

**Baltimore, Maryland – Mayor’s Office and School District Collaborations:** Through innovative collaborations, Baltimore has developed educational settings that reconnect youth to education and meaningful job opportunities, and launched a major effort to reduce truancy by improving school facilities.

- ⇒ The **Career Academy**, one of nine campuses of Harbor City High School, provides a non-traditional educational option for out-of-school youth ages 16-21. The Mayor’s Office of Employment Development (MOED) administers the Academy with sponsorship from the Baltimore City Workforce Investment Board. Career Academy students may pursue a high school diploma with a business/technical concentration, a GED, or participate in the Diploma Plus program. Students participate in workplace training in high-demand, high-growth fields such as Business Technology, Human Services, Landscaping, and Information Technology, and serve internships with employers for further work-based learning. The school district provides instructional materials and personnel. Two local community colleges and numerous other partners are also involved; a broad-based Advisory Board provides input and brings partners together regularly.
- ⇒ MOED, in collaboration with the Sar Levitan Center of John Hopkins University, opened a small innovation public high school with 150 entering ninth-grade students in 2004 -- the **Academy for College and Career Exploration (ACCE)**. ACCE offers individualized instruction and smaller class sizes to ensure personal attention and support, as well as opportunities to explore postsecondary education and career opportunities, for a population whose test scores vary widely. Baltimore City Public Schools provides certified teachers for ACCE, which is slated to expand to enroll 400 students. For more information on ACCE visit [www.aceebaltimore.com](http://www.aceebaltimore.com).
- ⇒ **SchoolStat** is a management innovation in which the city Bureau of General Services acts as the prime facilities and maintenance contractor for Baltimore City Public Schools, overseeing work orders and priorities. The city asks school custodians and facility managers detailed questions and convenes a weekly meeting for better coordination of effort.

**Corpus Christi Youth Opportunities United (YOU):** Over an eight-year period, an unstaffed yet highly focused coalition convened by the mayor of Corpus Christi, Texas (population 300,000) has reduced rates of teen pregnancy by 50%, juvenile arrests by 60%, and school dropout by 12%. Leadership for this effort comes from the city manager’s office, departments of Parks and Recreation and Police and Municipal Court as well as the county sheriff, school districts, Chamber of Commerce, United Way, the workforce development agency, and local foundations. With a strong prevention emphasis, the coalition has brought in more than \$22 million in outside grants. A Juvenile Assessment Center serves as a round-the-clock receiving facility for status offenders, with funding support from a special taxing authority (available to Texas localities) called the Crime Control and Prevention District. A research center at the local campus of Texas A&M University has gathered and sifted reams of data about the local situation and improvements since the launch of Y.O.U. For more information see: <http://www.ci.corpus-christi.tx.us/?fuseaction=main.view&page=271>

**Plan now to attend!** The 2005 *National Summit on Your City’s Families* will take place September 25 – 28, 2005. [Click Here](#) to download the Summit registration form – Register by July 15, 2005 to take advantage of a lower fee of \$350 for NLC members and \$425 for non-members. [Click here](#) to read more about the Summit. Obtain hotel rates of \$149 double/\$155 single at the Westin Riverwalk by contacting the hotel directly at (210) 224-6500 and mentioning the National League of Cities by 9/1/05.

National League of Cities, Institute for Youth, Education, and Families



For more information about the  
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