



Municipal Network on Disconnected Youth E-Newsletter July 2007, Volume IV, Issue 5

CITIES TO WATCH

Orlando, Florida: Building a Network of Supports for a Neighborhood in Need

As a result of a task force convened last Fall by the Mayor of Orlando, Florida (pop. 220,651), the city launched Parramore Kidz Zone, a collaborative effort focused on engaging disconnected youth from one of the city's most distressed neighborhoods, which now has the highest child poverty, juvenile arrest, teen birth and child abuse rates in the county. An extensive coalition of city departments, non-profits and the school system have already connected 26% of the 2000 youth of the area to positive supports, including after school programming, a robust mentorship program and employment opportunities. By collecting important data and trends on project performance and systemic conditions, Orlando will soon begin scaling the program citywide. <http://www.cityoforlando.net/executive/children/pkz.htm>

Nashville, Tennessee: Homeless Youth Coalition

The city and county of Nashville, Tennessee (pop. 549,850) are combating child homelessness head on with the recent launch of a collaborative initiative to better understand the causes, and better deliver solutions to the community's children and families. With trend data showing a marked increase in runaway and homeless youth, the Mayor took the lead to convene a community-wide and multi-agency approach which is increasing the integration of data, policies, and communication between "first point of contact" agencies and "first point of service" providers. <http://www.nashville.gov/sservices/youth.htm>

NLC UPDATES AND RESOURCES

Register Today for the Summit on Your City's Families: Sept. 30-Oct. 2, 2007

Building stronger communities through partnerships will be the focus of the upcoming Summit on Your City's Families being held in San Antonio on September 30-October 2nd. As the nation's largest gathering of municipal leaders working to improve the lives of families in their community, participants are encouraged to register as teams representative of the key stakeholders in the community. [An opportunity for members of MNDY to network is being planned.](#) Registration information is available at www.nlc.org/IYEF/yefsummit.aspx

Disconnected Youth Cross-Systems Collaboration Technical Assistance:

The Cities of Denver, Colo., Hartford, Conn., Newark, N.J., Orlando, Fla., Roanoke, Va. and St. Louis, Mo. were selected to receive technical assistance for the YEF Institute's Municipal Leadership for Disconnected Youth initiative. The selection was a competitive one, with sixteen applicants each submitting compelling and promising plans for youth development in their communities. Thanks to support from the Charles Stewart Mott

Foundation, these cities will benefit from opportunities for learning, peer exchange and consultation as will the entire MNDY network in learning from the progress made and lessons learned. <http://www.nlc.org/articles>

Beyond City Limits: Cross Systems Collaboration to Reengage Disconnected Youth

A primer for any municipal leader on how to take leadership and forge alliances to more effectively reengage disconnected youth, this case study document emphasizes mayoral leadership, finding financial support and the key role of a coordinating body. Detailing successes and challenges in the cities of Albany, N.Y., Baltimore, Md., Boston, Mass., Corpus Christi, Tex., Philadelphia, Pa., San Diego, Calif., San Francisco, Calif., and San Jose, Calif., this publication is sure to spark ideas for your own community. The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation and the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation provided support for the case studies, which can be requested via email at becerra@nlc.org.

Last Call: Youth Master Planning Technical Assistance Available- Deadline Aug. 10th

The YEF Institute is requesting proposals from cities for assistance in building collaborations and coordinating systems that support the effective implementation of a children and youth plan. The project is made possible through the generous support of the MetLife Foundation and cities that have any comprehensive plans to serve youth and are in the process of implementing those plans are encouraged to apply. For more information, contact Rebecca Makar at makar@nlc.org <http://www.nlc.org/ARTICLES>

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

How to make the Case for Youth Transition Programs

If advocates are to communicate a youth transition vision to a broader universe of policymakers, parents, law enforcement and others in the community, advocates must develop a core set of thoughtful messages that will resonate. The Youth Transition Funding Group (YTFG) has partnered with Fenton Communications to develop a toolkit for effectively spreading the word about issues related to youth transitions. To receive the toolkit and listen to an audio conference session aimed to better understand its strategies, <http://www.ytfg.org/documents/TalkingaboutYouthTransitions.pdf>

The City Of Sacramento Seeks a Director Of The Office Of Youth Development

A superb opportunity for a public service oriented professional who has a track record of success in leadership, collaboration, networking, strategic planning, and cross-systems efforts that include partnering with schools. The Director will have a working knowledge of youth programs, with particular emphasis on youth development and engagement. <http://www.cityofsacramento.org/personnel/employmen.html>

America's Promise Alliance to recognize success

America's Promise Alliance will be accepting applications for The *100 Best Communities for Young People*, an annual competition which recognizes outstanding community-wide efforts that improve the well-being of youth. The competition asks communities across the country to assess their challenges, work effectively together for young people, share best practices and serves to inspire other localities to take action to ensure they're meeting the challenges facing their young people. Applications will be accepted through Nov. 2, 2007. <http://www.americaspromise.org/APAPage.aspx?id=5922>

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

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