Quick Links
(Just click on the link to go directly to this section of the resource guide)

Improving Readiness for College and Work
- Chafee Education and Training Grant (ETG)
- SAT Fee Waiver Information
- Education Toolkit Online Curriculum
- Better Youth Employment for Low-income Communities
- What Skills Do Young People Need to Enter the 21st Century Workforce?
- Helping Low-Wage Workers Access Work Supports

Transitions to Permanency
- Permanency Planning: Inclusive Practice with LGBTQ Resource Families
- Mama S & Papa M: Making APPLAs Work for Youth
- Ways to Support Families with Substance Use, Mental, and Co-Occurring Disorders
- Youth Involved in the Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice Systems
- Titles IV-B, IV-E and Related Sections of the Social Security Act – Draft
- Transitions to Adulthood

Positive Youth Development
- Reducing Teen Pregnancy Rates Gives Babies a Better Start
- Taking No Chances: Rise Magazine April 2010 Web Exclusive
- The Academy: A Program for Older Youth Transitioning Out of Foster Care

Professional Development
- Preventing Child Abuse in an Age of Budget Deficits
- Secondary Trauma: Building Resilience among Child Welfare Staff (Archived NRCPFC Teleconference)
- CONNECT: Your Child Welfare Internet Community
- Hidden Workforce: How to Use Volunteers to Extend, Expand and Strengthen Your Services
- Runaway Youth in America
- Statistics on Risky Youth Behavior
- Sexually-Transmitted Disease: Perceptions and Prevalence in Young Adults

Independent Living Project Updates:
- National Youth in Transition Database (NYTD)
- The YAB now has a Facebook Fan Page and The Training Program now has a Facebook Group Page!
- Increasing Your Knowledge of Independent Living and Transition Services
Know Your Rights Training: Newly Revised Edition Coming Soon
Quick Links cont.

2010 Youth Retreat
The Blast Seeks Youth Information
Transitions
Improving Readiness for College and Work

Chafee Education and Training Grant (ETG)

Youth planning to enroll in college this fall should complete the Chafee ETG application in addition to the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA) worksheet. Chafee ETG applications and information are found at the [www.pheaa.org](http://www.pheaa.org) website; the ETG application for 2010-11 is now on the PHEAA website. Find and click on the “Special Programs” link to select the link for the Pennsylvania Chafee ETG application. (Note: there are no deadlines for the federal Pell Grant or Chafee ETG; it’s not too late to submit a FAFSA application for summer classes.)

**New for the ETG program is an automatic renewal process.** All current ETG award recipients will be automatically enrolled for the next academic year and do not need to complete the ETG application. This will relieve youth of the necessity of completing the ETG application annually. Students who have not completed an application or received an ETG award must complete and submit an initial application. Students must still complete a FAFSA each year.

For questions about current Chafee applications or a youth’s status, please contact PHEAA at 1-800-831-0797. If you have Aftercare youth who plan to move to another state and establish residency there, they can find state information on the ETG programs at: [www.statevoucher.org](http://www.statevoucher.org)

Each state has individual application processes.

SAT Fee Waiver Information

At this time the SAT tests for the 2009 – 2010 school year are complete. The College Board will send the waivers for the coming 2010-2011 school year in mid- to late August. As soon as the new waivers arrive, Janice Coplin at the CWTP will send an e-mail to you along with the new 2010-2011 SAT/ College Waiver request forms. Please do not use the 2009 – 2010 forms when requesting waivers for the new school year. Below are the test dates for the coming school year. The CWTP does not yet have the new registration deadline dates:

- October 9
- November 6
- December 4
- January 22
- March 12
- May 7
- June 4

Education Toolkit Online Curriculum

An online toolkit is offered by the Education Law Center. While juvenile probation personnel are the targeted audience, the Curriculum is available and may be helpful to residential service providers, especially when working with schools to establish educational transition release plans for youth. [www.elc-pa.org/jpo/](http://www.elc-pa.org/jpo/)

Better Youth Employment for Low-income Communities

The Center on Law and Social Policy identifies key elements for an effective youth employment system: a strong convening entity, an effective administrative agent, a well-trained case management arm, strong partnerships across systems that serve youth, high quality work experience and career exposure components. [www.connectforkids.org](http://www.connectforkids.org)

What Skills Do Young People Need to Enter the 21st Century Workforce?

“Raising The Bar: Employers’ Views On College Learning In The Wake Of The Economic Downturn” focuses on employers views on skills needed for college graduates to succeed in the workplace. The survey found that employers want a broad set of skills and a higher level of learning and knowledge from their workers than they are currently receiving. Only one in four

IL Resources – June 2010
employers think two/four-year colleges are doing a good job in preparing their students; nevertheless, the survey found that most employers will be hiring more college graduates in the future. The survey found that young people are not prepared for entry-level jobs and that employers expect young people to arrive with a core set of knowledge and the ability to apply their skills in the workplace. Both the Hart Research and the Corporate Voices research highlighted the ability to communicate orally and in writing and possess critical thinking and problem solving skills as key for college graduates entering the workplace.

**Helping Low-Wage Workers Access Work Supports**

This 12-page brief distills practical implementation lessons from four programs that help low-wage workers access and retain child care subsidies, public health insurance, the Earned Income Tax Credit, food stamps, and other related government benefits. [www.mdrc.org](http://www.mdrc.org)

**Transitions to Permanency**

**Permanency Planning: Inclusive Practice with LGBTQ Resource Families**

The Summer 2010 Issue of Permanency Planning Today, NRCPFC’s bi-annual newsletter, is now available for download from our website. This issue focuses on inclusive practice with LGBTQ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Questioning) Resource Families, and features interviews on this topic with Ellen Kahn from the Human Rights Campaign’s All-Children All Families initiative, Terry Boggis from Center Kids, Center Families at New York City’s LGBTQ Community Center, Joe, an adoptive father and member of the LGBTQ community, and Diane Wagner, Division Chief, County of Los Angeles Department of Children Family Services, Adoption & Permanency Resources. This issue of Permanency Planning Today includes a variety of resources to support permanency and family connections for children, youth, and families involved in the child welfare system. [http://www.nrcpfc.org/newsletter/ppt-summer-2010.pdf](http://www.nrcpfc.org/newsletter/ppt-summer-2010.pdf)

**Mama S & Papa M: Making APPLAs Work for Youth**

Another Planned Permanent Living Arrangement can and should be used if the three preferred permanency alternatives (adoption, guardianship, and placement with a relative) are not an option. All youth need a caring, committed adult involved in their lives. Fostering Families recently published an article by Executive Director, Sarah Gerstenzang, describing her personal experience with APPLA and offering suggestions for making APPLAs successful. Visit the New York State Citizens’ Coalition for Children website to read Sarah’s article. (May/June 2010) [http://nysccc.org/wp-content/uploads/APPLA.pdf](http://nysccc.org/wp-content/uploads/APPLA.pdf)

**Ways to Support Families with Substance Use, Mental, and Co-Occurring Disorders: A Training Package for Child Welfare Workers**

This free online training toolkit from the National Center on Substance Abuse and Child Welfare is intended to provide learning opportunities and baseline knowledge on substance abuse and mental health problems and interventions; motivate and facilitate cross-systems work; and incorporate cultural awareness and facilitate cultural competency in child welfare practice. The toolkit covers six modules and provides a range of training materials that were developed to be adapted to meet the needs of child welfare trainers for in-person workshops and/or training sessions. [http://www.ncsacw.samhsa.gov/training/toolkit/default.aspx](http://www.ncsacw.samhsa.gov/training/toolkit/default.aspx)

**Youth Involved in the Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice Systems**

Courts often refer to crossover cases as those involving youth who have a case in the dependency as well as the delinquency court. Crossover cases may also include children and youth who have committed a status offense or a child in need of care or supervision (CHINS) offense. In some states, the court with jurisdiction of dependency cases is the same court that has jurisdiction of delinquency, status offense, and CHINS cases. In other states, there are two court systems involved with different judges having jurisdiction. These are challenging cases. Collaboration and coordination – among public agencies, attorneys, judges, and CASA volunteers.
– are critical when dealing with crossover cases. This issue of The Judges’ Page, available on the CASA website, reviews multiple aspects of handling crossover cases. (March 2010) http://www.casaforchildren.org/site/c.mtJSJ7MPisE/b.5332551/k.D500/Current_Newsletter.htm

**Titles IV-B, IV-E and Related Sections of the Social Security Act – Draft**

A new Compilation of Titles IV-B, IV-E and related sections of the Social Security Act is now posted to the Children’s Bureau website. The new compilation incorporates changes from the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Public Law 111-148) enacted March 23, 2010, including: 1) An amendment to section 422(b)(15)(A)(vii) to ensure that the components of the transition plan development process required under section 475(5)(H) that relate to the health care needs of children aging out of foster care, including the requirements to include options for health insurance, information about a health care power of attorney, health care proxy, or other similar document recognized under State law, and to provide the child with the option to execute such a document, are met; and 2) Amendments to sections 475(5)(H) and to 477(b)(3)(K) ensure that youth are provided with information about the importance of designating another individual to make health care treatment decisions on behalf of the child if the child becomes unable to participate in such decisions and provides the child with the option to execute a health care power of attorney, health care proxy, or other similar document recognized under State law and that such information is included in the child’s 90 day transition plan.

Please note that P.L. 111-148 has statutorily delayed effective dates that are italicized and footnoted in this compilation for your convenience. A link to the new compilation is below. http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/laws_policies/cblaws/safe2010draft.htm

**Transitions to Adulthood**

*The Future of Children* has released its latest publication, *Transition to Adulthood* (Vol. 20, No. 1). Accompanying the journal is an Executive Summary and related Policy Brief.

Today’s young adults take far longer to reach economic and social maturity than their contemporaries did five or six decades ago, taking longer to leave home, attain economic independence, marry, and form families of their own. In large part, this shift is attributable to the increased importance of higher education in today’s high-skilled workforce. Contributors to this volume examine some of the institutions that house and serve young adults—the family, higher education, the workplace, the community, and, for a group of especially vulnerable youth, the juvenile justice, foster care, and related systems. Authors assess the ability of each of these institutions to support young adults in their quest for economic independence, intimacy, and civic responsibility. To access the free electronic version of this journal and related products, please go to: www.futureofchildren.org

**Positive Youth Development**

**Reducing Teen Pregnancy Rates Gives Babies a Better Start**

What's an effective way to ensure new parents can give their babies a good start? The data shows that becoming a parent too soon poses huge challenges for teen parents and their babies. This Center for the Study of Social Policy guide offers state leaders key research, data and effective strategies for reducing the teen pregnancy rates. www.policyforresults.org

Here's another idea: let teens text to get information on sex and safety. www.sparkaction.org

**Taking No Chances: Rise Magazine April 2010 Web Exclusive**

In this April 2010 web exclusive from Rise Magazine, Desiree Navarro writes about her experiences as a child in the child welfare system, her fears related to raising her own baby in foster care, and the importance of her relationship with her mother. Rise Magazine is written by and for parents involved in the child welfare system. Its mission is to help parents advocate for themselves and their children. http://www.risemagazine.org/featured_stories/Taking_no_chances.html

IL Resources – June 2010
The Academy: A Program for Older Youth Transitioning Out of Foster Care

Research shows that teens who "age out" of the foster care system, often abruptly, have high rates of homelessness, unemployment, incarceration and other adverse circumstances. Vera Institute researchers suggest the answer may lie in programs like The Academy that connect youth to community-based providers while they are in foster care and allow them to return after discharge if they need services. www.vera.org/content/the-academy

Professional Development

Preventing Child Abuse in an Age of Budget Deficits

On July 20th, The Future of Children will hold a public event and online webinar to discuss ways that prevention programs can both save money and protect children across a range of social programs if abuse and neglect can be prevented. The event, planned in cooperation with Voices for America’s Children, features an expert panel that will focus on both practice and research and draws from the recent The Future of Children volume on this topic. Speakers will also address the prospects that prevention services can be expanded during these difficult economic times. Panelists will take questions from the audience and online. www.futureofchildren.org

Secondary Trauma: Building Resilience among Child Welfare Staff (Archived NRCPFC Teleconference)

This free teleconference presentation offered by the National Resource Center for Permanency and Family Connections (NRCPFC) on May 12, 2010 included an overview of secondary trauma and the particular vulnerability of child welfare staff to secondary trauma, discussion of some of the ways secondary trauma can impact child welfare practice, and review of an intervention developed by the Mount Sinai School of Medicine and the New York City Administration for Children’s Services to increase resilience and decrease secondary trauma and attrition among child protective staff. The audio recording of the call, PowerPoint presentation, and other resources are available online. http://www.hunter.cuny.edu/socwork/nrcfcpp/teleconferences/index.html#5-12-10

CONNECT: Your Child Welfare Internet Community

CONNECT is a social networking site developed and hosted by the Midwest Child Welfare Implementation Center, a service of the Children’s Bureau and a member of the Training/Technical Assistance Network. CONNECT was designed exclusively for people who work in the child welfare community at the state, tribal, county, and federal levels. CONNECT allows you to find people who are doing the same child welfare job you are doing in another place. It may be a worker in another part of your own state, or someone in another system, state or tribe. You can share thoughts and ideas, frustrations and satisfactions, and documents or slide shows with your peers. Whether you are an administrator at the top of your agency or a worker on the front lines, CONNECT can help you learn new ways to look at things or can validate your current practices. You and the children you serve can benefit from better connections and from the support of your peers. To access CONNECT, and learn more about it, click on the web link below. http://connect.mcwic.org/

Hidden Workforce: How to Use Volunteers to Extend, Expand and Strengthen Your Services

The New England Network for Children, Youth and Family Services offers guidance on how to run effective volunteer programs in child- and youth-serving agencies. www.nenetwork.org/publications
Runaway Youth in America

In 1999 alone, an estimated 1.7 million youth ran away from or were thrown out of their homes. The National Runaway Switchboard has released a new report titled Why They Run: An in-depth look at America's runaway youth that discusses what can be done to prevent running away. www.1800runaway.org/media

Statistics on Risky Youth Behavior

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has released a report summarizing results from the 2008-2009 Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS). In the 30 days before taking the survey, 17.5% of high school students had carried a weapon, 41.8% had drunk alcohol, and 20.8% had used marijuana. www.cdc.gov/mmwr/

Sexually-Transmitted Disease: Perceptions and Prevalence in Young Adults

A new Child Trends Research Brief shows that 15% of young adults (18-26) were diagnosed with a sexually transmitted disease in the past year, but 75% of these young adults did not think they were at risk. www.childtrends.org

Independent Living Project Updates:

National Youth in Transition Database (NYTD)

Pennsylvania’s method for NYTD online data collection system is set for completion so that counties can collect information on the Baseline Population of all youth in substitute care at age 17. Data collection is scheduled to begin October 1, 2010 for all states. In person, web and video trainings will be scheduled for staff to clearly explain who is to be surveyed, when they must be surveyed and other critical areas. More information was distributed in the 2011-2012 County Child Welfare Needs-Based Planning and Budget (NBPB) Guidelines. An OCYF Bulletin on NYTD is also expected to be available this summer.

The YAB now has a Facebook Fan Page and The Training Program now has a Facebook Group Page!

The Pennsylvania Youth Advisory Board and Child Welfare Training Program now have official Facebook pages! If you’re on Facebook or have friends on Facebook, please let them know about these pages and ask them to become a fan or join the group. We will be sharing updates and information related to the YAB, other youth engagement efforts in Pennsylvania, and Training Program Events through the Facebook page in addition to our already successful YAB website at www.independentlivingpa.org and Training Program website: http://www.pacwcbt.pitt.edu/

Here are the link’s to those pages:
YAB: http://www.facebook.com/pages/Pennsylvania-Youth-Advisory Board/371359021197?ref=ts,

Increasing Your Knowledge of Independent Living and Transition Services

The Independent Living Project offers The Foundations of Independent Living: An Overview Curriculum at various sites around the state; this is a one-day overview to help those entering the field or those who want to learn more valuable information about Independent Living and transition programs. A two-day intensive curriculum for IL and transition professionals, The Independent Living Services Continuum: Engaging Youth in Their Transition Process is also offered to those who have completed the Overview. Ansell-Casey Life Skills Assessment (ACLSA) training explores the many advantages and resources for youth and programs. To learn more about these specialized curricula, please contact your county’s IL specialist.

IL Resources – June 2010
Know Your Rights Training: Newly Revised Edition Coming Soon

A revised and expanded Know Your Rights manual is in the process of being finalized. When it is done, we'll notify you how to download or order copies for your use. In addition, the Juvenile Law Center, Kids Voice and the IL Project will again offer Know Your Rights training for youth, foster and resource parents, casework staff and partner/community agencies in addition to our new partner, students at the Dickinson School of Law. Know Your Rights Part 2: How to Conduct Yourself in Court is an addition to the original training which provides scenarios, role play and practical advice for youth as they prepare for hearings/reviews and advocate for themselves in court. If you would like to schedule training on the Know Your Rights manual and/or you are interested in Part 2 workshops, please contact the IL Project specialist for your county.

2010 Youth Retreat

The 2010 IL Youth will be held on August 9th – 13th at University of Pittsburgh Johnstown. The Retreat Theme this year is C.H.A.N.G.E.: Confidence, Hope, Achieve, Navigate, Goals, and Endurance. The C.H.A.N.G.E. theme will guide activities, classroom sessions, and guest speakers throughout the week. For information about the 2010 IL Youth Retreat, visit the Youth Advisory Board website at www.independentlivingpa.org. County invitations will go out soon.

The Blast Seeks Youth Information

The Blast is an e-publication of the statewide Youth Advisory Board. If your youth are engaged in projects, writing stories, poems or developing other media, please contact Ivory Bennett, Youth Ambassador and coordinator of The Blast. She’d like to include articles and other information from counties and programs around the state. Contact Ivory at: ivory.bennett@yahoo.com

Transitions

Jennifer Safford has joined the McKean County IL program as an IL Coordinator. Angela Akers has joined the program there as an IL Assistant. Please welcome them!

Jason Allgyer has joined the Adams County IL program as an IL Aide. Welcome to IL, Jason.

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH IL PROJECT
Pennsylvania Child Welfare Training Program
403 East Winding Hill Road
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055
717.795.9048

WENDY UNGER, Unit Lead
STEPHEN EIDSON, PI Specialist
CINDY GORE, PI Specialist
JUSTIN LEE, PI Specialist
JANICE COPLIN, Administrative Assistant
Ext. 298 Email: wau2@pitt.edu
814.598.2747 E-mail: see13@pitt.edu
Ext. 203 E-mail: lcg7@pitt.edu
484.553.6343 E-mail: jml75@pitt.edu
Ext. 231 E-mail: jtc30@pitt.edu

DAVE DERBES
IL Program Supervisor
Department of Public Welfare
Office of Children, Youth and Families
PO Box 2675
Health and Welfare Building, Rooms 103 & 105
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17105-2675
717.705.2911

IL Resources – June 2010