

# 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 Announced the Release of the WIOA 2023 LLSIL.** The Employment and Training Administration (ETA) within the U.S. Department of Labor published the [May 8 FEDERAL REGISTER](#). ETA has released the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) 2023 Lower Living Standard Income Level (LLSIL). LLSIL is used for several purposes under the WIOA. Specifically, WIOA section 3(36) defines the term “low-income individual” for eligibility purposes, and sections 127(b)(2)(C) and 132(b)(1)(B)(v)(IV) define the terms “disadvantaged youth” and “disadvantaged adult” in terms of the poverty line or LLSIL for State formula allotments. The Governor and state and local workforce development boards use the LLSIL for determining eligibility for youth and adults for certain services. ETA encourages Governors and state/local boards to consult the WIOA Final Rule and ETA guidance for more specific guidance in applying LLSIL to program requirements.

### 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

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**ETA issues TEGL 27-22 - Notification of a New Multi-factor Authentication (MFA) Requirement for State Users of the U.S. Department of Treasury's (Treasury) Automated Standard Application for Payments (ASAP) System.** The Employment and Training Administration (ETA) has published Training and Employment Guidance Letter (TEGL) 27-22. The TEGL notifies State Workforce Agencies (SWA) of a new access requirement impacting recipient organization users of Treasury's ASAP system. To read the TEGL click [here](#).

**DOL Announces 2023 Themes to Promote Importance of Advancing Disability Employment, Honor Landmark Legislation's Anniversary.** To mark two significant events in 2023 for people with disabilities, the U.S. Department of Labor announced its Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP) has selected themes to promote National Disability Employment Awareness Month and honor the 50th anniversary of the passage of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. ODEP has chosen "Advancing Access and Equity" as its theme for [National Disability Employment Awareness Month](#) in 2023. Observed each October, NDEAM celebrates the contributions of America's workers with disabilities past and present and showcases supportive, inclusive policies and practices that benefit employees and employers alike. Each year, the agency chooses an NDEAM theme for use by organizations around the nation to recognize the importance of ensuring people with disabilities have equal opportunity to prepare for and succeed in employment. Similarly, ODEP will use "Advancing Access and Equity: Then, Now and Next" to celebrate the passage of the Rehabilitation Act a half-century ago and its importance in prohibiting discrimination based on disability in employment by federal agencies, federal contractors, and recipients of federal funds, and in the delivery of federally funded programs and activities. ODEP will use the theme to promote activities to mark passage of the act, the first federal legislation to address access and equity for people with disabilities. To view the press release, click [here](#).

**DOL Announces Funding Opportunity for Employer-Focused Disability Policy, Technical Assistance Center.** The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) announced the availability of \$2 million in funds for the first year of a cooperative agreement for an employer-focused, disability policy development and technical assistance center. The announced funding availability is a re-competition of an existing cooperative agreement to manage the Employer Assistance and Resource Network on Disability Inclusion (EARN). EARN helps employers, human resources professionals, and diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility staff find the resources they need to recruit, hire, retain, and advance people with disabilities. To view the press release, click [here](#). Grant number: [FOA-ODEP-23-11](#). **Deadline: June 23.**

## Headlines

*(continued)*

**DOL Announces More than \$12 Million in Grant Funding Available to Support Worker Safety, Health Training Initiatives.** The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) announced the [availability of more than \\$12.7 million](#) in funding to make [more good jobs available to the U.S. workforce](#) by supporting training initiatives designed to promote safe and healthy in the nation's workplaces. Administered by the department's Occupational Safety and Health Administration, the [Susan Harwood Training Grant Program](#) includes funding opportunities for Targeted Topic Training, Training and Educational Materials Development, and new Capacity Building training grants for nonprofit organizations. Grants will support recipients' efforts to provide instructor-led remote and in-person hands-on training for workers and employers in small businesses; industries with high injury, illness, and fatality rates; and vulnerable workers, who are underserved, have limited English proficiency, or are temporary workers. Specifically, the [Harwood grants](#) will fund training and education on how to recognize, avoid and control hazards, and inform workers of their rights and employers of their responsibilities under the Occupational Safety and Health Act. To obtain additional information and view the press release, click [here](#).

**DOL Posts Blog Mental Health at Work: Raising Awareness of Current Resources.** In honor of Mental Health Awareness Month in May, the U.S. Department of Labor launched Mental Health at Work—a new initiative that connects work being done across DOL agencies to improve worker wellbeing, reduce stigma, and promote equitable access to mental health resources and treatment, especially for historically marginalized populations. As part of this, DOL developed a new webpage centralizing workplace mental health tools and resources and published a blog post highlighting the importance of the initiative to DOL's mission. To view the full blog, click [here](#).

**DOL Seeks Comments on the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth of 1997.** U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) published a request in the [May 19 FEDERAL REGISTER](#). The National Longitudinal Survey of Youth 1997 (NLSY97) includes respondents who were born in the years 1980 through 1984 and lived in the United States when the survey began in 1997. The primary objective of the survey is to study the transition from full-time schooling to the establishment of careers and families. The longitudinal focus of the survey requires information to be collected about the same individuals over many years in order to trace their education, training, work experience, fertility, income, and program participation. **Comments are due by June 20.**

## Headlines

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**Biden-Harris Administration Announces Nearly \$100 Million in Continued Support for Mental Health and Student Wellness Through Bipartisan Safer Communities Act.** The Biden-Harris Administration announced more than \$95 million in awards across 35 states to increase access to school-based mental health services and strengthen the pipeline of mental health professionals in high-needs school districts. The awards were funded by the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act (BSCA), which President Biden signed into law on June 25, 2022, and they help advance the Administration's efforts to tackle the mental health crisis in our schools as part of his National Mental Health Strategy. To obtain additional information and view the press release, click [here](#).

**ED Seeks Comments on its Perkins Innovation and Modernization Grant Program.** The Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education within the U.S. Department of Education (ED) published a request in the [May 16 FEDERAL REGISTER](#). ED has published the "Proposed Priorities, Requirements, Definitions, and Selection Criteria for the Perkins Innovation and Modernization Grant Program." The purpose of PIM program is to identify, support, and independently evaluate evidence-based and innovative strategies and activities to improve and modernize career and technical education (CTE). **Comments due: June 15.**

**ED Invites Applications for its MHP Technical Assistance Center.** The Office of Elementary and Secondary Education within the U.S. Department of Education (ED) published a request in the [May 3 FEDERAL REGISTER](#). The purpose of Mental Health Personnel (MHP) TA Center is to provide technical assistance to current Department grantees awarded funds under the fiscal years 2022 and 2023 Mental Health Service Professional Demonstration (MHSP) and the School-Based Mental Health Services grant programs and to disseminate resources and information to support State educational agencies, local educational agencies, institutions of higher education, and other stakeholders, more broadly, in the preparation of school-based mental health services providers.

**ED Seeks Comments for its SLDS Survey 2023-2025.** The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), Department of Education (ED) published a request in the [May 23 FEDERAL REGISTER](#). NCES is requesting clearance to continue the Statewide Longitudinal Data System (SLDS) Survey collection, which is intended to provide insight on State and U.S. territory SLDS capacity for automated linking of K-12, teacher, postsecondary, workforce, career and technical education, adult education, and early childhood data. **Comments due: July 24.**

## Headlines

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**HUD Provides Funding for Public Housing Authorities to Help Youth Aging out of Foster Care.** As the country marks National Foster Care Month, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) announced that it will make available \$688 thousand to 12 public housing authorities (PHAs) in 9 states, including California, Oregon, Texas, West Virginia, and Wisconsin. These PHAs will receive a total of 80 Foster Youth to Independence (FYI) initiative vouchers to address foster youth homelessness. This new allocation of funding was made on a non-competitive basis, and the funding remains available to PHAs to access, as they receive referrals from a partnering Public Child Welfare Agency (PCWA). View all PHA awardees announced today [here](#).

**SAMHSA to Sponsor Equity Challenge to Identify Organizations' Successful Outreach Strategies to Connect Historically Underserved Communities to Services.** The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) is sponsoring a Behavioral Health Equity Challenge, through which the Office of Behavioral Health Equity (OBHE) intends to learn more about outreach and engagements strategies that foster behavioral health equity throughout the country. The goal of the "The Behavioral Health Equity Challenge: Outreach and Engagement Strategies for Underserved Racial and Ethnic Communities" is to identify and highlight outreach and engagement strategies used by community-based organizations to increase access to mental health and substance use prevention and treatment services for racial and ethnic underserved communities. To obtain additional information, click [here](#).

**CLASP Posts Blog in Los Angeles, Mental Health Meets Workforce to Increase Access to Youth Peer Support.** This blog by Nia West-Bey explores how local communities have launched innovative approaches to youth mental health that meet the moment and have the potential to transform access to care. As part of Mental Health Awareness Month, Ms. West highlighted an example of a promising program aimed at young adults in Los Angeles County that will launch this summer. It brings together two sectors that are often siloed: workforce development and mental health services. To view the blog, click [here](#).

## Featured Programs

### Delaware Futures

**Celeste** enrolled with the Career Team WIOA-OSY Program. She was a high school graduate who needed to enhance her skills to gain sustainable employment. She was interested in the Code Differently IT Program, where she was able to learn the skills required to be a certified IT Tech. Celeste had a couple of challenges when she first started the IT program such as how to maximize her time management since she had to be in class everyday Monday- Friday for eight hours. Career Team staff met with Celeste and provided time management assistance that would be beneficial. Staff assigned modules on our Career Edge platform that would be with one of those modules focusing on time management. Celeste did not have to worry about income due to her paid WEX Placement while she completed the program. Celeste successfully completed her modules on Career Edge and applied them to her everyday life.

With her time management in order, Celeste was ready to focus on her coursework. Her study habits and dedication soon separated her from her peers. Her instructor saw how dedicated she was, and she was nominated as the team lead. In the role of team lead, she was the group lead on projects and assignments and tutored her peers who struggled with the course. Celeste passed her Scrum Certification and was recognized for her competency in Scrum Project Management Principles. This allowed her to be a candidate for a Scrum Master, which allowed her to take on the role of Project Manager for various projects. Celeste graduated from the Code Differently IT Program and applied to three different jobs but was denied due to her lack of experience. She was determined to succeed and was offered a paid part-time position as a tutor with Code Differently while she continued to search for an IT position. Celeste did not let the previous rejections stop her from reaching her goals. She is now employed with a new technology firm, making a great wage, and achieving her goals. Through the WIOA-OSY Program at Career Team, Celeste found a way to prevail despite having obstacles along the way.

#### 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](mailto:youth.services@dol.gov).

## Funding & Other Opportunities

### **Burroughs Wellcome Fund Invites Applications for Student STEM Enrichment Program.**

The [Burroughs Wellcome Fund](#) is accepting applications for its Student STEM Enrichment Program (SSEP), which supports diverse programs with a common goal: to enable primary and secondary students to participate in creative, hands-on STEM activities for K-12 students and pursue inquiry-based exploration in BWF's home state of North Carolina. Eligible applicants include public and private schools, colleges and universities, community groups, museums, zoos, scientific groups, and others that can provide experiential activities for K-12 North Carolina students. [read more...](#) **Deadline: June 9.**

**Pearl Milling Company Invites Applications for its 2023 P.E.A.R.L. Pledge Grant.** The [Pearl Milling Company](#) is accepting applications for the P.E.A.R.L. Pledge grant. This program champions the empowerment and success of Black women and girls across America. The program is based on five key pillars: Prosperity, Empowerment, Access, Representation, and Leadership. Through the program, grants will be awarded to support organizations with programming serving Black girls and/or women and aligned with P.E.A.R.L. Pledge mission and pillar. Applicants must be tax-exempt as defined by section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and based in the United States to be eligible. [read more...](#) **Deadline: June 14.**

**United Way Announces its Day of Action.** The United Way is inviting communities around the world to come together to harness the volunteer spirit and improve the conditions in which they live. Join people across the globe taking action to improve their communities by volunteering with United Way on their Day of Action. [read more...](#) **Deadline: June 21.**

**HHS Invites Applications for its Career Pathways Secondary Data Analysis Grants.** The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Administration for Children and Families is accepting applications for its Career Pathways Secondary Data Analysis Grants to support secondary analysis of data collected to rigorously evaluate a collection of career pathways programs. The purpose of these awards is to better understand the effectiveness of services funded by Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) programs that aim to address the employment and self-sufficiency needs of TANF recipients and those eligible for or at risk of TANF receipt. Career pathways programs are one such service which provides post-secondary education and training organized as a series of manageable steps leading to successively higher credentials and employment opportunities in growing occupations. Grant number: [HHS-2023-ACF-OPRE-PE-0005](#). **Deadline: June 29.**

## Funding & Other Opportunities

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**Lululemon Invites Applications for its 2024 Here to Be Grant.** The [lululemon Centre for Social Impact](#) is accepting applications for its 2024 Here to Be Grant. Through the program, lululemon seeks to support organizations beyond funding, by providing optional well-being and leadership offerings to the selected cohort. General operating support of up to \$50,000 will be awarded to support community-led organizations working to create equity in well-being and serving populations most impacted by systemic inequity. Applicants must be working to create access to physical, mental, and/or social well-being. Eligible applicants must be a registered nonprofit or charity or fiscally sponsored by one and must be operating in Australia, Canada, China Mainland, France, Germany, Hong Kong SAR, India, Ireland, Japan, Macau SAR, Malaysia, Mexico, Korea, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Singapore, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom, and/or the United States. [read more...](#) **Deadlines: Letters of intent due: June 5 -30, 2023. Selected applicants will be invited to submit a formal application, due: August 29, 2023.**

**American Philosophical Association Invites Proposals Grants Projects.** The [American Philosophical Association](#) (APA) is accepting applications for two programs that work to support the professional development of philosophers at all levels and foster greater understanding and appreciation of the value of philosophical inquiry. Applicants must be APA members to be eligible for a grant through either program. [read more...](#) **Deadline: June 30.** The grants are identified below:

- **Small Grant Fund:** Awards of up to \$5,000 will be awarded to projects that benefit the field of philosophy. A total of \$25,000 will be awarded through the program.
- **Diversity and Inclusiveness Funding:** A total of \$20,000 is available to fund projects designed to increase the presence and participation of women, racial and ethnic minorities, LGBTQ+ people, people with disabilities, people of low socioeconomic status, and other underrepresented groups at all levels of philosophy. Projects must have a clear application to diversity in a United States/Canada context. Priority will be given to programs that explicitly address more than one type of diversity (e.g., gender and race/ethnicity). The APA board anticipates funding one project at \$20,000 or two projects at \$10,000 each through this program in FY2024.

## **Funding & Other Opportunities**

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**Detwiler Family Foundation Invites Applications for Efforts to Support Children.** The [Detwiler Family Foundation](#) invites applications for its grants program. Through the program, grants ranging from \$5,000 to \$50,000 will be awarded to support organizations that can demonstrate an impact on children dealing with issues such as health, welfare, security, and financial hardship. Organizations may apply for grants to support specific projects or funds to match a current or ongoing fundraising campaign. Projects submitted may be stand-alone or joint efforts with other organizations. Organizations must be in the Pennsylvania counties of Chester or Montgomery; Atlanta, Georgia; Flathead County, Montana, the Upper Valley Region in Vermont/New Hampshire; or Portland, Oregon. Eligible applicants must be tax-exempt under section 501(c)(3) or 170(c) of the Internal Revenue Code and are classified as "not a private foundation" under section 509(a). Hospitals, educational institutions, and governmental institutions meeting these requirements can apply. [read more...](#) **Deadline: July 1.**

**BrandSource Scholars Invites Applications for its Foster Love - Together We Rise Scholarship.** BrandSource Scholarship is accepting applications from former foster youth between the ages 17-25 years old to receive a scholarship of up to \$11,000 paid out over 2 years. The scholarship provides access to academic and workforce opportunities for America's current and former foster youth. To ensure their long-term success, recipients will have an opportunity to receive access to personal mentorship and career development services. [read more...](#) **Deadline: Rolling.**

**The Center at Sierra Health Foundation Invites Applications for its Youth Suicide Campaign.** The Center for Sierra Health Foundation is accepting applications from for its Youth Suicide Prevention Media and Outreach Campaign. This campaign focuses on youth populations disproportionately impacted by suicide. Populations of focus are American Indian and Alaskan Native youth, Hispanic and Latinx youth, and African American/Black youth, as well as intersectional populations, including youth with mental health conditions and/or substance use issues, youth impacted by the foster care system and 2S/LGBTQ+ youth. This funding opportunity is intended for organizations and partners that possess cultural humility and responsiveness and whose staff and organizational leadership reflect the racial, ethnic, and cultural communities they intend to serve. Grant awards will be up to \$500,000 over two years for 501(c)(3) community-based organizations, Tribal organizations, and coalitions/collaboratives. [read more...](#) **Deadline: June 6.**

## Funding & Other Opportunities

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**Advance CTE Announces Career Technical Education Initiative.** Advance CTE is accepting applications for its Strengthening the Culture of Data Use in Postsecondary Career Technical Education Initiative. Through this initiative, a select cohort of four states will receive personalized support through technical assistance, funding, and access to a national peer learning network to improve the quality and use of postsecondary CTE data. Selected states will be awarded a total of \$40,000. [read more...](#) **Deadline: June 23.**

**HUD Invites Applications for its Youth Homeless Demonstration Program.** The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is accepting applications for its Fiscal Year 2023 Youth Homeless Demonstration Program. The goal of the program is to support selected communities in the development and implementation of a coordinated community approach to preventing and ending youth homelessness. The population to be served by this demonstration program is youth experiencing homelessness, aged 24 and under, including unaccompanied youth and pregnant or parenting youth who are experiencing homelessness. Grant number: [FR-6700-N-35](#). **Deadline: June 27.**

**HHS Launches the Children and Youth Resilience Challenge.** The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced the launch of a \$1 million [Children and Youth Resilience Challenge](#) that will fund innovative community-led solutions to promote resilience in children and adolescents affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and other disasters. The Resilience Challenge will include a proposal phase and a pilot phase for selected finalists. [read more...](#) **Proposals due: July 7.**

**NSF Invites Proposals for Advancing Microelectronics Education.** The National Science Foundation (NSF) is accepting proposals to conduct education-related research and development to prepare a diverse microelectronics workforce beginning with the early preparation of K-12 students in and outside of school settings and extending through undergraduate, graduate, and other levels of adult learning. The Dear Colleague Letter encourages proposals that will inspire, study and support learners' interest and motivation to pursue education pathways and careers in microelectronics. Successful projects should engage students and learners in activities that will build knowledge and skills in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) needed for the microelectronics workforce of the future. Document number: [NSF 23-115](#). **Deadline: Various.**

## Resources

**Centering Youth Voices and Equity in a National Youth Subsidized Employment Program.** This [brief](#) released by The Center for Law and Social Policy examines the challenges youth face in the current job market and proposes recommendations for a national subsidized employment program that prioritizes equity and amplifies youth voices. The insights provided in this brief are informed by several listening sessions with members of the Communities Collaborating to Reconnect Youth Network (CCRY). CCRY is a national learning community that brings together leaders from different youth workforce systems who focus on reconnecting youth with education and career pathways.

**Deeper Understanding of Employer Partnerships: Exploring Best Practices in the Field.** This core practice [brief](#) released by the National Youth Employment Coalition expands upon the 2022 NYEC literature review Employer Engagement and Opportunity Youth: Evidence and Next Steps for an Emerging Field via in-depth focus groups with employers, service providers, and young people, in order to gain diverse perspectives from those directly involved in the work.

**Changing Workforce Development Systems to Improve Outcomes for Young People of Color.** This [publication](#) released by MDRC highlights Generation Work launched in five cities to connect more young adults—especially those of color from low-income families—with meaningful employment by changing how workforce development systems prepare them for and support them in jobs. This publication previews findings from the first five years of the initiative.

**Revenues and Expenditures for Public Elementary and Secondary Education: FY 21 (NCES 2023-301).** This [publication](#) released by the National Center for Education Statistics features finance tables which introduce new data for national and state-level public elementary and secondary revenues and expenditures for fiscal year (FY) 2021.

## Resources

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### Upcoming Webinars/Webcasts

On June 8<sup>th</sup>, the National Youth Employment Coalition will host a workshop entitled: **Young People and Travel: Planning, Paying, Preparing, Executing**. During the workshop presenters will discuss how to pay for travel with public and private funds, how to plan for travel with young people, how to ensure that young people have the preparation they need for successful trips of all kinds, and the logistics of executing trips. To register for the workshop, click [here](#).

On June 20<sup>th</sup>, the National Youth Employment Coalition will host a workshop entitled: **New, Better, and Faster Ways to Get More Employers to Use Your Services**. The strategies presented in this session will help youth employment programs get better results with any service they are offering employers. This includes hiring, internships, work experience, supported work, apprenticeships, career pathways and other services that you are trying to get employers to use. To register for the workshop, click [here](#).

### Past Webinars/Webcasts

On May 31<sup>st</sup>, the Employment and Training Administration hosted a webinar entitled: **The Impacts of Opioid Addiction on the Rural Workforce**. The webinar brought together presenters from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC), and the First Tennessee Development District and its partners to provide resources, promising practices, and grant opportunities to rural workforce systems, employers, and business on supporting recovery efforts in the workplace. To view an archive of the webinar, click [here](#).

On May 30<sup>th</sup>, the Employment and Training Administration hosted a webinar entitled: **Youth, Trauma, and Healing**. This was the third of three webinars on trauma-informed care, or healing-centered care, and the public workforce system. This session focused on the importance of healing-centered care for youth in the workforce system, and guided professionals in the workforce system on how to use this information to better serve youth program participants and support them on their healing and mental health. To view an archive of the webinar, click [here](#).

May 16-18<sup>th</sup>, the Employment and Training Administration hosted an event entitled: **ETA Vision 2030 Workforce Convening**. Attendees were able to hear leaders across the Biden Administration, public and private stakeholders, and experts from across the workforce ecosystem lay a vision for the role of the workforce system to ensure ETA is building an economy that works for everyone. To view an archive of the convening, click [here](#).

## Upcoming Events

**June 6.** [National Higher Education Day](#).

**June 14-15. New Orleans, LA.** Jobs for the Future's [Horizons: Without Limits](#) Summit.



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### 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](mailto: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.