

FLASH FAX/E-NEWS MAY 9, 2014

Office for Victims of Crime Announces New Funding Opportunities

The Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) is accepting applications for three awards under two funding opportunities:

Linking Systems of Care for Children and Youth Demonstration Project. This solicitation addresses child and youth victimization through state-level demonstration projects, which will be conducted in two phases and funded in 15-month increments. OVC will require the demonstration sites to develop a plan to sustain the initiative after federal funding ends.

Technical Assistance Project. OVC will select a training and technical assistance provider to assist the demonstration sites in their project planning, development, and implementation efforts.

Applications are due by May 21, 2014

Both solicitations are in response to the recommendations outlined in OVC's Vision 21: Transforming Victim Services Final Report and the Report of the Attorney General's National Task Force on Children Exposed to Violence, part of the Attorney General's Defending Childhood Initiative.

Visit: <http://www.ojdp.gov/news/14juvjust/140429.html>

OVC Video Series Addresses Children's Exposure to Violence



In observance of National Child Abuse Prevention Month and National Crime Victims' Rights Week, the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) has released four videos in the online series "Through Our Eyes: Children, Violence, and Trauma." The series of eight videos addresses the needs of children exposed to violence and victimization. The new videos highlight intervention in schools, innovations in juvenile justice, addressing violence in the home, and a call to action. The other four videos in the series focus on public awareness, evidence-based treatment, child advocacy strategies, and community-based approaches. Resource guides and posters are also available. Visit: <http://ovc.ncjrs.gov/topic.aspx?topicid=12>

Coalition for Juvenile Justice To Host Annual Conference



The Coalition for Juvenile Justice (CJJ) will host its annual conference on June 18–21, 2014, in Washington, DC. In accordance with the conference theme "Looking Back, Planning Ahead: A Vision for the Next 40 Years in Juvenile Justice," sessions will focus on lessons learned, implications for the future, and emerging issues. The conference will recognize CJJ's 30th anniversary, featuring thematic workshop/training tracks, informative general and plenary sessions, and more. This conference will follow OJJDP's 2014 Core Requirements Training, which is June 17–18, 2014. Visit: <http://www.ojdp.gov/news/14juvjust/140424.html>

Prisoner Reentry Institute at John Jay College of Criminal Justice

The mission of the Prisoner Reentry Institute (PRI) at John Jay College of Criminal Justice is to spur innovation and improve practice in the field of reentry by advancing knowledge; translating research into effective policy and service delivery; and fostering effective partnerships between criminal justice and non-criminal justice disciplines.

The PRI works towards this mission by focusing its efforts on the following types of projects and activities:

Developing, Managing, and Evaluating Innovative Reentry Projects

Providing Practitioners and Policymakers with Cutting Edge Tools and Expertise

Promoting Education Opportunities for Currently and Formerly Incarcerated Individuals as a Vehicle for Successful Reentry and Reintegration

Identifying "Pulse Points" and Creating Synergy Across Fields and Disciplines

Visit: <http://johnjayresearch.org/pri/>

Successful Job Placement for Ex-Offenders: The Center for Employment Opportunities

Many newly released offenders have difficulty reintegrating into society. The Center for Employment Opportunities (CEO) in New York City is one of many programs that help ex-offenders prepare for, find, and keep jobs. CEO's program is unique because it provides day labor for participants, most of whom have been released only the previous week from boot camp. In addition to enabling the participants to earn a daily income, the work crews help the participants structure their lives and develop good work habits. The work crews also generate revenue that covers direct day-labor expenses. The work crews are a short-term means of achieving CEO's overall mission: placing ex-offenders in permanent, unsubsidized, full-time jobs that provide benefits and compensation above minimum wage. Distinctive features of CEO include the following:

A set of consistently enforced rules builds on and sustains the self-discipline and self-esteem most participants have developed in boot camp; these rules also foster the reliability that employers value most in hiring CEO participants.

The program acts as a free human re-resources department to employers by screening participants for suitability and by serving as an employee assistance program, offering help with such problems as sub-stance abuse to any of the employers' workers not just CEO graduates.

The program pays for half of employees' wages for 8 weeks or more through the Federal Job Training Partnership Act if specific criteria are met.

Program employment specialists help employers obtain any available job tax credits. The program helps about 70 percent of its participants find full-time employment within 2 to 3 months, with most jobs paying more than minimum wage and providing fringe benefits. Staff offer ongoing services to all placed participants for at least 6 months after placement. Approximately three-fourths of participants placed are still employed at the same job after 1 month and of these about half are still working at that job after 6 months. Visit: <https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles/168102.pdf>



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