.citigroup.com/citi/news/2017/171024a.htm>.

**AHLA Announces \$500,000 Opportunity Youth Grant to Fill Jobs Gap.** The American Hotel and Lodging Association (AHLA) presented a national non-profit career development organization, Grads of Life, with a commitment to provide \$500,000 in grants to community-based organizations to recruit and develop "Opportunity Youth" in high-demand markets, such as Washington D.C., Los Angeles, Chicago and Baltimore. U.S. Secretary of Labor Alexander Acosta joined CEO Katherine Lugar and Grads of Life Principal Shawn JacquelineBohen to announce this investment for Opportunity Youth. To obtain additional information, visit: <https://www.ahla.com/press-release/ahla-ceo-lugar-announces-500000-youth-grant-community-based-organizations-open-career>.

**NAWDP Issues Call for Proposed Workshops for May 20 – 24, 2018 Conference.** The National Association of Workforce Development Professionals (NAWDP) is seeking proposals for workshops to be held during its 2018 Annual Conference, May 20-24 in Phoenix, Arizona. The workshops will be 75 minutes in duration and should encompass best practices that have demonstrated measures of success. Individuals interested in presenting a topic in a workshop setting as part of this conference, please complete the form found on: <https://www.cognitofrms.com/NationalAssociationOfWorkforceDevelopmentProfessionals/CallForWorkshopProposalsAnnualMeeting2018>.

## Success Story

### Technical Assistance Series Webinar: Youth Committees



DOL's Division of Youth Services (DYS) hosted a webinar entitled: "Coming Together at the Table—The Power of Youth Committees to Convene, Coordinate and Collectively Impact Youth Lives" on October 25, as part of its 2017-2018 technical assistance series. The webinar was designed to share progress of youth committees, learn about work underway and how youth committees have overcome challenges to remain successful. Attendees also were provided resources and tools to help build stronger youth committees. DYS highlighted three local areas' effective practices for operating strong youth committees focusing on their history, challenges and strengths, employer engagement, and strategies for service delivery to out-of-school youth.

The presenters represented an array of local areas across the country both rural and urban. Speakers included Jinny Rietmann along with Jeff Custer and Jerriana Hansen from Southeast Minnesota; Kimberly McCaffrey from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and Gabriela Goetz and Jessica Ku Kim from South Bay Workforce Board, Hawthorne, CA.

Kimberly discussed Philadelphia's establishment and history of its youth committee. The committee provides an effective process for oversight and allows for more efficient citywide coordination of education and youth workforce efforts. Further, the committee provides the opportunity for a robust cross-sector collaboration of partners.

Jinny of Southeast MN provided insight on both their strengths and challenges. Strengths included employer engagement, engaging youth committee members and youth involvement, while a few of their challenges included the large geographic region, transportation and job availability, among others.

Jessica and Gabriela from the South Bay Workforce Board discussed their employer engagement strategies which involve local chambers and local unions assisting with identifying business needs, which in turn helps mold the programs for youth and young adults. Their committee members are the business champions recruiting other businesses and sharing about the resources. The business champions' engagement helped lead to the establishment of the Blueprint for Workplace Success. To obtain a recording of the webinar, visit: <https://youth.workforcegps.org/sitecore/content/global/events/2017/09/20/07/06/Coming-Together-at-the-Table-The-Power-of-Youth-Committees-to-Convene-Coordinate-and-Collectively>

#### **Interested in sharing a new practice or innovative approach that you're trying in your area?**

The Employment and Training Administration (ETA) is interested in sharing strategies from across the country to promote peer learning and replication. If you would like to be considered for featuring in an upcoming newsletter, please email your organization, program name and brief description of the practice or approach to the ETA Division of Youth Services at: [youth.services@dol.gov](mailto:youth.services@dol.gov).

## Funding & Other Opportunities

### **Burroughs Wellcome Fund Invites Applications for North Carolina STEM Education Program.**

The [Burroughs Wellcome Fund](#) is accepting applications from North Carolina public school teachers for its Promoting Innovation in Science and Mathematics (PRISM) Award program. The annual PRISM Award program provides public school teachers in the state with the opportunity to receive up to \$3,000 in funding toward the purchase of STEM-related materials and up to \$1,500 for any necessary training for those materials. **Deadline: December 5.** [read more...](#)

### **National Science Foundation Invites Applications for its Discovery Research Prekindergarten-12 Grant.**

The National Science Foundation is accepting proposals for its Discovery Research Prekindergarten-12 (DPK-12) program. The DRK-12 program is designed to address immediate challenges that are facing preK-12 STEM education as well as those that anticipate radically different structures and functions of preK-12 teaching and learning. **Deadline: November 14.** [read more...](#)

**The Dudley T. Dougherty Foundation Invites Applications for its Community Grants.** The Dudley T. Dougherty Foundation supports programs in arts, community, education, environment, healthcare, and peace. Recent awards include music lessons for people with disabilities, children's theater, learning center, writing education, after-school and summer activities, literacy programs, arts education, and services for at-risk children and youth. Organizations registered as section 501(c)(3) are eligible to apply. A number of grants support programs in Texas, although applications are accepted and grants awarded nationwide. **Deadline: December 3.** [read more...](#)

## Resources

**ODEP Releases #ApprenticeshipWorks Guides.** Apprenticeship is a growing strategy for connecting more workers with the skills they need to get jobs. The Office of Disability Employment Policy's (ODEP) efforts in apprenticeship promote inclusive program models that fulfill employer needs by attracting a diverse array of candidates, including people with disabilities. Now ODEP has released its #ApprenticeshipWorks [Guides](#), which introduce youth, educators, service providers, and businesses to the benefits and opportunities of inclusive apprenticeship.



## Resources

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**Repayment of Student Loans as of 2015 among 1995–96 and 2003–04 First-Time Beginning Students.** This [report](#) released by The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) presents findings from the 2015 Federal Student Aid Supplements. The 2015 Federal Student Aid Supplements are collections of data from the National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS) that have been added to the 1996/2001 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study (BPS:96/01) and 2004/09 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study (BPS:04/09) Restricted-use Data Files. These data contain information on borrowing, Pell grant receipt, repayment, and default for up to 20 years for the BPS:96/01 students and up to 12 years for BPS:04/09 students.

**Skills in the States Work-Based Learning Policy for Out-Of-School Youth and Disadvantaged Adults.** This [policy toolkit](#) released by the National Skills Coalition, focuses on state policies designed to make work-based learning more widely available and successful for disadvantaged populations. The toolkit also emphasizes policies to make work-based learning more available and effective for small- and medium-size employers. The toolkit concentrates on work-based learning that combines instruction at a worksite during paid employment with classroom education, and that culminates in an industry-recognized credential. Workers in paid work-based learning programs obtain skills and credentials while earning a wage.

**Implementation and Sustainability of Juvenile Reentry Programs in Second Chance Act Sites; Urban Institute Examines Oklahoma and Virginia Experiences.** This [brief](#) released by the Urban Institute, describes the implementation and sustainability of two Juvenile Second Chance Act reentry programs in Oklahoma and Virginia. Drawing from semi-structured interviews with grantees and community and state stakeholders conducted between 2013 and 2016, evaluators document the challenges to providing prerelease support and coordinating services among institutional and community supervision agencies and organizations. This brief is also part of a larger evaluation of Juvenile Offender Reentry Demonstration Projects funded by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention in fiscal year 2010.

**State Approaches to Implementing Community-Based Alternatives to Incarceration for Youth Involved in the Justice System.** This [issue brief](#) released by the National Governors Association, details recommendations, identifies recent state efforts to adopt alternatives to incarceration and discusses effective approaches that governors can take to implement reform strategies.

**Raising the Floor, New Approaches to Serving the Lowest-Skilled Students at Community Colleges in Texas and Beyond.** This [brief](#) released by MDRC offers context for the study by describing the two programs, the state guidelines that made them happen, and how other states and colleges are reforming their approaches to serving low-scoring students across the country. It also offers some demographic information about the students in the impact study and previews early implementation findings likely to inform state and college efforts to put similar policies in place.

## Resources

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**Bridging the Gaps: College Pathways to Career Success.** This [book](#) by authors James Rosenbaum, Caitlin Ahearn, and Janet Rosenbaum argues that when institutions focus only on bachelor's degrees and traditional college procedures, they ignore other pathways to educational and career success. Using multiple longitudinal studies, the authors evaluate the shortcomings and successes of community colleges and investigate how they can promote sub-baccalaureate credentials—such as associate degrees and college certificates—that can improve employment outcomes for students. Young adults who complete these credentials have higher employment rates, earnings, autonomy, career opportunities, and job satisfaction than those who enroll but do not complete their programs. The authors conclude that turning college-for-all into a reality means making more students aware of their multiple credential and career options.

**On October 5<sup>th</sup>, the Employment and Training Administration hosted a webinar entitled:** [Using Storytelling to Share Your Program Successes](#). The webinar provided participants with practical tips and guidance for telling a story that will evoke emotion, get a message across, and win support for one's efforts.

## Upcoming Events

**November 27. Indianapolis, IN.** The Indiana Youth Institute's [2017 Because KIDS COUNT Conference](#).

**November 29-December 1. San Diego, CA.** Joysfields Institute for Evidence-Based Professionals' [Evidence-Based "PATHWAYS" Workshops & Conference for Case Management, Care Coordination & Supervision](#).

**January 30-February 2, 2018. New Orleans, LA.** American Association of Community Colleges [Workforce Development Institute, "Exploring Intersections"](#).



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**We welcome your input.**

Please let us know how these newsletters might be improved to better serve your needs. If you have comments, contact the Employment and Training Administration's Division of Youth Services at **(202) 693-3030** or e-mail: [youth.services@dol.gov](mailto:youth.services@dol.gov).

The Department of Labor (DOL), Employment and Training Administration (ETA) does not take responsibility for non-endorsed DOL/ETA resources included in the newsletter.