

Preparing for the White House Conference on Helping America's Youth

Resources for Your City: October 27, 2005, marks the White House Conference on Helping America's Youth, convened by First Lady Laura Bush. The Conference offer opportunities to build upon media interest in youth to disseminate important messages in all cities and towns. In response to the original announcement of the Conference's attention to anti-gang efforts, NLC's colleagues at Connect for Kids specifically suggest using the Conference season as a time to focus attention on alternative approaches to juvenile justice.

The following tools are available upon request from moore@nlc.org, for *MNDY News* readers to consider adapting and putting into use during the month of October:

- ⇒ ***Op-Ed Template*** that can be adapted to feature a particular state or local cross-system collaboration, program, or young person;
- ⇒ ***Planning a Juvenile Justice Roundtable in Your State***, which lays out a three-week timetable for convening a public roundtable and also provides a sample agenda, media advisory, press release, talking points, and suggestions for additional outreach – suitable for customizing for use in a particular city as well.
- ⇒ ***Resources to Localize Juvenile Justice Policy and Communications Work*** from the Justice Policy Institute, which provides numerous useful web links for statistics organized around themes such as disproportionate minority contact, public safety and diversion options, and substance abuse treatment needs.

Training

Registration open for 2005 It's My Life Conference: Casey Family Programs has opened registration for its biennial conference taking place in Baltimore, Maryland, November 14-15. The conference is based on *It's My Life*, a published youth-centered framework designed to guide transition services for young people who "age out" of foster care. Foster youth and alumni are encouraged to attend, as are professionals and policymakers working in the field of foster youth transitions. For the first time, municipally-led foster youth transition efforts will be on the agenda – notably, those in Philadelphia and San Francisco. Scholarships are available! For more information please see <http://www.casey.org/Resources/Projects/ItsMyLife/>.

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



For more information about the
Municipal Network on Disconnected Youth, please contact:
Jessica Sandoval at 202/626-3035, sandoval@nlc.org
or Senior Consultant Andrew Moore at 215/848-6910, moore@nlc.org

