

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.

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Headlines

ETA Announces Youth Learning Series. The Employment and Training Administration (ETA) is launching a learning series for organizations serving youth and young adults interested in developing connections to the public workforce system. A kickoff webinar, [Connecting to the Public Workforce System: An Introduction for Youth Service Providers](https://youth.workforcegps.org/resources/2022/06/28/16/56/Youth-amp-Young-Adult-Provider-Learning-Series) (April 20, 2022), introduced organizations to the public workforce system funding provisions for youth programs and was designed for groups that are unfamiliar with the system. To obtain additional information and register for upcoming and archived webinars, visit: <https://youth.workforcegps.org/resources/2022/06/28/16/56/Youth-amp-Young-Adult-Provider-Learning-Series>.

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)

DOL Awards \$43.3m in Grants to Help Provide Job Training, Employment Services to Justice-Involved Young People. The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) announced the award of \$43,268,819 in grants to organizations in 11 states in the initial round of grant funding to support programs that provide job training and supportive services to justice-involved young people. Administered by the department's [Employment and Training Administration](#), the Growth Opportunities grant program provides paid work experiences to young people affected by community violence, particularly in areas of concentrated crime and poverty. The funding also supports skills training, and employment and mentorship services. To view press release, visit: <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20220623-0>.

DOL Awards \$50.6m in Pathway Home Grants to Provide Pre-Release Job Training, Services to Incarcerated People. The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) announced the award of \$50,643,113 in Pathway Home grants to 18 organizations in 14 states to provide training and employment services to adults reentering the workforce following incarceration in a local jail or state correctional facility. Administered by the department's [Employment and Training Administration](#), the Pathway Home grants will allow organizations to provide training and employment services to incarcerated people who are scheduled for release within 20 to 270 days from the time they enroll in the project. They also seek to improve coordination between key partners in the reentry process, including workforce development agencies, community and state corrections agencies, jails, local health and human service providers, employers, and unions. To view the press release, visit: <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20220629>.

DOL to Recognize Importance of Disability, Equity in Workforce During National Disability Employment Awareness Month 2022. The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) announced that, in recognition of the vital role people with disabilities play in making the nation's workforce diverse and inclusive, "Disability: Part of the Equity Equation" has been chosen as the theme for October's [National Disability Employment Awareness Month 2022](#). Led by its [Office of Disability Employment Policy](#), the department's annual observance of National Disability Employment Awareness Month acknowledges the contributions to the nation's economy made by workers with disabilities, current and past. The commemoration also showcases supportive and inclusive policies and practices benefiting workers and employers. To view the press release, visit: <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/odep/odep20220622>.

Headlines

(continued)

ODEP Seeks Comment on Current Population Survey. The Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP) within the U.S. Department of Labor has published a request in the [June 24 FEDERAL REGISTER](#). ODEP is seeking information from the public regarding a supplement to the Current Population Survey (CPS) on disability employment topics, which will be conducted by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Census Bureau in collaboration with the Department's Chief Evaluation Office and is expected to be fielded in 2024. The Department is publishing this Request for Information (RFI) to gather comments to aid in revising the CPS Disability Supplement and inform its general disability employment research agenda. **Comments due: August 8.**

HHS Announces the Launch of New Website. The [U.S. Department of Health and Human Services'](#) (HHS') Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration launched the website for their new [988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline](#). The site provides key information on the background and purpose of the 988 dialing code, which will officially go live nationwide on **July 16, 2022**. Resources and information on the page are designed for states, territories, Tribes, mental health, and substance use disorder professionals, and others looking for information on strengthening suicide prevention and mental health crisis services.

Featured Resources

MassHire Springfield Career Center

MassHire Springfield Career Center highlights program success for three young adults who are participating in the **Clean Energy Pathways Internship Program**. The program has been developed by Mass Save to boost the energy efficiency workforce and to increase opportunities for underrepresented individuals in the energy efficiency field. This program initially started out as a one-year pilot program for 2021-2022. Due to the demand in the industry and the success of this cohort the program is being offered for year 2022 – 2023.

Robert Lopez, Ashley Bermudez, and Enrique Velez have been participating in the nine-month weatherization internship program which they will completed in May 2022. **Robert Lopez** interned at Connecticut headquartered Potential Energy's Ludlow, MA facility and **Ashley Bermudez** and **Enrique Velez** interned at Energia Corporation in Holyoke, MA. Prior to beginning their respective internships, all three received licensed pre-internship training including three weeks of workplace skills training and attendance at a two-week Green Jobs Academy. Having successfully completed these enrichment trainings they earned their OSHA-10 and BPI Certifications.

Featured Resources

(continued)

MassHire Springfield Career Center

Robert, Ashley, and Enrique have received paid training throughout their internships and have acquired valuable and important on-the-job experience and job skills as well as knowledge of appropriate workplace practices. To help assure a successful experience, they have been supported throughout their internships with weekly check-in calls and meetings with MassHire Springfield Youth Specialists and ongoing mentoring by the host companies' internship program managers as well as worksite supervisors. During brief company shutdowns, the young adults have taken advantage of MassHire webinars and workshops to further enhance their education, experience, and training.

Robert, Ashley, and Enrique have consistently demonstrated their initiative and commitment to their internships with outstanding attendance, participation in all required trainings and weekly check-in sessions, and by enthusiastically reporting their satisfaction with the program.

With job placement assistance and a program goal of 100% full-time job placement in energy efficiency jobs for participants following completion of their internships, Robert, Ashley, and Enrique are looking forward to their futures. In addition, Ashley's and Enrique's future goal is to create and operate their own weatherization business and are currently actively exploring the process steps toward attaining this goal.

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

BTWF Invites Applications for Mental Health Work. Born This Way Foundation (BTWF) is inviting applications from organizations to share their community-led mental health work. The grants are designed to help bring Kindness in Community (KiC) Funds to life in cities across the United States in celebration of BTWF's tenth anniversary and their continued commitment to working for and with young people to validate their emotions and eliminate the stigma surrounding mental health. BTWF will award \$1 million in \$25K-\$50K grants to fund free, accessible, community-informed mental health support for youth in Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Dallas, DC, Hershey, Houston, Los Angeles, Miami, NYC, and San Francisco. [read more...](#) **Deadline: July 8.**

YSA Invites Applications for its Lead Agency Program. Youth Service America (YSA) is accepting applications for its [2022-2023 YSA Lead Agency program](#). The program supports local nonprofit organizations, K-12 schools, colleges, and universities, youth development programs, faith-based organizations, and government agencies that lead partner coalitions or project organizers engaging youth ages 5-25 during National Days of Service: 1) 9/11 Day of Service & Remembrance (September 11, 2022); 2) MLK Day of Service (January 16, 2023); and Global Youth Service Day (April 28-30, 2023). Awardees will receive grants of \$3,000 or \$6,000. Eligible applicants may work locally, regionally, statewide, or in multiple states and must be based in the United States. [read more...](#) **Deadline: July 15.**

Taco Bell Foundation Invites Applications for its Ambition Accelerator. The Taco Bell Foundation and Ashoka are accepting applications from young US Residents, ages 16-26, with an idea to enact change in their communities or the world. This is the chance for youth to grow their changemaking abilities, access funding, receive feedback on their project, discover a community of like-minded young people, and more! Awardees will receive \$500 grants, and some teams will receive an additional \$1,000, \$10,000, or \$25,000. [read more...](#) **Deadline: July 21.**

DOJ Announces Funding Opportunity for its Community-Based Alternatives to Youth Incarceration Initiative. The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Office of Justice Programs (OJP), Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) is accepting applications for funding to close and repurpose youth correctional facilities, reinvest cost savings to expand community-based alternatives to incarceration, and assess and respond to the economic impact of closures on facility staff and surrounding communities. This program furthers the DOJ's mission to reduce recidivism and improve public safety by helping states more effectively and equitably reinvest resources to efforts that facilitate the successful rehabilitation of justice-involved youth. [read more...](#) **Deadline: July 25.**

Funding & Other Opportunities

(continued)

Workforce Matters Invites Applications for its Fund for Workforce Equity. [Workforce Matters](#) is accepting applications for its Fund for Workforce Equity. It was created to spark innovative strategies for meeting the needs of workers and students of color, document lessons and elevate promising practices for funders, practitioners, advocates, and researchers. Eligible applicants must already be invested in organizational racial equity training and must be U.S.-based; organizations that provide direct services to individuals: must serve a majority of workers and/or learners of color. Additionally, applicants must be classified as a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization or be fiscally sponsored by an organization that is classified as a 501(c)(3) organization or is a federally recognized or state-recognized tribal government. Grants will range from \$50,000 to \$70,000. [read more...](#) **Deadline: July 31.**

HUD Announces Notice of Funding Opportunity for its FYI Competitive Program. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is accepting applications for its Foster Youth to Independence (FYI) Competitive program. The program makes Housing Choice Voucher assistance available to Public Housing Agencies in partnership with Public Child Welfare Agencies to provide adequate housing for youth at least 18 years and not more than 24 years of age (have not reached their 25th birthday) who left foster care or will leave foster care. Approximately \$15,300,000 will be used in support of 20 grant awards. Grant number: [FR-6600-N-41](#). **Deadline: August 8.**

DOJ Invites Applications for its Supporting Vulnerable At-Risk Youth and Youth Transitioning Out of Foster Care. The Office of Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention within the U.S Department of Justice (DOJ) is accepting applications for its FY 2022 Supporting Vulnerable At-Risk Youth and Youth Transitioning Out of Foster Care grant. The grant supports the establishment of a pilot demonstration program to develop, implement, and build replicable treatment models for residential-based innovative care, treatment, and services. Grant number: [O-OJJDP-2022-171387](#). **Deadline: August 15.**

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 14.**

Funding & Other Opportunities

(continued)

Home Depot Foundation Expands Trades Training Initiatives with Path to Pro Scholarship Program. The [Home Depot Foundation](#) in partnership with the [SkillPointe Foundation](#) is accepting applications for its Path to Pro Scholarship program. The program is designed to help remove financial weight for students entering the skilled trades while preparing them for diverse available career paths. Additionally, the program will grant \$250,000 in financial assistance to high school seniors and graduates entering or currently enrolled in building construction trade programs. [read more...](#) **Deadline: September 30.**

America's Promise Alliance Invites Applications for its Power of Youth Summer of Service Grants. America's Promise is accepting applications for its Power of Youth Summer of Service Grants. The grants are designed to provide 201 grants to young people seeking to serve their communities. Projects can address any issue/need that youth are passionate about. Young people ages 13-19 across the country are eligible to apply. Awardees will receive \$300 grants. [read more...](#) **Deadline: Rolling.**

Resources

YouthBuild USA Published Two New Resources on Building Financial Capability with Opportunity Youth. The voices, leadership, and lived experiences of YouthBuild program staff members, students, recent graduates, and alumni provided the insights and considerations for practice offered within. Both documents noted below include tools to help programs and partners evaluate, design, and implement financial capability resources, practices, and curricula.

[Building Financial Capability with Opportunity Youth](#) offers guidance on how to provide students with accessible and inclusive financial resources and tools that help develop the skillsets and mindsets that lead to financial stability.

[Building Financial Capability with YouthBuild Programs and Opportunity Youth](#) includes suggested approaches and considerations for designing and implementing financial capability resources, products, and services focused on opportunity youth.

Resources

(continued)

Youth Unemployment in the Second Year of the COVID-19 Pandemic – Economic recovery and racial and geographic disparities. This [report](#) released by Mathematica describes the trends in youth unemployment in 2021, as the COVID-19 pandemic entered its second year.

Engaging Individuals After High School in Service Years. This [toolkit](#) released by Service Year shares their journey to identify and elevate strategies to engage, recruit, and support more individuals after high school in a service year, particularly those from racially diverse backgrounds and economically disadvantaged communities. The toolkit includes an easy-to-use [quality continuum](#) for programs to evaluate their quality when it comes to best engaging high school graduates in service.

Perceptions: Exploring Youth Homelessness Prevention and Diversion in the United States. This [report](#) released by True Colors United summarizes findings from an exploratory research study that examined youth homelessness prevention and diversion services in the United States.

“What Works” for Community College Students? This [brief](#) released by MDRC synthesizes 20 years of rigorous research by MDRC, presenting new evidence about key attributes of community college interventions that are positively related to larger impacts on students' academic progress.

Informed Self-Placement Today. This [brief](#) released by MDRC explores the potential of ISP to improve students' access to college-level courses and gives colleges an opportunity to consider placement-method changes that may boost student success.

BigFuture. This [website](#) developed by the College Board and Jobs for the Future is a free college planning tool, designed to support students after high school and when entering college. The site will help students handle the college planning process and find the college where they will thrive.

GLSEN Navigator. The Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Education Network (GLSEN) launched the [GLSEN Navigator](#) to equip advocates with the information they need to support LGBTQ+ students in every state and territory. Based on 20 years of research, GLSEN identified four core supports that promote students' ability to thrive and reach their full potential: **activating supportive educators; passing LGBTQ+ affirming policies; inclusive curriculum; and supporting student GSAs.** The GLSEN Navigator provides information on policies needed to strengthen these four supports. It also includes state snapshots on the experiences of LGBTQ+ youth in K-12 learning communities.

Resources

(continued)

Helping Children Who Experience Trauma: The Role of Trauma Screening. This [infographic](#) developed by the [Child Health and Development Institute](#) as part of the [Trauma ScreenTIME Initiative](#) highlights the role of screening in helping children who experience trauma. Trauma screening identifies and connects children and families who have experienced trauma with supports and services. The infographic includes information on trauma and its effects on children, answers questions on screening, explores the benefits of screening, and links to an online training course on how to screen children for trauma.

Upcoming Webinars/Webcasts

On July 12th, the National Youth Employment Coalition will host hosting **"Ask Away!,"** a monthly Q&A session, with the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, Division of Youth Services (DYS). The DYS team will be there to answer any questions you might have on policy, performance metrics, eligibility, waivers, and more! To register for the event, visit: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYvcuqqpzkpHdZ133hF1noluKnMFfJN0NNd>.

On July 12th, the National Youth Employment Coalition will host a webinar entitled: **The Intersection of Youth Homelessness + Human Trafficking.** During the webinar presenters will discuss how there is a strong overlap between homelessness and trafficking experiences among youth. They will also discuss the importance of understanding the pathways, vulnerabilities that lead to homelessness and trafficking, as well as key strategies to prevent both, is critical in our fight to end human trafficking. To register for the webinar, visit: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-intersection-of-youth-homelessness-human-trafficking-tickets-304228364227>.

On July 12th, the National Skills Coalition will host a webinar entitled: **Developing a More Inclusive and Equitable Workforce System.** During the webinar panelist will share what it takes to understand structural and systemic barriers; intentionally engage community partners; center worker and business voices in shaping policies and programs; and align programs and resources that support the whole person in training for and advancing in a career. To register for the webinar, visit: https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_zxAN-cYaRO6j4Cob5gZsDw?emci=ae382baa-fef2-ec11-b47a-281878b83d8a&emdi=73886eec-0ff3-ec11-b47a-281878b83d8a&ceid=2679746.

On July 29th, the Employment and Training Administration will host a webinar entitled: **Job Corps as a Career Pathway with Supportive Services for Youth and Young Adults.** This webinar will offer an overview of the Job Corps program, including opportunities for youth and young adult service providers to connect with their local Job Corps Centers to partner in referring eligible young people and providing valuable services. To register for this webinar, visit: <https://www.workforcegps.org/events/2022/06/17/14/23/Job-Corps-as-a-Career-Pathway-with-Supportive-Services-for-Youth-and-Young-Adults>.

Resources

(continued)

Past Webinars/Webcasts

On May 25, the American Youth Policy Forum hosted a roundtable entitled: **Beyond the Pandemic: Four Perspectives on Helping All Students Thrive**. The roundtable discussions engaged experts in education research and practice, school leadership, policy, and youth advocacy who shared perspectives on ways to collectively build stronger bridges to equity. Participants also learned about actionable ideas to inform equitable education practices beyond the pandemic and strategies to influence student success. To view an archive of the roundtable, visit: <https://www.air.org/event/air-equity-initiative-roundtable-beyond-pandemic-four-perspectives-helping-all-students>.

Upcoming Events

July 11-15. [National Summer Learning Week](#).

July 18. [Mandela Day](#).

July 26. [National Disability Independence Day](#).



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.