

# Youth Resource Connections

U.S. Department of Labor, Division of Youth Services  
200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20210 (202) 693-3036,  
[http://www.doleta.gov/youth\\_services/](http://www.doleta.gov/youth_services/)

Volume 10, Number 7

July 31, 2010

## HEADLINES

**U.S. Labor Department publishes updated list of products made with forced or indentured child labor.** The U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of International Labor Affairs announced the publication of a final list of products that federal contractors must certify under Executive Order 13126 which are not produced with forced or indentured child labor. The list will appear in the July 20 edition of the *Federal Register*. In September 2009, this department released an initial determination that proposed updating the E.O. 13126 list. That determination set forth a list of 29 products in 21 countries of origin that the U.S. Departments of Labor, State and Homeland Security preliminarily believed were mined, produced or manufactured by forced or indentured child labor. The initial determination announced a 90-day period for review and submission of public comments on these proposed updates to the list. To view the press release, visit: <http://www.dol.gov/opa/media/press/ilab/ILAB20100914.htm>. The final list, frequently asked questions, procedural guidelines and procurement compliance information for the E.O. 13126 list also will be available at: <http://www.dol.gov/ILAB/regs/eo13126/main.htm>. To obtain more information about ILAB and its program activities is available at <http://www.dol.gov/ilab>.

**U.S. Labor Department Seeks Public Input to Strengthen Disability Regulations.** The U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs (OFCCP) is seeking input from the public on ways to strengthen its regulations requiring federal contractors to take affirmative action to employ and advance in employment qualified individuals with disabilities. In an Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPRM) to be published in the *Federal Register* July 23, the agency invites the public to help revise the regulations implementing Section 503 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Comments must be received by OFCCP within 60 days of the ANPRM's publication. To read the ANPRM or submit a comment, go to the Federal eRulemaking Portal at: <http://www.regulations.gov/search/Regs/home.html#home>. The deadline for receiving comments is September 21, 2010.

**President Obama Launches Initiative to Develop a 21st Century Strategy for America's Great Outdoors.** President Barack Obama signed a Presidential Memorandum establishing the America's Great Outdoors Initiative to promote and support innovative community-level efforts to conserve outdoor spaces and to reconnect Americans to the outdoors. The Secretaries of the Departments of Interior and of Agriculture, the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the Chair of the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) have been tapped to lead the Initiative. Other Federal agencies including the Department of Labor will work in coordination with the lead agencies. The Initiative will support a 21st century conservation agenda that builds on successes in communities across the country, and will start a national dialogue about conservation that supports the efforts of private citizens and local communities. For more information on America's Great Outdoors initiative, visit, <http://www.doi.gov/americasgreatoutdoors/>.

**Ad Council and Dollar General Literacy Foundation Launch Campaign to Encourage Young Adults to Achieve their GED® Diploma.** The Advertising Council and the Dollar General Literacy Foundation joined together to launch a national public service advertising (PSA) campaign designed to provide high school dropouts with access to information that will lead to a GED Diploma. The campaign shows viewers that "You can take the first step" and directs them to a toll free number 877-38-YOURGED and a new website, <http://www.yourged.org/>, available in English and Spanish. The site provides visitors with free referrals to local GED programs and information on the GED Diploma process. The campaign also has a mobile component. Young adults can text 69222 from their cell phones and receive messages about the three literacy centers closest to them.

## ***FUNDING ANNOUNCEMENTS***

**U.S. Labor Department Awards \$66.7 Million in YouthBuild Grants.** Secretary of Labor Hilda L. Solis announced second year funding for YouthBuild grantees amounting to \$66,678,357. 183 community groups received funds to provide education and training to young people across the United States. The YouthBuild program assists out-of-school youth in obtaining their diplomas or General Educational Developments (GEDs) while providing occupational training in the construction industry. While acquiring leadership skills and participating in community service, at-risk youth build and renovate affordable housing within their communities. Organizations chosen for YouthBuild funding include workforce investment boards, faith-based and community groups, and local and nonprofit housing development agencies. A full list of grantees can be found at: [http://www.doleta.gov/youth\\_services/pdf/Complete\\_YouthBuild\\_Grants\\_2009\\_List2.pdf](http://www.doleta.gov/youth_services/pdf/Complete_YouthBuild_Grants_2009_List2.pdf). For more information on YouthBuild grants and other Department of Labor youth employment programs, visit [http://www.doleta.gov/youth\\_services](http://www.doleta.gov/youth_services). To view this press release, visit: <http://www.dol.gov/opa/media/press/eta/eta20100969.htm>.

**AT&T Contributes \$1.5 Million to Communities In Schools to Help Increase Graduation Rates for At-Risk Students.** To help combat the alarming high school dropout rate among our nation's at-risk students, AT&T announced a \$1.5 million contribution to Communities In Schools (CIS) to enable the organization to strengthen and advance its core program. CIS will use this funding to significantly increase the number of school-based site coordinators who help connect at-risk-students in affiliate schools with academic support, mentoring, counseling, after-school programs, career development, intervention, health care and other resources. This contribution from AT&T will be used to fund a one year re-granting program to help select CIS affiliates hire additional site coordinators. For more information, visit: <http://www.att.com/gen/press-room?pid=18118&cdvn=news&newsarticleid=30950&mapcode=regulatory>.

### ***OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH, YOUNG ADULTS, AND TEACHERS***

#### **Sun Life Financial, Inc. Invites Applications for its Rising Star Awards Program.**

Sun Life Financial, Inc. is accepting applications from Philadelphia-area nonprofit organizations working with at-risk youth. The Sun Life Rising Star Awards program seeks to recognize and provide resources to high school students who have overcome the odds and remained committed to furthering their education and the nonprofit organizations who work on their behalf. The company will award a total of \$1 million in grants and scholarships to organizations and students in seven U.S. cities in 2010, the program's inaugural year. At least three grants of \$50,000 each will be awarded to organizations in the Philadelphia area. As part of the application process, each nonprofit will have the opportunity to nominate a student who participates in the organization for a chance to receive a \$5,000 scholarship. Not-for-profit organizations that work with children under the age of 21 in the areas of education engagement and/or increasing high school graduation rates are eligible to apply. In addition to grant money, organizations will have the opportunity to receive a curriculum and training to incorporate a financial education component into their programs. [http://www.sunliferisingstar.com/index\\_all.php](http://www.sunliferisingstar.com/index_all.php). **Deadline: August 31.**

**Ashoka and Staples, Inc. Launch Fourth Annual Global Youth Social Entrepreneur Competition.** [Ashoka](#) in partnership with [Staples, Inc.](#) is accepting applications for its fourth annual Staples/Ashoka Youth Social Entrepreneur Competition. The global competition is designed to highlight youth-led organizations focused on social issues affecting their communities. It is also part of [Ashoka's Youth Venture](#), an initiative designed to identify and foster young entrepreneurs all over the world who are creating positive change. Existing and new Youth Venture teams made up of young people between the ages of 12 and 24 whose entrepreneurial ventures are making a positive impact on communities are eligible to apply. To obtain additional information and an application, visit: <http://www.genv.net/en-us/staples-yse>. **Deadline: September 20.**

**American Association of Community Colleges Invites Applications for Service Learning Workshop Mini-Grants.** The American Association of Community Colleges is accepting applications for its Service Learning Workshop Mini-Grants. These \$2,000 mini-grants are designed to assist community colleges interested in organizing and hosting regional workshops on service learning. Up to four colleges will be selected to organize and host workshops between October 1, 2010, and May 31, 2011. AACC is particularly interested in organizing workshops in states that have not received Horizons funding before (AK, DE, ID, ND, NE, NH, NV, and WV) or that do not generally have statewide or regional service learning training opportunities available. Each \$2,000 mini-grant recipient must agree to organize and host a workshop for the recipient college and at least four other community colleges between October 1, 2010, and May 31, 2011; focus on aspects of service learning that are specific to the community college experience; and feature plans or activities related to the Martin Luther King, Jr., Day of Service January 17, 2011. A \$2,000 cash or in-kind match is required. To obtain additional information and an application, visit: <http://www.aacc.nche.edu/Resources/GrantOpps/Pages/default.aspx>. **Deadline: August 6.**

**Sloan Consortium Invites Nominations for Online Education Awards.** Sloan Consortium is accepting applications for its 2010 Sloan-C Awards. The 2010 Sloan-C Awards for Excellence in Online Teaching and Learning will present awards in the categories of Excellence in Online Teaching (Individual), Outstanding Achievement in Online Education by an Individual Outstanding Online Program, Excellence in Faculty Development for Online Teaching, and Excellence in Institution-Wide Online Education. Individual nominees must be employed by a Sloan-C member institution or be individual members of Sloan-C; program and institutional awards are also limited to Sloan-C member institutions and organizations. Nominations for individual awards must be made by an institutional representative other than the nominee. Individual awards include a commemorative plaque and \$2,000; institutional awards consist of a commemorative plaque only. To obtain additional information and an application, visit: <http://www.sloan-c.org/>. **Deadline: August 15.**

**The Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy Announces 2011 National Grant Program.** The Foundation's grant-making program seeks to develop or expand projects that are designed to support the development of literacy skills for adult primary caregivers and their children. A total of approximately \$650,000 will be awarded for this competition and no grant request should exceed \$65,000. To obtain additional information and an application visit: <http://www.barbarabushfoundation.com/site/c.jhLSK2PALmF/b.4344531/k.BD31/Home.htm>. **Deadline: September 10.**

**Horace Mann Offers Teacher Fellowships at Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum.** Horace Mann and the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum have partnered to annually offer fifty teachers a five-day fellowship to study the life and legacy of the sixteenth American president. Fellows will attend one of two five-day sessions — one in June and one in July 2011 — at the ALPLM in Springfield, Illinois. The fellowship is designed to bring together exceptional educators from across the United States to develop strategies for applying historical content in the classroom and across the curriculum. The curriculum is geared toward teachers of students in grades four to 12. No special knowledge of history or Lincoln is required. The fellowship is open to any full-time teacher of kindergarten through 12th grade in the U.S., except residents of Kentucky, Mississippi, New Jersey, New York, and Hawaii, or previous Horace Mann-Abraham Lincoln Fellowship recipients. To obtain additional information and an application, visit: <https://www.horacemann.com/resources/fellowships/default.aspx>. **Deadline: January 3, 2011.**

## **PUBLICATIONS**

**U.S. Department of Labor Announces Release of New Study on Disability Program Navigator Initiative.** The U.S. Department of Labor released an evaluation study of the Disability Program Navigator Initiative titled "Use of One-Stops by Social Security Disability Beneficiaries in Four States Implementing Disability Program Navigator Initiative." The study measures whether the public workforce system, particularly the One-Stop Career Center system, is helping people who are receiving Supplemental Security Income and Social Security Disability Insurance find jobs in the workplace. The study was conducted in Colorado, Iowa, Maryland and Oregon, and used both Workforce Investment Act Adult and Dislocated Worker, and Wagner-Peyser database information for program years 2002 through 2007. This study demonstrates that the One-Stop Career Centers are serving a large share of individuals receiving Social Security disability benefits. The public workforce system is providing important support for beneficiaries who want to work and increasing their employment opportunities. The report is available online at: <http://disability.workforce3one.org/view/2001018107873517795/info>.

**Effectiveness of Fully Online Courses for College Students: Response to a Department of Education Meta-Analysis.** This paper developed by Smith Jaggars & Bailey with the Community College Research Center, discusses whether complete on-line learning is beneficial to all students. To read the paper, visit: <http://ccrc.tc.columbia.edu/Publication.asp?UID=796>.

**COMPUTATIONAL THINKING FOR YOUTH.** This White Paper developed by Walt Allan, Foundation for Blood Research; Bob Coulter, Missouri Botanical Garden; Jill Denner, ETR Associates; Jeri Erickson, Foundation for Blood Research; Irene Lee, Santa Fe Institute; Joyce Malyn-Smith, ITEST LRC at EDC; and Fred Martin, University of Massachusetts Lowell, aims to describe what computational thinking looks like when practiced by youth in Innovative Technology Experiences for Students and Teachers (ITEST)\* program and other National Science Foundation funded programs and how educators can support growth in computational thinking. It shares examples of computational thinking as observed in middle school projects. Additionally, the paper also shares observations in the form of a model that describes three stages that youth appear to progress through as their computational thinking skills evolve. To view the paper, visit: <http://itestlrc.edc.org/resources/computational-thinking-youth-white-paper>.

**Paving the Way to Work: A Guide to Career-Focused Mentoring.** This mentoring guide developed by the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy's (ODEP) seeks to find and promote the most effective research-based policies and practices to improve transition outcomes for youth with disabilities. Mentoring is recognized as one of the most important strategies for assisting youth in making a positive transition into adulthood. Both caring adults and peers may play a key role in mentoring. In response to the under-representation of youth with disabilities in most youth development programs, ODEP, in collaboration with the U.S. Department of Labor's Center for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives, launched an initiative to promote mentoring for youth with disabilities in 2004. This Guide is intended for individuals designing mentoring programs for youth, including youth with disabilities, in the transition phase to adulthood. To view this guide, visit: <http://www.ncwd-youth.info/paving-the-way-to-work>.

**Small Business and Self-employment as Income Mobility Mechanisms.** This report developed by Bradley R. Schiller of Capitol Research, Inc on behalf of the Small Business Administration, extends the observation period for gauging income growth using the National Longitudinal Surveys of Youth (NLSY). It tracks employment and income experiences in a later phase of the typical work life and finds that relative income mobility continued to be the norm even as workers grew older and more experienced. A key specific finding is that the incidence and extent of mobility is higher for self-employed individuals than for paid employees. To view the report, visit: <http://www.sba.gov/advo/research/rs366tot.pdf>.

## ***PROGRAM RESOURCES***

On July 7, the Alliance for Excellent Education (AEE) and the Campaign for High School Equity hosted a webinar entitled: **The Economic Benefits of Reducing the Dropout Rate among Students of Color in the Nation's Largest Metropolitan Areas.** A part of the webinar discussion was on the challenges of improving high school graduation rates among students of color and what doing so could mean for local communities, as well as the students themselves. Earlier this year, the AEE documented the benefits of reducing the dropout rate for all students in the nation's largest metropolitan areas. Building on this work, it is now able to estimate the economic benefits of reducing the dropout rate among students of color in these metro areas. Following the discussion, panelists answered questions from online participants. To listen to the archived webinar, visit: <http://www.all4ed.org/events/WebinarEconBenefits070710>.

**Community College Research Center Releases Informational Brief Entitled: Dual Enrollment: Postsecondary/Secondary Partnerships to Prepare Students.** This brief was developed by Katherine L. Hughes with the Journal of College Science Teaching. The last decade has seen an explosion of interest in dual enrollment. In dual enrollment, high school students are permitted to take college courses and, if they pass them, earn college credit. Sometimes, as in the case of dual credit, students earn both high school and college credit for the same course. However, more research on how participation in dual enrollment may contribute to students' smoother secondary-to-postsecondary transitions is certainly needed. In the meantime, dual enrollment serves to encourage engagement among college faculty, collaborating high school teachers and staff, and motivated secondary students who are interested in higher education. Given our national problem with college persistence and completion, the fostering of such relationships can only be regarded as a positive step. To read the brief, visit: <http://ccrc.tc.columbia.edu/Publication.asp?UID=791>.

**Center for Law and Social Policy- Funding Career Pathways and Career Pathway Bridges: A Federal Policy Toolkit for States.** The Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP) developed the Funding Career Pathways and Career Pathway Bridges Toolkit to help interagency state teams identify and use federal resources to support these models. The toolkit has four sections which are intended to be used in conjunction with each other to assist state teams in building their career pathways or career pathways bridge initiative. It is designed to help interagency state teams identify and facilitate "braiding" of federal resources to design and develop career pathways and bridges into them for adults and out-of-school youth. This resource will also help state teams identify state policy barriers to using federal resources for career pathways and bridges and, ideally, address them. For a copy of the Toolkit, visit: <http://www.clasp.org/admin/site/publications/files/FundingCareerPathwaysFederalPolicyToolkitforStates.pdf>.

### **WEB SITES**

**Making Cents Announces the Launch New Youth-Inclusive Financial Services (YFS-Link) Program Web site.** Making Cents has launched "Youth-Inclusive Financial Services (YFS-Link)" Program Website for financial services providers FSPs and youth-service organizations. This Web site is designed to gather, learn and share information about youth-inclusive financial services. Users are also invited to learn more about their Global Youth and Enterprise Development Conference in September 2010 in Washington, D.C. To view the Web site, visit: <http://www.yfslink.org/>.

### **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**August 24-25.** Chicago, IL. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Children, Youth and Families - Pathways to Adulthood 2010, National Independent Living/ Transitional Living Conference. To obtain additional information, visit: <http://www.nrcyd.ou.edu/pathways>.

### **NOTICE:**

***Youth Resource Connections***  
Technical Assistance Update for July 2010

**The Employment and Training Administration is interested in hearing about new and innovative approaches which bring employers, educators and workforce systems professionals together to serve our communities' youth. If you would like to share projects or programs in your area please e-mail your information to the Division of Youth Services at [youth.services@dol.gov](mailto:youth.services@dol.gov).**

Thank you.

***Youth Resource Connections (YRC).*** The Department of Labor (DOL), Employment and Training Administration (ETA) does not take responsibility for non endorsed DOL/ETA resources included in the YRC.

***We welcome your input.*** Please let us know how these updates might be improved to better serve your needs. If you have comments contact the: Division of Youth Services at (202) 693-3030 or e-mail [youth.services@dol.gov](mailto:youth.services@dol.gov) .

***Subscribe/Unsubscribe to Youth Resource Connections:*** [http://www.doleta.gov/youth\\_services](http://www.doleta.gov/youth_services). Click on the "Subscribe to E-mail Updates" button to complete subscription.