

Youth Resource Connections

NEWSLETTER

Youth Resource Connections

is a monthly newsletter that provides information, resources, and tools to workforce professionals who work every day to impact the lives of youth and young adults.

Table of Contents

Headlines	1-3
Featured Resource	4
Funding & Other Opportunities	5-7
Resources.....	7-11
Upcoming Events.....	-11

Headlines

Secretary Scalia Releases ADA30 Op-Ed. U.S. Secretary of Labor Eugene Scalia published an op-ed on the LNP/LancasterOnline.com on "Examining the legacy and future of the Americans with Disabilities Act." In the article, Secretary Scalia discusses the changes that have occurred in the nation since the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) was signed into law 30 years ago, including in employment for people with disabilities. To view the full article, visit: https://lancasteronline.com/opinion/columnists/examining-the-legacy-and-future-of-the-americans-with-disabilities-act-opinion/article_64027e18-d36b-11ea-87a6-df8b6ef0006e.html?utm_source=govdelivery&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=ODEP_Newsletter_08-10.

U.S. Department of Labor Awards \$68 Million in Grants to Indian and Native American Organizations and Tribes. The U.S. Department of Labor awarded \$68 million in funding to 340 organizations and tribes as part of the Indian and Native American Programs grant that provides training opportunities at the local level. Of the total award amount, approximately \$54 million will go towards adult programs and \$13 million will go towards youth programs. To view the press release, visit: <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20200812>.

Looking for more information and resources to support your youth program?



Visit the **Youth Connections Community of Practice** for the latest training, promising practices, and technical assistance tools.

Headlines

(continued)

HHS Seeks Comments Concerning Programs that Provide Services to Help Young People. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has published a notice in the [July 29 FEDERAL REGISTER](#). HHS issued this Request for Information (RFI) in order to seek information about programs that provide services to help young people, ages 16 to 24, advance on education and employment pathways. This project is focused on the population of young people who are out of work and/or out of school, particularly those from lower income families and communities, sometimes called disconnected or opportunity youth. The information gathered will result in a public compendium that profiles selected programs operating in this area, particularly innovative programs. **Comments due: September 28.**

ED Published Final Priorities, Requirements, And Definitions Under the Rehabilitation Training Program. The Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS) within the U.S. Department of Education (ED) has published a notice in the [August 3 FEDERAL REGISTER](#). The Department takes this action to focus attention on an identified national need to fund a Vocational Rehabilitation Technical Assistance Center for Quality Management (VRTAC-QM) and a Vocational Rehabilitation Technical Assistance Center for Quality Employment (VRTAC-QE). The Department intends for the VRTAC-QM and VRTAC-QE to increase the number and quality of employment outcomes for individuals with disabilities through training and technical assistance to State vocational rehabilitation (VR) agency personnel.

HHS Releases New Resources on Youth Unemployment During COVID. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation has developed a set of graphics to demonstrate the changes in employment and labor force participation among youth age 16 to 24 during COVID-19. To view the data, visit: <https://youth.gov/youth-topics/employment-during-covid-19>.

CFPB Announces the Release of New Guide on Claiming Economic Impact Payment. The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) has released their new guide entitled: **Helping Consumers Claim the Economic Impact Payment: A Guide for Intermediary Organizations**. This guide was developed to assist intermediaries in serving individuals to access their Economic Impact Payments (EIPs). The guide also provides step-by-step instructions for frontline staff on how to: discuss the EIP with their clients, determine if clients need to take action, and support clients with what to expect and how to troubleshoot common issues. To view the guide, visit: https://files.consumerfinance.gov/f/documents/cfpb_helping-consumers-claim-eip_guide.pdf.

Headlines

(continued)

AYPF Posts Blog: How COVID-19 Affects Mental Health Disparities for Vulnerable Youth.

American Youth Policy Forum (AYPF) Executive Director, Dr. Stephanie McGencey, writes how the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on Black, Indigenous, and other youth of color (BIYOC) and other traditionally underserved youth's health and mental health requires a targeted response. To read the full blog, visit: <https://www.aypf.org/blog/how-covid-19-affects-mental-health-disparities/>.

AYPF Announces Availability of Online COVID-19 Information Hub. During this COVID-19 pandemic, the [American Youth Policy Forum \(AYPF\)](https://www.aypf.org/) has been collecting resources pertinent to the disadvantaged [youth populations](#) particularly focused on highlighting one group each week. New resources are added on a continuous basis, and updated sections are designated accordingly. To view the online hub, visit: <https://www.aypf.org/resource/covid-19-response/>.

JFF Announces New Podcast Series. Jobs for the Future (JFF) has released a new podcast series. The series features apprenticeship agency directors from states across the U.S. discussing what you need to know to start a program and how to attract in-school and out-of-school youth into your apprenticeship. To view the podcast series, visit: <https://www.jff.org/resources/apprenticeship-state/>.

Mathematica Launches New Website. Mathematica and its partners MEF Associates and Hager Sharp has created the new Pathways to Work Evidence Clearinghouse website. Mathematica has released this new resource for employment service providers that use evidence-based resources to help individuals with low incomes work toward self-sufficiency. On July 15, the Clearinghouse team hosted a panel discussion about how the website can support program leaders and policymakers who seek to improve employment and economic outcomes for families. To view the webcast, visit: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T28CF3Ntfw0>.

Featured Resource

WIOA CONTRACTING STRATEGIES BRIEF

The Employment and Training Administration published two-part resource pages on the Youth Connections Workforce GPS webpage. The resources were compiled to assist youth workforce programs as they continue serving young people in virtual environments in order to keep them connected to workforce development, education, supportive services, and training. The pages are identified below:

Part One- Staying Connected: Resources on Virtual Engagement -

<https://youth.workforcegps.org/resources/2020/06/18/13/10/Resources-on-Virtual-Engagement>

Part Two- Staying Connected: Resources on Virtual Engagement -

<https://youth.workforcegps.org/resources/2020/06/18/13/10/~/link.aspx?id=B001FBF625834A93AE58BE2F85528FAA&z=z>

Interested in sharing a new practice or innovative approach that you're trying in your area?

The Employment and Training Administration (ETA) is interested in sharing strategies from across the country to promote peer learning and replication. If you would like to be considered for featuring in an upcoming newsletter, please email your organization, program name and brief description of the practice or approach to the ETA Division of Youth Services at: youth.services@dol.gov.

Funding & Other Opportunities

EPA Invites Applications for its Five Star Restoration Training Grant. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is accepting applications for its Five Star Restoration Training Grant program. The program was initiated to provide subawards to eligible subawardees to bring together citizen groups, corporations, youth conservation corps, students, landowners, and government agencies to undertake projects that achieve environmental training through voluntary, Community/watershed-based wetland restoration projects. Non-profit, non-governmental organizations, interstate agencies, public and private universities and colleges, and intertribal consortia are eligible to apply. Grant number: [EPA-OW-OWOW-20-02](#). **Deadline: October 2.**

ED Launches Space Mission Challenge for High School Students. Building on the Administration-wide commitment to expand student interest in the booming science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) fields, the U.S. Department of Education (ED) launched Career and Technical Education Mission: CubeSat, a national challenge to inspire students to build technical skills for careers in space and beyond. High school students from across the country are invited to design and build CubeSat (cube satellite) prototypes, or satellites that aid in space research, bringing space missions out of the clouds and into the classroom. To view the press release, visit: <https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/us-department-education-launches-space-mission-challenge-high-school-students>. To obtain additional information visit: <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2020-08-03/pdf/2020-16686.pdf>. **Deadline: October 16.**

ED Invites Applications for its IREPO Grants Program. The Office of Postsecondary within the U.S. Department of Education (ED) is accepting applications for its Institutional Resilience and Expanded Postsecondary Opportunity (IREPO) Grants Program. The program is designed to provide financial support to institutions of higher education with the greatest unmet needs related to coronavirus to enable them to resume operations, serve the needs of students, reduce disease transmission, and develop more resilient instructional delivery models, such as distance learning, to continue educating students who cannot or choose not to attend classroom-based instruction due to coronavirus. [read more...](#) **Deadline: Notice of Intent to Apply: September 10; Transmittal of Applications: October 20.**

W.T. Grant Foundation Invites Applications for its Institutional Challenge Grant. The W.T. Grant Foundation is accepting applications for its Institutional Challenge Grant. The grant encourages university-based research institutes, schools, and centers to build sustained research-practice partnerships with public agencies or nonprofit organizations in order to reduce inequality in youth outcomes. Teams with African-American, Latinx, Native American, and Asian-American members in leadership roles are encouraged to apply. [read more...](#) **Deadline: September 10.**

Funding & Other Opportunities

(continued)

Rhode Island Foundation Invites Applications for its Black Philanthropy Grant Program. The [Rhode Island Foundation](#) is accepting applications for its Black Philanthropy Bannister Fund. The fund provides assistance in the following core areas: Grants to community-based organizations that provide youth development and mentoring opportunities to urban Black youth. Programs should target educational success, avoidance of risk behaviors, empowerment to make positive decisions, higher aspirations, increased confidence, more positive interpersonal relationships, and growth and engagement that positively impacts the community. [read more...](#) **Deadline: September 10.**

Gerber Foundation Invites Applications for West Michigan Youth Programs. The [Gerber Foundation](#) is accepting applications for grants in support of youth programs in western Michigan. Grants ranging between \$100 and \$20,000 will be awarded to agencies located in or serving youth up to age 18 in Lake, Muskegon, Newaygo, and Oceana counties — the birthplace of the Gerber Foundation. Priority will be given to programs focused on health, nutrition, and dental issues; early childhood services and literacy; parenting education; education (including science, technology, engineering, arts/agriculture, and math); and life experiences (camp scholarships, ag science education, 4-H, and FFA). [read more...](#) **Deadline: September 15.**

Alfred and Mary Douty Foundation Invites Applications from Grassroots Organizations. The [Alfred and Mary Douty Foundation](#) is accepting applications from organizations in the Pennsylvania counties of Philadelphia and Montgomery for grants of up to \$20,000 a year for up to three years. The grants will support community-based youth arts education, equity, literacy, and leadership programs, as well as efforts to promote justice within the criminal legal system, especially for youth and/or women. Eligible applicants must be tax-exempt as defined under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue code or have a fiscal sponsor with such status, serve residents of Montgomery and/or Philadelphia counties in Pennsylvania, and have an annual budget of no more than \$1 million. [read more...](#) **Deadline: September 15.**

Cigna Foundation Announces Availability of \$5 Million to Address Children's Mental Health, Childhood Hunger. The [Cigna Foundation](#) is inviting nonprofits working to create greater access to mental health services to apply for funding through its Healthier Kids For Our Future grant program, a five-year, \$25 million global initiative to improve the health and well-being of children. The program will provide up to a total of \$5 million in grants to community-based organizations over the next year. The foundation is looking to partner with school systems and surrounding communities — including clinicians, local and national nonprofits — to supplement existing mental health programming and help close gaps both within and outside the school environment to address loneliness, anxiety, depression, and suicide prevention. To that end, it will fund programs that foster collaboration between various stakeholders, including school administrators and teachers, clinicians, and local and national nonprofits. To obtain additional information, visit: <http://philanthropynewsdigest.org/rfps/rfp11390-cigna-foundation-announces-availability-of-5-million-to-address-children-s-mental-health-childhood-hunger>. **Deadline: September 30.**

Funding & Other Opportunities

(continued)

Social Finance, Inc. and JFF Invites Applications for its Catalyzing Career and Technical Education Through Pay for Success Competition. The Social Finance, Inc. and Jobs for the Future is accepting applications for its Catalyzing Career and Technical Education Through Pay for Success Competition. The competition is designed to expand career and technical education (CTE) for under-served, high-need youth. Eligible applicants are Perkins-eligible CTE providers. Awardees will receive free technical assistance at no cost, a value of approximately \$150,000-\$225,000, to expand their CTE programs. [read more...](#) **Deadline: December 4.**

NSF Invites Applications for its HSI program. The National Science Foundation (NSF) is accepting applications for its Improving Undergraduate STEM Education: Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSI) program. The goals of the HSI program are to enhance the quality of undergraduate science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education and to increase the recruitment, retention, and graduation rates of students pursuing associate's or baccalaureate degrees in STEM. Achieving these, given the diverse nature and context of the HSIs, requires additional strategies that support building capacity at HSIs through innovative approaches: to incentivize institutional and community transformation; and to promote fundamental research (i) on engaged student learning, (ii) about what it takes to diversify and increase participation in STEM effectively, and (iii) that improves our understanding of how to build institutional capacity at HSIs. Intended outcomes of the HSI Program include broadening participation of students that are historically underrepresented in STEM and expanding students' pathways to continued STEM education and integration into the STEM workforce. Grant number: [20-599](#). **Deadline: February 2021.**

Resources

A Transition Guide to Postsecondary Education and Employment for Students and Youth with Disabilities. This updated [guide](#) published by the U.S. Department Education's Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services provides information to help students and youth with disabilities and their families to better understand how the state education agencies, the local education agencies, and the vocational rehabilitation agencies work together to facilitate improved outcomes for students and youth with disabilities.

Resources

(continued)

An Eight-Year Cost Analysis from a Randomized Controlled Trial of CUNY's Accelerated Study in Associate Programs. This [paper](#) released by MDRC summarizes the effects on education and financial aid outcomes over an eight-year follow-up period, or five years after the end of program services. This paper also presents the educational investment in students associated with providing these services and any educational investment in students from the CUNY community colleges after the program services were no longer provided.

Does Technology-Based Advising Promote Equity in Career and Technical Education? This [resource](#) released by MDRC discusses how many schools are using technology-based tools to generate career recommendations and supplement the capabilities of their guidance departments. MDRC has partnered with two technology companies to test whether their career-advising software programs are viable tools for equitably supporting students as they identify and pursue future careers.

Accessibility Playbook for Emerging Technology Initiatives. This [resource](#) released by the Partnership on Employment and Accessible Technology (PEAT) is a playbook guide for starting an initiative to develop emerging technologies that are accessible to and inclusive of people with disabilities. It includes an overview of the potential and challenges of accessible emerging technologies, tips for launching an initiative, examples from XR Access and Teach Access, and more.

Strategies for Promoting College Completion in the Age of COVID-19. This commentary released by MDRC's Alex Mayer and Alyssa Ratledge describes evidence-backed strategies that colleges can employ this fall to help students stay engaged. To view the full article, visit: <https://www.mdrc.org/publication/strategies-promoting-college-completion-age-covid-19>.

National Center for Education Statistics Releases New Web Tables. The National Center for Education Statistics has released new [web tables](#) which provides the most recent national statistics on students' who first began postsecondary education in the 2011–12 year. These tables provide information about the cohort as of 2017, six years after they first started their postsecondary education. Tables across the four reports also contain detailed information on students' characteristics, tuition, price of attendance, and financial aid receipt. Additionally, estimates of retention, persistence, attainment, withdrawal, stopout, and transfer rates six years after beginning postsecondary education are included. The tables are identified below:

[A 2017 Follow-up: A Look at 2011–12 First-time Postsecondary Students Six Years Later](#)

[A 2017 Follow-up: Six-Year Persistence and Attainment at First Institution for 2011–12 First-time Postsecondary Students](#)

Resources

(continued)

The Opportunity and Counseling Corps: Helping K-12 Students and Young Adults Recover from the Coronavirus Crisis. This [white paper](#) released by the Center for American Progress looks at a new corps that would provide tutoring, counseling, and other supports to students to help them recover from the effects of the coronavirus. According to the report, "Opportunity Corps members could be hired through the expansion of existing national service programs, such as AmeriCorps, and other nonprofit partners; or they could be hired directly by school systems."

Youth Labor Force Indicators in the Context of COVID-19. This [document](#) published by the Congressional Research Service discusses how the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic led to the current recession that began in February 2020 and has resulted in large job losses, from which the economy has only partially recovered. This insight discusses recent and longer-term trends in three key labor market indicators (labor force participation rate, employment-to-population ratio, and unemployment rate), and the potential implications for youth in the current economy.

Expanding High-Quality Work-Based Learning. This [brief](#) released by Jobs for the Future is one of six briefs that the Education Commission of the States (ECS) published in its "Equitable Transitions During Pandemic Disruptions" series, which focuses on aspects of the transition from secondary education to postsecondary education that have been complicated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Upcoming Webinars/Webcasts

On September 10th, the Council of State Governments will host a webinar entitled: **Getting Ready for Work – Youth Transition and Guideposts for Success.** The webinar will cover the updated Guideposts for Success Framework with a policymaker audience. Additionally, the webinar will highlight state examples of policies that support the framework and interview legislators who sponsored relevant bills. To register for the webinar, visit: https://seed.csg.org/ada30/?utm_source=govdelivery&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=ODEP_Newsletter_08-28.

NAWDP to Host Virtual Academies. National Association of Workforce Development Professionals (NAWDP) will host several Virtual Academies from September 14th through November 30th which will focus on different subject areas. All Academies will also include a self-paced curriculum that can be accessed at any time the Academy is open. To register for the academies, visit: <https://www.nawdp.org/page/VirtualAcademies2020>.

Resources

(continued)

LEAD Center Announces WIOA Disability Data Webinar Series. The [LEAD Center](#) will host a two-part webinar series discussing leading practices in Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) disability-related reporting. These webinars will feature Wisconsin's workforce system practices, showing how effective reporting and analysis can enhance services and help mitigate job losses for individuals with disabilities. The sessions will also highlight existing reporting on individuals with disabilities through a new online interactive data visualization tool to improve disability-related reporting. **Part 1** of the series entitled: **Understanding WIOA Disability-Related Reporting: Tools for Data Visualization** will be held on September 17th and to register, visit: <https://www.addevent.com/event/Zp5071675>. **Part 2** of the series entitled: **WIOA Disability-Related Reporting: A Deep Dive into the Participant Individual Record Layout (PIRL)** will be held on September 24th and to register, visit: <https://www.addevent.com/event/QN5071751>.

JFF Announces New Podcast Series. Jobs for the Future's (JFF's) podcast series called "[Apprenticeship by State](#)," features conversations with apprenticeship directors from across the country, who describe what organizations need to know about starting an apprenticeship program. Topics covered include the ins and outs of setting up a Registered Apprenticeship and how to attract both in-school and out-of-school youth to a work-based learning program. To view the latest episode of the series, visit: <https://www.jff.org/resources/apprenticeship-state/apprenticeship-state-wisconsin/>.

Past Webinars/Webcasts

On August 27th, Advance CTE hosted a webinar entitled: **CTE's Role in the Future of Work and our Economic Recovery**. This webinar featured insights from two critical perspectives - the employer community and the research community - on the skills and competencies that will be of the highest demand going forward and how career and technical education (CTE) can rise to meet the challenge and ensure each learner is prepared for economic mobility. To view and archive of the webinar, visit: <https://careertech.org/webinars>.

On August 11th, YOUTHLEAD hosted a webinar entitled: **Youth in the Lead: Engagement for Global Action**. The webinar brought together youth leaders, advocates, and community organizers from across networks and beyond, to explore topics such as the role of Positive Youth Development in youth engagement, the power of networks, and organizational readiness for youth engagement. The virtual event featured talks by young changemakers, interactive discussions, breakout sessions, and networking opportunities. To view and archive of the webinar, visit: <https://www.youthpower.org/events/youthlead-webinar-youth-lead-engagement-global-action-youthlead-iyd-2020>.

Resources

(continued)

On July 21st, the Employment and Training Administration hosted a webinar entitled: **Pre-Apprenticeship Programs: Creating Successful Paths for Future Apprentices**. This webinar showed how high-quality pre-apprenticeship programs can lead to quality apprenticeship experiences and ways to integrate these pathways into grant performance reporting. To view and archive of the webinar, visit: <https://www.workforcegps.org/events/2020/07/10/20/03/Pre-Apprenticeship-Programs-Creating-Successful-Paths-for-Future-Apprentices>.

Upcoming Events

September 11. [National Day of Service](#).

September 15-16. JFF Virtual Institute: [Women in Skilled Manufacturing Apprenticeships & Careers – An Introduction to Equity and Inclusion](#).

September 24. Children's Bureau and the Capacity Building Center for States' [Child Welfare Virtual Expo 2020](#).

November 17-19. [Global Youth Justice 2020 Conference](#).



To subscribe or unsubscribe to the Youth Resource Connections Newsletter, visit: http://www.doleta.gov/youth_services and click the "Subscribe to E-mail Updates" button.

We welcome your input.

Please let us know how these newsletters might be improved to better serve your needs. If you have comments, contact the Employment and Training Administration's Division of Youth Services at **(202) 693-3030** or e-mail: youth.services@dol.gov.

The Department of Labor (DOL), Employment and Training Administration (ETA) does not take responsibility for non-endorsed DOL/ETA resources included in the newsletter.