

APRIL 2005
See you in State College!

Focus on Substance Abuse

YOUTH IN CARE: MORE LIKELY TO HAVE SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROBLEMS

This report from the Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration looks at the need for and receipt of substance abuse treatment among youths who have been in foster care. Youths who have ever been in foster care had higher rates of need for substance abuse treatment than youths who have never been in foster care. Youths aged 12 to 17 who were in need of substance abuse treatment in the past year were more likely to have received treatment if they have ever been in foster care.

<http://oas.samhsa.gov/2k5/FosterCare/FosterCare.cfm>

TREATING PEOPLE WITH CO-OCCURRING DISORDERS

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) has just released a new protocol for providing substance abuse treatment for people with co-occurring disorders (COD). Clients with COD often need a range of services besides substance abuse treatment and mental health services. Generally, prominent needs include housing and case management services to establish access to community health and social services. In fact, these two services should not be considered "ancillary," but key ingredients for clients' successful recovery. Without a place to live and some degree of economic stability, clients with COD are likely to return to substance abuse or experience a return of symptoms of mental disorder.

<http://store.health.org/catalog/productDetails.aspx?ProductID=16979>

SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND RECOVERY: A GUIDE FOR CHILD WELFARE

Developed by the National Center for Substance Abuse and Child Welfare under contract with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, this guide is designed to help child welfare workers recognize and deal with situations of substance abuse in child welfare cases. Topics include motivating parents into treatment and partnering with substance abuse professionals and programs. Copies are available from the National Clearinghouse on Child Abuse and Neglect Information.

http://nccanch.acf.hhs.gov/search/view_pub.cfm?recno=48898

SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN

This portion of the Treatment Improvement Exchange website contains information of interest to those working with substance-abusing mothers of children in the child welfare system. <http://womenandchildren.treatment.org>

FAMILY MATTERS: SUBSTANCE ABUSE IN THE AMERICAN FAMILY

This report from the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse focuses on substance abuse within U.S. families. The report also has strong juvenile justice interests, and notes that "the most effective place to curb substance abuse in America is not in courtrooms, but in living rooms and dining rooms."

www.casacolumbia.org/supportcasa/item.asp?clD=12&PID=136



Cross-Systems Resources for Independent Living

SUPPORT NETWORK FOR FORMER FOSTER YOUTH SERVING IN THE MILITARY

The National Foster Care Coalition is partnering with the USO to develop a support network for former foster youth serving in the military in Iraq and Afghanistan. Currently they identify young people who are stationed in these countries. In 2005, NFCC will implement a program providing letters from home and care packages to the many soldiers who may not have family or other people to offer support to them while they are away. They will be organizing letter writing volunteers and care package collection; if you would like to help, visit the link above for more information. <http://www.natl-fostercare.org/>

ABUSE AND NEGLECT OF YOUTH AND ADULTS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

The Partnership for People with Disabilities at Virginia Commonwealth University created this Web course, Written for health professionals, it is also appropriate for other professionals and students serving people with developmental disabilities. The 13 self-guided modules include video interviews, graphics, interactive content, and self-study questions. CEUs are available. <http://www.vcu.edu/partnership/maltreatment/>

LEAVING THE STREET: HELPING YOUNG FATHERS FIND LEGITIMATE WORK

This report explores employment and hustling among men in Fathers at Work, a three-year national demonstration designed to help low-income, non custodial fathers secure living-wage jobs, increase their involvement with their children and manage their child support obligations. As part of P/PV's evaluation of the initiative, researchers undertook an in-depth interview study. The report closes with a look at the ongoing challenges faced by the men, and recommendations for programs working with similar populations. <http://www.ppv.org/ppv/workforce>

YOUTH INVOLVEMENT IN SYSTEMS OF CARE: A GUIDE TO EMPOWERMENT

Professionals and adults working with youth must understand the importance of engaging and empowering youth. The *Youth Involvement in systems of care: A Guide to Empowerment* can assist with building the foundation for youth movement and all youth to put their skills to work and promote change. For more information, go to: <http://www.tapartnership.org/youth>

JUVENILE JUSTICE AND CHILD WELFARE: COORDINATION FOR IMPROVED OUTCOMES

This Guidebook from Child Welfare League of America will help state and local jurisdictions achieve greater system coordination and integration. The population of so many of our nation's youth and families who have been victims of maltreatment subsequently enter the juvenile justice system and require multi-system interventions. The Guidebook addresses the plethora of issues that affect improved provision of services and programs across multiple youth-serving systems for those children, youth, and families, and provides a framework to strategically confront and overcome the barriers to multi-system coordination and integration and its impact on improved outcomes. <http://www.cwla.org/programs/juvenilejustice/jguidebook.htm>

New Director for Pennsylvania Statewide Adoption Network

Lorrie Deck has been promoted to the position of director of the SWAN network in Pennsylvania. She has worked in the field of child welfare for more than 20 years. Lorrie's previous experience with OCYF includes serving as a Program Specialist for the Statewide Adoption Network Program and as a caseworker with the ChildLine and Abuse Registry. Lorrie's career began with Lebanon County Children and Youth Services where she first served as a houseparent to adjudicated juvenile delinquent boys, and later as a caseworker in General Protective Services, Intake and Child Protective Services. **Congratulations, Lorrie!**

Working with Youth in Transition

SAT AND COLLEGE FEE WAIVER REQUESTS

The Independent Living Project provides fee waivers for the SAT for juniors and seniors as well as fee waiver request for college admission applications. Youth must be registered in PILOTS to qualify for the waivers. Forms are available from Ann Molsky at the Independent Living Project. Contact her at akm9@pitt.edu or 717.795.9048, ext. 231.

PROMOTING EDUCATIONAL SUCCESS FOR YOUTH IN SUBSTITUTE CARE

This position paper from the National Foster Youth Advisory Council describes key components of success and recommendations for improving educational outcomes.

<http://www.fyi3.com/fyi3/Involved/YB/pdfs/educationStatement.pdf>

NATIONAL CENTER ON SECONDARY EDUCATION AND TRANSITION RESOURCES

The National Center on Secondary Education and Transition (NCSET) has published an essential tool for improving secondary education and transition for youth with disabilities, [Handbook for Implementing a Comprehensive Work-Based Learning Program According to the Fair Labor Standards Act](#). The FLSA is the federal legislation establishing minimum wage, overtime pay, record keeping requirements (i.e., personal employee information, wages, hours), and child labor. The publication provides guidance to school and child welfare advocates and encourages the adoption of work-based learning. <http://www.ncset.org/publications/essentialtools/flsa>

UNDERSTANDING YOUTH WHO RUN FROM OUT OF HOME CARE

A study from Chapin Hall Center for Children at the University of Chicago indicates that the likelihood of youth running away from care in Illinois increased significantly starting in the mid-1990s, more than doubling between 1998 and 2003. Most of the increase is a result of youth who run more than once from the child welfare system. The study also revealed that moves from one placement to another in the child welfare system significantly increased the risk that a youth would run. Where a youth lived while in care affected the risk of running as well.

www.chapinhall.org/article_abstract

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY OPEN COURSEWARE

Massachusetts Institute of Technology's OpenCourseWare puts hundreds of actual MIT courses at your fingertips, free of charge. Find a class that interests your youth and check out the lecture notes, syllabus, assignments, study materials, and more. They can learn at their own pace, on their own time. A free and open educational resource for faculty, students, and self-learners around the world, OCW supports MIT's mission to advance knowledge and education, and serve the world in the 21st century. It is true to MIT's values of excellence, innovation, and leadership.

www.ocw.mit.edu/index.html

Scholarships and Financial Aid for 2005-2006

INDEPENDENT LIVING PROJECT SCHOLARSHIPS

The Independent Living Project Scholarship **application deadline is 2 May 2005**. Youth who attend or plan to attend a post-secondary institution of higher education are encouraged to apply. Those youth who are or were enrolled in a Chafee grant-funded Independent Living program with a county or private provider receive first priority. Recipients will each receive \$1000 for the 2005-2006 year. Scholarships are renewable. For more information, please contact Steve Eidson at the Independent Living Project at: 717.795.9048, extension 701 or see13@pitt.edu.

CHAFEE EDUCATION AND TRAINING GRANT (ETG) APPLICATIONS

The Pennsylvania Education and Training Grant applications for 2005-06 are now available on the PHEAA website. For more information: www.pheaa.org.

Chafee Independent Living Program Applications: A Reminder

The Office of Children, Youth and Families at DPW reminds IL grant programs at county agencies or private providers that the **application deadline is 30 April 2005**. Please submit your application on time so as not to jeopardize your program or its funding. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Angelo Santore, Idotress Joseph or Steve Eidson at the numbers or e-mail addresses listed below.

People in the News

Deborah Kissell, the Independent Living coordinator from the Bedford County, has returned from maternity leave. If you see her, ask for pictures of the baby.

Phil Newcomb, from the IL program in York County, and his wife Marlene adopted a little girl, Kaylie Joy, in February. Kaylie is two years old. Congratulations!

Lenore Wyant has decided not to return to the Independent Living Project. We would like to thank her for her contributions and wish her well as she begins this next step in her life!

If you have news to share, please e-mail Steve Eidson for inclusion in the next UPDATE.

Professional Development Opportunities in 2005

Independent Living Statewide Meeting, "Building Bridges to Adulthood," Penn Stater Hotel and Conference Center, 28-29 April 2005. Please register now if you plan to attend.

The **SWAN Summer Statewide Meeting** is 16 June at the Grantville Holiday Inn. Look for more information soon at www.adoptpakids.org

Pennsylvania IL Youth Retreat: "**Freedom, Focus, Future: Mission Independence,**" Penn State Mont Alto, 11-15 July 2005. Applications will be available at the IL Statewide Meeting.

The North American Council on Adoptable Children (NACAC) conference is at the Westin Convention Center, Pittsburgh, 3-6 August. Please note that because it is coming to Pennsylvania this year, SWAN is partnering with NACAC instead of holding its own separate conference. More details are available at www.nacac.org/conference

Daniel Memorial's National Independent Living Conference, "**Growing Pains,**" will be held 21-24 September at the Westin Peachtree Hotel in Atlanta. www.danielkids.org

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