


# The Update

July  
2001

*A publication of the University of Pittsburgh CBT: Independent Living Project*

## THE UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH INDEPENDENT LIVING PROJECT



Effective August 1, 2001 the Department of Public Welfare entered into an Interagency Agreement with the University of Pittsburgh. You may be asking yourself what impact this has on the current IL Project. As was stated in last month's Update, this fall all staff located at Shippensburg University who have made the decision to continue working for Competency Based Training program will relocate to our new offices at 200 Spring Garden Street in Carlisle, PA. Dave Cargo who provided Technical Assistance for the county programs will no longer be with the project. Kristen Getic will transfer from her position of Data Entry Manager to South Central Regional Training Consultant. The positions IL Coordinator and Technical Assistant have been modified into two IL Specialist Positions. Lenore Moton will hold one position with the other by filled by Lynda Long. Curriculum writing and development will be a new aspect to this position in addition to the responsibility of doing site visits to county agencies with IL programs. Currently, interviews are being held for various vacant positions within CBT including IL Secretary/Data Entry Manager. Additional Information will be forwarded to you as it become available. Thank you for your continued support as we make the transition over the next several months.

## PENNSYLVANIA INDEPENDENT LIVING OUTCOMES TRACKING SYSTEM

Effective Monday, August 6, 2001 there will be a temporary shut down of the PILOTS server until the beginning of September. During this period you will not be able to enter data into the PILOTS database. Notification will be sent out once the transition is complete and data entry can resume. We apologize in advance for any inconveniences this may cause. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Lynda Long at 717-477-1709 ext 3756 or Lenore Moton at 717-477-1798.

## FAMILY UNIFICATION PROGRAM (FUP) INFORMATION

Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has allocated \$11,466,000 for Fiscal year 2001 to support approximately 2,000 FUP Housing Choice Vouchers (HCV). **In addition to families, youth exiting foster care are now Eligible for time limited (up to 18 months) housing choice vouchers.** To qualify, the youth must be age 18-21, who left foster care after age 16 and lacks adequate housing and the youth must qualify for the HCV as determined by the Public Housing Authority. For additional information on this program please visit [www.hud.gov/adm/grants/fundsavail.html](http://www.hud.gov/adm/grants/fundsavail.html) or call George Hendrickson, HUD Housing Program Specialist at 202/708-1872 ext. 4064 or CWLA Program Coordinator, Ruth White at 202/662-4282.

## 2001-2002 IL SCHOLARSHIP

The deadline for submitting IL Scholarship Applications was July 27, 2001. This year, 24 youth have applied for monies to assist them with education fees for the 01'-02' academic year. After all applications are reviewed, youths will be notified of receipt of their materials and of any revisions needed in order to make the application complete. Scholarship funds will be available no later than October 15, 2001.

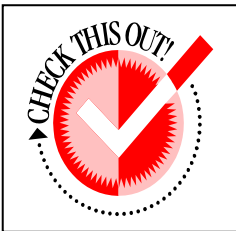
## DESTINATION FUTURE

Thank you to everyone who submitted an application to attend the 2001 Destination Future Conference being held in Glorieta, New Mexico August 24-26, 2001. Congratulations to Colleen Gormley and a youth from Beaver County and to Elaine Altoe and a youth from Luzerne County. Check the spring edition of the IL-Luminator for an article detailing the event of the conference to be written by the sponsored staff and youth.

## 2001 IL YOUTH RETREAT

As this edition of The Update is being produced, the 2001 IL Youth Retreat is taking place on the campus of Shippensburg University. This year marks the 5<sup>th</sup> and final year that Bill Shutt and Family Care for Children and Youth will organize and develop the retreat grant. The theme of the retreat this year was SURVIVOR: The 2001 IL Challenge. Youth participated in a variety of activities throughout the week that encouraged them to challenge their own thinking on various issues. The week also provided youth an opportunity to reflect on their lives and examine some of the challenges they have survived, and share with others who may have survived similar challenges. Over 150 youth and staff attended the retreat this year which featured a mid week trip to Hershey Park. The memory of Devin Uqdah, McLean front desk captain, who passed away in December of 2000, was honored this year with a color, hand drawn portrait by Ed Rivera and a memory book that was presented to his family at the retreat banquet. Additional reporting on the 2001 youth retreat will be found in the August edition of The Update with a full report to be found in the September/October edition of the IL-Luminator.

### **Montgomery County:**



Sandy Ritter, Social Service Specialist, for Montgomery County Human Services Center is pleased to report that their new private provider, Big Brother Big Sisters (BBBS) of Montgomery County, recently matched their first IL youth with a Big Sister mentor. Though BBBS typically matches mentors with youth age 14 and under they have agreed to recruit mentors for IL youth ages 16 and up! For additional information or if you have any questions about the BBBS program in Montgomery County please feel free to contact Sandie Ritter at 610/278-5800.

### CONTACT INFORMATION

\*\*Phone numbers and e-mail addresses will be changing within the next few weeks

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Effective June 4, 2001, the e-mail address for Dave Derbes, IL State Grant Coordinator became **[dderbes@state.pa.us](mailto:dderbes@state.pa.us)**