

**Resources for Cities and their Partners**

**Calhoun Testifies before DC City Council:** YEF Institute consultant Jack Calhoun testified earlier this month before the Special Committee on the Prevention of Youth Violence of the Washington, D.C., City Council. Calhoun's testimony provides numerous pointers for any city undertaking a campaign against youth violence or broader pro-youth effort, and reflects a lifetime of experience and commitment. The testimony is available at [www.nlc.org/content/Files/IYEF\\_Calhoun\\_testimony.pdf](http://www.nlc.org/content/Files/IYEF_Calhoun_testimony.pdf).

**New Book Details Risks Confronting Young Adults, Calls for Responses:** The University of Chicago Press issued a useful new book this month, On Your Own Without a Net: The Transition to Adulthood for Vulnerable Populations. The book, prepared in conjunction with the MacArthur (Foundation) Research Network on Transitions to Adulthood, provides comprehensive documentation for a broad audience of the major challenges facing young people leaving the juvenile justice, foster care, special education, mental health, and disability service systems. It also calls for a concerted response focused on job training, education, and other services to help young people move into productive adult lives. The book, whose editors are D. Wayne Osgood, E. Michael Foster, Constance Flanagan, and Gretchen R. Ruth, is available by calling 1-800-621-8476, at specialty bookstores, or via the web. Learn more at <http://www.transad.pop.upenn.edu/research/woutnet.htm>.

**NLC Releases Children and Youth Platform for Cities:** At the closing session of this month's Congress of Cities, NLC released a new "City Platform on Strengthening Families and Improving Outcomes for Children and Youth." The product of extensive work by NLC's Council on Youth, Education and Families, the two-part platform urges every city and town to take concrete steps on behalf of children, youth and families. These steps are designed to be implemented in any community, regardless of size or composition, to yield immediate and significant results. The first section of the platform identifies the "essential infrastructure" that is needed in every community for sustained progress – ways to identify needs, measure progress, promote collaboration between cities, schools and other community stakeholders, and encourage youth participation and leadership. The second part offers a set of specific action steps that communities should take in each of seven areas, including youth in transition and at risk. Importantly, the platform is designed to encourage cities and towns to build on already established processes and fill key gaps in existing programs and initiatives, and recommends various ways in which mayors, councilmembers and senior city administrators can improve outcomes for children, youth and families. View or download the Platform at [www.nlc.org/iyef](http://www.nlc.org/iyef).

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



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