

FLASH FAX/E-NEWS MAR. 28, 2014

ACF Announces Funding Opportunity

At-Risk Youth

“Basic Center Program” and “Street Outreach Program”

The Administration for Children and Families (ACF), Administration on Children, Youth and Families (ACYF), Family and Youth Services Bureau (FYSB) announced today it is accepting applications for the Basic Center Program (BCP). The purpose of the BCP is to provide an alternative for runaway and homeless youth who might otherwise end up with law enforcement or in the child welfare, mental health, or juvenile justice systems. The BCP works to establish or strengthen community-based programs that meet the immediate needs of runaway and homeless youth, youth at risk of running away, and their families. The programs provide youth up to age 18 with emergency shelter, food, clothing, counseling, and referrals for health care and other appropriate services. Most basic centers can provide up to 21 days of shelter for a maximum of 20 youth at a time. Basic centers seek to reunite young people with their families, whenever possible, or to locate appropriate alternative safe placements.

Applications are due by May 5

Visit: http://www.acf.hhs.gov/grants/open/foa/files/HHS-2014-ACF-ACYF-CY-0792_0.pd

SOP grantees provide support services that aim to move youth into stable housing and prepare them for independence. The program's ultimate goal is to prevent the sexual abuse or exploitation of young people living on the streets or in unstable housing.

Applications are due by May 5

Visit: http://www.acf.hhs.gov/grants/open/foa/files/HHS-2014-ACF-ACYF-YO-0790_0.pdf

Proposed Pilot Program to ease Chicago Housing Authority (CHA) ban on ex-offenders

The long-standing ban on letting Chicago residents with criminal records live in public housing would be partially lifted under a proposed pilot program to allow ex-offenders to move in with family members living in CHA properties, a city official said. Visit: http://articles.chicagotribune.com/2014-03-28/news/ct-cha-ex-offender-housing-met-20140328_1_ex-offenders-charles-woodyard-cha-properties

Nominate a White House Champion of Change for Expanding Reentry Employment Opportunities

Stable employment – like stable housing, family and community support, and access to substance abuse and mental health treatment – is critical to the rehabilitation, stability and successful reentry of individuals who have been incarcerated and are returning to our communities. Research shows that those who have been employed even for a year or less are far less likely to commit another crime. That is why the innovative work of local and state community leaders to help those with criminal records re-enter society with dignity and viable employment opportunities is so important. Their leadership is improving public safety and giving individuals who have paid their debt to society a real second chance to support their families and contribute to our economy.

We are asking you to help us identify and honor extraordinary individuals who are enabling employment opportunities for formerly incarcerated individuals. These leaders will be invited to the White House to celebrate their accomplishments and showcase their actions to support stronger and safer communities. Please nominate a Champion of Change by noon on Friday, April 4, 2014. Nominees may include individuals who are: Providing job opportunities to individuals with a criminal record and/or creating and implementing model screening or hiring policies;

Personally demonstrating an exemplary record of employment or entrepreneurial success after incarceration and in turn providing employment opportunities and mentorship to the reentry population;

Creating effective education, training, mentoring and other transitional programs to help individuals with a criminal record improve employment outcomes;

Advocating for policy and legislative changes that lead to increased employment opportunities for individuals with a criminal record; and/or

Leveraging technology to increase access to employment-related reentry services or education and skills-building for individuals with a criminal record. Visit: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2014/03/19/nominate-white-house-champion-change-expanding-reentry-employment-opportunities>

To Nominate a Reentry Champion of Change Visit: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/champions/nominate>

Community Legal Services of Philadelphia (CLS) Young Women of Color with Criminal Records: A Barrier to Economic Stability for Low-Income Families and Communities

While young women generally have more limited and minor criminal records than their male counterparts, CLS has observed they struggle more in their search for employment than young men. Their female clients often look for work in retail and caregiving fields, which are fields that tend to be concerned about criminal records.

Data from CLS's legal practice and local and national data and research in this report shed some light on this troubling dynamic. Included are recommendations that can be done to better connect these young women with employment opportunities. Visit: <http://bit.ly/1kD1psn>

Prisons, Jails Miss Opportunities for HIV Testing, Post-Release Treatment



Few prison systems or jails in the U.S. have comprehensive programs to provide critical services that link HIV-positive inmates to care after their release, according to a study published in Health Affairs. Because people who are incarcerated are three to five times more likely than the general population to be infected by HIV, correctional facilities play an important role in testing for HIV and linking infected people to post-release treatment services. Visit: http://www.abtassociates.com/newsreleases/2014/survey--prisons--jails-miss-opportunities-for-hiv-.aspx?utm_source=March+2014+E-news-letutm_campaign=March+2014+newsletter&utm_medium=email



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