

**Examples from the Field: What Two Cities are Doing**

**Philadelphia Newspaper Focuses on Out-of-school Youth:** The Fall 2005 issue of the *Philadelphia Public School Notebook* includes in-depth coverage of the situation of out-of-school youth in the city. Staff of the *Notebook*, an independent quarterly newspaper that promotes informed public involvement in the city's public schools, teamed with the Eastern Pennsylvania Organizing Project (EPOP) to produce the issue, with help from key local intermediary Philadelphia Youth Network (PYN). The issue reflects results of EPOP interviews with 50 out-of-school youth, and through articles presented in English and Spanish covers topics common in cities nationwide including data shortfalls, zero tolerance, financial incentive structures, early intervention strategies, as well as the special circumstances affecting young people aging out of foster care and those who are pregnant and parenting. The issue also describes steps the city is taking to improve local dropout reduction and re-enrollment strategies through support it is receiving from the Youth Transition Funders Group. To read articles from the issue, see [www.thenotebook.org](http://www.thenotebook.org).

**Las Vegas Launches New Effort with Community Convening:** With leadership and assistance from the city Parks and Recreation Department and other city and county agencies, as well as the local Public Education Fund, the Clark County Ready for Life Initiative held a public meeting on November 10 attended by more than 100 citizens and policymakers. The meeting began with the question: Are Nevada's youth ready for life? The meeting also publicly offered statistics regarding local challenges and opportunities. Discussion centered on dropout, teen pregnancy, foster care, and juvenile justice trends, and provided a forum for views of some of the area's estimated 30,000 disconnected youth. Contact Jessica Sandoval (email address below) to receive a copy of the kickoff presentation.

**Resources Watch****Appropriations Slated to Drop Again for Key Juvenile Justice Grants to Localities:**

The US House of Representatives and Senate have approved a 2006 Department of Justice appropriations bill that includes funding cuts for Title V and Juvenile Accountability Block Grants, further diminishing Federal resources for cities. Funding is expected to be (and was) as follows:

	<u>Title V</u>	<u>JABG</u> (in millions)
FY2002	\$ 94.3	\$249
FY2005	\$ 79.4	\$ 54
FY2006	\$ 65	\$ 50

**Seeking Examples of City Involvement in DOL Re-Entry Grants:** Was your city agency named as a subcontractor or supporter of a winner in the recent round of re-entry project grants from the US Department of Labor? If so, please contact Jessica Sandoval at the email address below, describing the nature and extent of your agency's involvement.

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



For more information about the  
Municipal Network on Disconnected Youth, please contact:  
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