

Children & Youth *Funding Report*

Policy • Grants • Education • Health Care • Child Welfare • At-Risk Youth



Week of January 17 through January 20, 2012

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Our Top Stories

ESEA Reauthorization Fight Heats up on Hill

The battle to reauthorize the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) has heated up with the introduction of two House Republican bills that would dismantle the current school accountability system and eliminate the federal School Improvement Grants that help poor schools improve.

Rep. John Kline (R-MN), chairman of the House Education and Workforce Committee, introduced two draft bills to reauthorize ESEA, also known as No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB). The bills, the proposed Student Success Act and the proposed Encouraging Innovation and Effective Teachers Act, would mandate teacher evaluations based in part on student outcomes, significantly reduce federal intervention in low-performing schools and prevent the federal Education Dept. (DoEd) from imposing school improvement/intervention strategies -- that would be left up to the states.

The two-bill combo is a more comprehensive approach at an ESEA rewrite, compared to the piecemeal process the House took last year.

The House bills are in sharp contrast to the ESEA rewrite approved by the Senate Health, Education, Labor & Pensions Committee (HELP).

The Senate bill would also scrap the current accountability system, but it does not mandate teacher evaluations (a compromise necessary to move the bill). It does, however, retain some federal intervention in the worst performing schools.

In Addition, the Senate version would not eliminate the \$533 million School Improvement State Grants competition and contained significant new funding programs, including a \$1 billion K-12 STEM funding measure.

Comparing the two bills:

Both the Senate and House bills would eliminate adequate yearly progress (AYP), which is the current accountability system that requires all students to be on grade level in reading and math by 2014.

The Senate bill would require schools to adopt standards that prepare students to be college or career ready; the House bill supports the goal of preparing students for college and careers. But the House measure would prevent

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And so much more

DoEd from encouraging states to develop more uniform, rigorous standards.

Other differences include:

- The Senate would retain the requirement that all teachers have to be highly qualified while the House would abolish it.
- The Senate bill would require interventions in the bottom 5% of schools while the House bill does not specify a percentage nor would it require specific interventions.
- The House bill would provide schools with funding flexibility and eliminate the maintenance of effort requirement, which requires school districts to keep their funding at certain levels in order to get federal funding. The Senate measure would not.

Info: <http://help.senate.gov> (Senate HELP) or <http://edworkforce.house.gov/> (House).

Posted Online: 1/19/12 05:59 AM

Foundation Shares Tips on How to Win Education-Entrepreneur Grants

Virtual Enterprises International (VEI) used its good track record and well-focused program strategies to win a \$1 million grant that will provide high school business education programming in four states, say New York Life Foundation officials.

Chris Park, president of New York Life Foundation, tells *CYF* that VEI won the grant because it demonstrated success with programming in the past and connected this effort to the larger foundation mission which seeks to improve high school graduation rates.

"VEI's program supports the educational enhancement focus area of the foundation and demonstrates impressive results by giving students the educational boost they need to stay interested in," Park says, "and ultimately graduate from, high school with plans for their futures."

The program transforms classrooms into offices and enables students to create and manage the day-to-day operations of a simulated global business. The funding will allow VEI to expand into California, Florida, Illinois and New York and support competitions and extended learning experiences where students demonstrate their new skills. The entrepreneur education program has been successful because it integrates classroom learning with real work exposure as part of the school curriculum, Park says.

Info: www.newyorklifefoundation.org or www.veinternational.org.

Posted Online: 1/19/12 07:51 AM

At-Risk Youth

Collaborative Launched to Connect At-Risk Youth with Jobs, Education

The White House Council for Community Solutions (WHCCS) launches a new community collaborative effort to help the almost 7 million at-risk youth who now are adrift without jobs or adequate training to gain employment.

The 100-day effort, called the "All In" for youth initiative, will urge governments and businesses to partner in offering new opportunities for youth. The United Way will host a series of "Community Conversations" through February and March, encouraging potential partners to talk with each other. The effort is being run out of the new WHCCS, which focuses on building collaborations to help the nation's most at-risk youth.

While the new initiative provides no new federal funding for at-risk youth, it does provide links to an online community toolbox which offers strategies to find funding for such programs. For example, the toolkit recounts the story of Milwaukee's Teen Pregnancy Reduction Initiative -- a cross-section of public officials, the United Way, service providers, researchers and funders -- which worked to reduce the teen birth rate by roughly 30% over a

five-year period.

The Milwaukee effort provided a hallmark example of a mature collaborative. Partners took a coordinated approach to funding. One subcommittee -- a funders' collaborative -- made joint grants to support projects that United Way could not fund. This absence of competition shows the collective endorsement of the collaborative's roadmap.

Info: <http://tinyurl.com/cd-pub-1xdd001> (program announcement) or <http://tinyurl.com/cd-pub-xdd01> (toolbox).

Posted Online: 1/20/12 06:11 AM

Child Welfare

ACF Wants to Improve Recovery of Child Support Enforcement

The Health & Human Services Dept.'s Admin. for Children and Families (ACF) wants to improve the collection of child support payments by matching new hired/employment lists against those families receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF).

Public Comment Deadline: Feb. 13.

States would match names on the TANF roll against those who have been listed as newly employed on the National Directory of New Hires (maintained by the federal Office of Child Support Enforcement-OCSE) and state TANF agencies. The report would help document the viability of the TANF/new hires matching strategy, according to a Jan. 13 *Federal Register* notice.

Info: <http://tinyurl.com/cdpubs-x125o>

Posted Online: 1/18/12 12:02 PM

Education

Education Dept. Searches for Ways to Catch Testing Cheaters

The Education Dept. (DoEd) is asking for help in developing new ways to catch school administrators and teachers who are helping students cheat on annual achievement tests, which are used to measure school district accountability.

There is no comment deadline, but DoEd plans to issue a summary report of suggestions in the fall.

The department made the request after headlines reported allegations of misconduct by school administrators in the testing process, according to a Jan. 17 *Federal Register* notice. Such misconduct can undermine state accountability systems--painstakingly built over the past decade--and damage the credibility of national reform efforts underway, the notice said. The department is looking for model programs or best practices that have been used to ensure the integrity of the testing systems.

Info: <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2012-01-17/html/2012-753.htm>.

Posted Online: 1/19/12 11:51 AM

Federal Funding - General

IMLS Supports Native American Library Programming, Cultural Services

Agency: Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS); **Program:** Native American/Native Hawaiian Museum Services (CFDA Number: 45.308) Funding Opportunity Number: NANH-FY12; **Eligibility:** Tribes, Native

Hawaiian villages (K-12 schools, libraries and tribal colleges are eligible to participate as partners); **Funding:** 20 awards of up to \$50,000 each; **Deadline:** April 2.

Summary: The competition funds programming at Native America libraries. Applications which promote enhanced learning and innovation within museums and museum related organizations, such as cultural centers, are encouraged. Overall, the program provides opportunities for Native American tribes and Native Hawaiian organizations to sustain heritage, culture, and knowledge by strengthened museum services.

Info: <http://tinyurl.com/cd-pub-1c001b>; Sandra Narva, senior program officer, 202/653-4634 or snarva@imls.gov.

Posted Online: 1/20/12 08:59 AM

Federal Funding Notices - At Risk Youth

DOJ Offers \$600K Grants to Reduce Sexual Assaults in Juvenile Facilities, Prisons

Agency: Justice Dept. (DOJ) -- Bureau of Justice Assistance; **Program:** Demonstration Projects to Establish "Zero Tolerance" Cultures For Sexual Assault in Local Adult and Juvenile Correctional Facilities (CFDA Number: 16.735) (Funding Opportunity Number: BJA-2012-3161); **Eligibility:** States (it is expected that in many cases collaborative partnerships will be established with local and tribal government agencies); **Funding:** Multiple awards up to \$600,000 each (a 50% match is require); **Deadline:** March 15.

Summary: Demonstration projects funded through this solicitation will support comprehensive approaches within local adult and juvenile correctional facilities to prevent, detect, and respond to incidences of sexual victimization. Projects that address underserved populations and are geographically diverse are encouraged.

Info: www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/grant/12PREAsol.pdf; 606/545-5035, or support@grants.gov.

Posted Online: 1/20/12 12:11 PM

HRSA Offers Grant for Newborn Health Screening Programs

Agency: Health & Human Services Dept. (Health Resources & Services Admin., HRSA); **Program:** Newborn Screening Technical Assistance and Data Repository Program (CFDA Number: 93.110) (Funding Opportunity Number: HRSA-12-070); **Eligibility:** Any public or private entity; **Funding:** One \$850,000 award; **Deadline:** Feb. 14.

Summary: The grantee will provide leadership on the implementation of state-based public health newborn screening and other genetics programs. The grantee will provide various services, including technical assistance, resource development and state education and training.

Info: Debi Sarkar, 301/443-0959; e-mail, dsarkar@hrsa.gov; for grant guidance, please visit <http://tinyurl.com/8xa3dxz>.

Posted Online: 1/20/12 11:36 AM

Federal Funding Notices - Child Welfare

Agency to Award \$3M in Child Health Center Grants

Agency: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS); **Program:** Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act (CHIPRA) Prospective Payment System (PPS) for Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) and Rural Health Clinics (RHCS) Transition Grants (Second Release) (CFDA No. 93.767); **Eligibility:** States; **Funding:** \$3 million available for up to eight awards (no cost sharing is required); **Deadline:** March 12.

Summary: These 12-month grants are intended to help states -- operating a separate or combination CHIP

program -- to transition from current payment arrangements to an alternate system that pays for services provided to CHIP enrollees.

Info: <http://tinyurl.com/cd-pub-i01a>; Mary Greene, Mary.greene@cms.hhs.gov or Ticia Jones Ticia.Jones@cms.hhs.gov.

Posted Online: 1/17/12 5 PM

Grantees Will Review Child Home-Visiting Programs

Agency: Health & Human Services Dept. (Health Resources & Services Admin., HRSA); **Program:** Affordable Care Act - Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Research Program (CFDA Number: 93.615) (Funding Opportunity Number: HRSA-12-159); **Eligibility:** Colleges and nonprofits (projects which look to improve early detection of developmental and other delays and appropriate education intervention during early childhood are encouraged); **Funding:** \$600,000 for two awards (no match is required); **Deadline:** March 16.

Summary: These grants support research relating to maternal, infant, and early childhood home visiting services which show promise. Findings are expected to have potential for improving home visiting programs for mothers and children in the future.

Info: <http://tinyurl.com/cd-pub-301ah>; Hae Young Park, hpark@hrsa.gov or 301/443-2207.

Posted Online: 1/20/12 4:11 PM

Federal Funding Notices - Education

\$13M Seeks to Improve K-12 Computer Instruction

Agency: Nat'l Science Foundation; **Program:** Computing Education for the 21st Century (CE21) (CFDA Numbers: 47.070, 47.076 and 47.080) (Funding Opportunity Number: 12-527); **Eligibility:** Schools, state education agencies, public and private colleges and universities, professional societies and nonprofits; **Funding:** \$13 million for 20 awards (there is no matching requirement); **Deadline:** April 9.

Summary: Grantees will research ways to provide access to rigorous, academic computing in the K-12 classroom. CE21 supports efforts in three tracks:

1. Computing Education Research (CER) proposals are aimed at developing a research base for computing education. Projects can target students or teachers in informal or formal educational settings, or address any level within the education pipeline, from elementary school through high school and college.
2. The Computer Science (CS) 10K Project supports rigorous, academic curricula incorporated into computing courses in 10,000 high schools, taught by 10,000 well-trained teachers. CS 10K proposals can address a wide range of needed activities, including the development of course materials, pedagogy and methods.
3. Broadening Participation (BP) proposals will aim to develop and assess novel interventions that contribute to effective teaching and learning of computing for students from the underrepresented groups: such as women, persons with disabilities and Native Americans.

CER and BP projects will be funded up to \$600,000 over three years. CS 10K projects will be funded up to \$1 million over three years.

Novice applicants do not get a priority, but would be well served to seek partners, Janice Cuny, a DoEd grants official, tells us.

"CE21 will be a very competitive program," she says. "In general the research and/or evaluation requirements, as well as the content and curriculum issues for a CE21 proposal, require a pretty substantial project team to pull off.

So if you're a novice, I strongly recommend pairing with some non-novices."

Info: <http://tinyurl.com/cdpubs-0125o>; Janice Cuny, program director, 703/292-8900, jcuny@nsf.gov; Mimi McClure, associate program director, 703/292-5197, mmcclure@nsf.gov.

Posted Online: 1/18/12 08:02 AM

Funding Tips

Agency Promotes 'Day of Service' Events

The Corp. for Nat'l & Community Service (CNCS) will soon be releasing a Day of Service Project Promotion Tool. The tool will help any person or group organizing a service project in conjunction with a CNCS initiative to help promote activities and to ascertain impact of the day of service.

CNCS is a federal agency that engages more than five million Americans in volunteer activities. For more on the agency, please visit <http://www.nationalservice.gov>. Day of service events seek to get citizens involved in community improvements. They can be tied to federal holidays, like Martin Luther King's Birthday, or can be a standalone event.

Info: David Premo, 202/606-6717; e-mail, dpremo@cns.gov; for a Jan. 12 *Federal Register* notice on the new tool, please visit <http://tinyurl.com/79fuw8f>.

Posted Online: 1/20/12 12:37 PM

Faith-based Groups Win Round over Hiring, Employment Issues

In what is good news for faith-based groups, the Supreme Court sided unanimously with a Michigan church, saying the group was exempt from federal anti-discrimination laws when it fired a teacher who sued for wrongful termination.

The case, *Hosanna-Tabor Church v. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission*, No. 10-553, was filed by Cheryl Perich, who had been a teacher at a school that was part of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. Perich sued, claiming she was fired for pursuing an employment discrimination claim. The ruling further reinforces the right of churches and faith-based organizations to hire and fire whomever they want.

Courts have previously ruled that faith-based groups did not have to adjust their hiring practices to be eligible for federal grants. Although the scope of this ruling remains to be seen, it is likely that the new firing exception will also be extended to include faith-based groups wanting to apply for federal funding.

The ruling recognizes a "ministerial exception" to anti-discrimination laws, which shields churches and their operations from the reach of laws protecting employees. The ruling will have consequences for those employed by religious groups, from ministers, priests, rabbis and other religious leaders, to teachers in religious schools.

Info: <http://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/11pdf/10-553.pdf>

Posted Online: 1/18/12 4:02 PM

Private Funding

Aetna Offers Grants to Improve Health of Children, Adults

Private Funder: Aetna Foundation; **Opportunity:** 2012 program grants; **Funding Focus:** Obesity, healthcare and equity; **Geographic Focus:** National; **Eligibility:** Nonprofits; **Funding:** Grant amounts vary based on the quality and quantity of applications received. Regional grant awards generally range from \$25,000 to \$50,000; national grants of up to \$250,000 are awarded (the foundation generally awards only one grant per organization in

a calendar year); **Deadlines:** Feb. 15, May 15, Aug. 15 and Nov. 15.

Summary: The Aetna Foundation seeks national and regional nonprofit partners with the vision to help improve the quality and delivery of health services and to improve the health status of the American public.

Grant applications that address more than one of these areas receive priority consideration: addressing the rising rate of obesity among U.S. adults and children; promoting equity in health and healthcare for common chronic conditions and infant mortality and improving care coordination and communications among healthcare professionals.

Info: www.aetna-foundation.org/foundation/index.html; or Aetna Inc. 151 Farmington Ave., Hartford, CT 06156, 860/273-0123.

Posted Online: 1/19/12 4:51 PM

Ameriprise Offers Community, Educational Support

Funder: Ameriprise Financial; **Opportunity:** Community Relations Grants; **Funding Focus:** Hunger, homeless community development, job training, low-income families, environment; **Geographic Focus:** National (where the company has a presence); **Eligibility:** Nonprofits (programs which support afterschool feeding programs are encouraged to apply); **Funding:** The minimum grant request is \$5,000; **Deadline:** Feb. 1, May 1 and Sept. 1.

Summary: Ameriprise's giving focuses funding on three key priorities: (1) Meeting Basic Needs (hunger, housing and job training organizations should apply under this category); (2) Supporting Community Vitality; and (3) Volunteer-Driven Causes. Volunteer-driven grants are intended to recognize the many nonprofits that serve Ameriprise communities and have caught the interest of its employees. Ameriprise will consider virtually any type of funding that is supported by its employees or retirees. For instance, while the specific categories don't mention some issues like health care, these efforts can still be considered if they obtain buy-in from local Ameriprise employees. Applicants are asked not to submit applications more than six weeks before a deadline. Status calls or e-mails aren't allowed. Ameriprise will respond to applicants in writing within three months of the deadline date.

Info: <http://tinyurl.com/cd-pub-2c001o>; community.relations@ampf.com

Posted Online: 1/17/12 1:05 PM

Gardening Groups Offer Communities Shot at Winning Fruit Orchard

Private Funders: Kidsgardening.org, the Fruit Tree Planting Foundation (FTPF) and Dreyer's Fruit Bars; **Opportunity:** 2012 Communities Take Root (CTR) grants; **Funding Focus:** Nutrition, hunger and education; **Geographic Focus:** National; **Eligibility:** Communities; **Funding:** One community fruit orchard (including orchard design, arborist expertise, and a community workshop on planting, pruning and caring for fruit trees); **Deadline:** Rolling, limited to the first 100 applicants.

Summary: Kidsgardening.org, which supports youth gardening projects, joins with FTPF and Dreyers to offer one community a chance at winning an entire fruit orchard. Applications are now open for 2012, but don't wait. Only the first 100 qualified applicants will be in the running to win a free orchard, which will be put up to a public online vote.

Info: www.kidsgardening.org/node/70429.

Posted Online: 1/20/12 11:59 AM

KaBoom, Dr Pepper Offer Playground Funding

Private Funders: Dr Pepper Snapple & KaBOOM!; **Opportunity:** 2012 playground grants; **Funding Focus:** Recreation; **Geographic Focus:** National; **Eligibility:** Municipalities, neighborhood associations, schools, day care centers, and non-profit organizations without a playground or with existing equipment that is unsafe for children to use; **Funding:** multiple awards of up to \$15,000 each (the Dr Pepper Snapple Group has made a \$15

million, three-year commitment as part of the company's Let's Play initiative); **Deadline:** March 16.

Summary: The funders offer grants to qualifying organizations to be used toward the purchase of playground equipment that will be built using the KaBOOM! community-build model. Applicants must own the land or possess a long-term lease and must obtain permission from the land owner to construct a playground. The total playground equipment purchase must be between \$24,000 and \$40,000, with the applicant picking up the difference that is not covered by the grant.

Info: http://kaboom.org/about_kaboom/programs/grants.

Posted Online: 1/20/12 2:02 PM

Tony Hawk Modifies Grant Rules for Skatepark Applicants

Foundation: Tony Hawk Foundation; **Opportunity:** Winter/Summer 2012 Grants; **Funding Focus:** Physical activity, education, obesity, children/youth; **Geographic Focus:** National; **Eligibility:** 501 (c) Nonprofits, schools and state/local agencies; **Funding:** Grants range from \$1,000 to \$25,000 each (about 24 awards will be made this year; **Deadline:** Feb. 1 and July 2.

Summary: Grants go for public skateparks that serve low-income populations. The foundation has made significant changes to its grantmaking requirements this year to help ensure higher quality skateparks.

Starting this year, skatepark projects must feature cast-in-place concrete (shotcrete) or permanent precast concrete designs (that do not feature steel transition plates). Ramp-style parks made from wood, steel or polymer structures are no longer eligible for a grant.

Another change is that each community may apply for a grant more than two times. Previous requirements only allowed communities to apply twice.

Under the new regulations, communities that have not previously been awarded a foundation grant may continue to apply. In an effort to ensure eventual success, each applicant will receive detailed feedback about their projects from Tony Hawk, foundation staff and the board of directors.

The foundation likes to see strong partnerships. Partnerships should involve skaters in the planning and design of the skatepark and various local groups should be involved to ensure a quality, permanent structure that does not require fees or memberships to use them. The foundation loves to spread the funding wealth, with only a few states not yet receiving a grant. For more on the lengthy list of grantees, please visit <http://tinyurl.com/7anyu3a>.

Info: Questions, 760/477-2479; <http://tinyurl.com/7s2ptm3>

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State & Local

A Roundup of State and Local Funding Opportunities

California

The Silicon Valley Community Foundation serves San Mateo and Santa Clara counties and has \$2 billion in assets under management in more than 1,500 philanthropic funds. The community foundation provides grants through donor advised and corporate funds in addition to its own endowment funds. The foundation focuses on community opportunity, economic security and K-12 education. Funding varies. The next education grants deadline is Sept. 19. To see more, go to: www.siliconvalleycf.org.

Colorado

The Adolph Coors Foundation supports nonprofit organizations that promote the Western values of self-reliance, personal responsibility and integrity. The foundation places a high priority on programs that help youth to prosper

and encourage economic opportunities for adults. Specifically, the foundation's areas of support include one-on-one mentoring programs, job training, and a variety of self-help initiatives. Afterschool or academic programs in conjunction with nonprofits will be considered. The first application deadline for 2012 is March 1. To see more, go to: <http://www.coorsfoundation.org/>

Georgia

The TechBridge Technology Innovation Award Program, sponsored by Accenture, recognizes deserving nonprofit organizations that have innovative concepts for using technology to better serve the community. The award provides \$25,000 in TechBridge consulting services and a cash grant of \$5,000 to the nonprofit with the most compelling innovative concept. Deadline: Feb. 6. To see more, go to: <http://www.techbridge.org/tia/index.aspx>.

Illinois

The Illinois Bar Foundation's Grants Program supports nonprofit organizations throughout the state whose work provides meaningful access to the justice system, especially for those with limited means. The Children's Assistance Fund, co-sponsored by the Illinois Bar Foundation, seeks to provide grants to organizations across the state related to children and law. The Children's Assistance Fund prefers projects that have a statewide or regional impact. Programs with a local impact must show evidence of the significance of the program to the locality and local support for the project. Rolling deadlines, funding varies with grants up to \$10,000 available. To see more, go to: www.isba.org/sections/yld/childrensassistancefund.

Maine

Maine Community Foundation

The Maine Community Foundation is dedicated to building sustainable and vibrant communities within the state. Grants of up to \$10,000. The deadline is Feb. 15. To see more, go to: www.mainecef.org/CommunityBuilding.aspx

Maryland and the District of Columbia

The mission of the Quality Health Foundation is to improve the quality of healthcare in Maryland and Washington, DC through measurable outcome improvement projects. Priority areas include the following: improved treatment through the use of best practices, improved access to healthcare services, and improved communication of health knowledge. The next grant year will begin July 1. To see more, go to: www.qualityhealthfoundation.org/faqs/index.html.

Multi-State

Southern Partners Fund

The Southern Partners Fund serves rural communities in the southeastern states of Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia. The fund's new Southern Organizing Strategy, priority is given to organizations that address immigrant rights or education reform. Funding varies. Deadline, Jan. 31. To see more, go to: <http://www.spfund.org/>

Oregon

Oregon Community Foundation

The foundation's Community Grants Program supports projects that address one of the foundation's four primary funding priorities: nurture children and strengthen families, enhance educational opportunities, increase cultural opportunities, and preserve and improve Oregon's livability. Grants average \$20,000; application deadlines are Feb. 1 and Aug. 1. To see more, go to: www.oregoncf.org/receive/grants/grant-opportunities/community-grants.

Oregon and Washington State

The Northwest Health Foundation funds Oregon and southwest Washington nonprofits with programs dedicated to improve the well-being of residents of the states. The foundation is particularly interested in supporting

communities and groups that have been disproportionately affected by chronic diseases. The next call for letters of inquiry for the foundation's Kaiser Permanente Community Fund will be issued a little later this year. To see more, go to: http://nwhf.org/focus_areas/funding/kpcf.

South Carolina

The mission of the BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina Foundation is to promote the health of residents and to expand access to health care for the economically disadvantaged by supporting integrated research, education, and community service. The foundation's priority funding areas include: childhood/adolescent health, community health, health care and free medical clinics and mental health. Deadline: Feb. 22 (a second funding cycle is planned for the fall). To see more, go to: <http://www.bcbsscfoundation.org>.

Vermont

Vermont Country Store

The Vermont Country Store (VCS) has announced that it is partnering with the Middlebury-based Vermont Community Foundation to create the Good Neighbor Fund, which will assist VCS employees who experience disasters and other hardships. VCS provides support to more than 600 nonprofit and community organizations in the 65 communities where its employees live and work. Funding varies. To see more, go to: www.vermontcf.org/available-grants or <http://tinyurl.com/cdpubs-0056b> (VCS).

Wisconsin

Oshkosh Area Community Foundation

The Oshkosh Area Community Foundation will host a workshop on Jan. 17 for charitable groups interested in seeking grants to help meet local residents' basic needs and address poverty-related issues. The foundation funds programs which support: women & girls, youth, arts & recreation, basic needs, community impact, capital campaigns, education and the elderly. Funding varies. The education grants deadline is Feb. 10. To see more, go to: http://www.oshkoshareacf.org/event_detail.cfm?EventID=72.

Posted Online: 1/17/12 07:12 AM

To Our Readers

Conference to Focus on Funding for Kids, Families, Social Services

With calls for reduced federal spending growing louder this election year, 2012 could be challenging for those seeking funding for programs for children and youth, as well as a wide range of other social services.

But, regardless of the outcome, there will still be millions in discretionary grants available, though stiff competition means more knowledgeable and informed grantseekers should have the upper hand.

Join us Thursday, Jan. 26, from 2-3:30 p.m. EST, when CD Publications presents *"Tapping New Federal Funding for Children, Youth & Family Services,"* a 90-minute audio conference chock full of "insider" details about traditional funding sources, as well as expert advice about how to tap into non-traditional "outside-the-box" funding streams.

Inside Scoop on 2012 Funding Gives Grantseekers an Edge

This unique event is designed to give you a leg up in applying for 2012 funding, by providing expert guidance to help you understand and take advantage of the funding elements embodied within the 2012 federal budget.

Here's just some of what you'll get:

- An in-depth review of primary federal funding sources for children and family programs such as those at the Agriculture Department, the Education Department, Health & Human Services, the Department of

Housing & Urban Development, the Labor Department;

- A detailed examination of lesser known – virtually hidden – federal funding sources for social programs, including Homeland Security, the Transportation Department, the Commerce Department, the Environmental Protection Agency, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Corporation for National & Community Service, and many others.

Plus, we'll provide you with the latest "behind the scenes" updates on an array of funding opportunities, including programs such as ...

- Head Start
- Child Care & Development Block Grant
- Title I Education
- Special Education
- Race to the Top
- Investing in Innovation
- Street Outreach ...and so much more.

Whether you're an experienced grants specialist or beginner, "*Tapping New Federal Funding for Children, Youth & Family Services*," will provide critical insights that can give your staff the upper hand in seeking federal funding for social services in 2012.

For just \$189, you and your entire team can gather around one speakerphone and benefit from this information-packed discussion.

Ample Time Included to Address Specific Concerns

To ensure we fully discuss the topics you want to know about, you can even email us in advance with your questions and our speakers will be sure to address them. Or, ask your questions "live" during the Q&A portion of the audio conference. We'll make sure there's plenty of time -- and opportunity -- for you to do that.

Special Bonus: Have questions after the audio? You can contact our presenters up to 30 days after the audio and they'll be happy answer your questions at no charge -- just another benefit of a CD Publications audio event.

But don't wait too long to sign-up. We limit attendance to ensure all attendee questions can be answered. So sign up now to guarantee your space.

Info: Go to <http://www.cdpublications.com/store/241>; Or call us toll-free at 1-800-666-6380. But don't wait, space is limited.

Posted Online: 1/19/12 3:30 PM

Important Research for Children and Youth from Around the Nation

Census Bureau Launches New Demographic Tool

The Census Bureau's new American FactFinder website provides users with one-stop access to results from the decennial census (2010 and 2000), the economic census (2002 and 2007), American Community Survey, population estimates and key annual economic surveys. American FactFinder has statistics on a variety of topics, such as income, poverty, education and housing. The website can be used to build demographic information for a grant needs statement. To see more, go to: <http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml>.

Food Assistance Programs Efficient, Effective

The governments' SNAP food program (the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, formerly known as the

Food Stamp Program), is both efficient and effective, according to a Center on Budget and Policy Priorities analysis. Although SNAP caseloads have risen significantly since late 2007, SNAP payment accuracy has continued to improve, reaching all-time highs, the report said. Nearly 75% of SNAP participants are in families with children, the report said. To see more, go to: <http://www.cbpp.org/cms/index.cfm?fa=view&id=3239>.

Group Reports Upsurge in Rural Student Poverty Rates

Nearly one in four American children attend rural schools and enrollment is growing at a faster rate in rural school districts than in all other places combined, according to a report by the Rural School and Community Trust. In addition, rural schools show increasing rates of poverty, diversity, and students with special needs. These widespread trends are most evident in the South, Southwest and parts of Appalachia. To see more, go to: <http://tinyurl.com/cdpubs-v25o>

Some Charter School Organizations Improve High School Graduation Rates

A new analysis from the Nat'l Study of Charter Management Organization (CMO) Effectiveness shows that some - not all -- CMOs substantially boost students' chances of graduating from high school and enrolling in postsecondary education. The study also shows that each CMO's impact on test scores is typically consistent across schools, suggesting that CMOs are having some success in promoting uniformity. CMOs operate multiple charter schools within a school district or across a geographic region. To see more, go to: <http://tinyurl.com/cdpubs-f5o>

New Health Law Increased Insurance Coverage of Adult Children

The 2010 federal health care reform law -- the Patient Protection & Affordable Care Act (ACA) -- has increased the health insurance coverage of adult children between 2009 and 2011, according to a new report by the nonpartisan Employee Benefit Research Institute (EBRI). The law requires group health plans and insurers to make dependent coverage available for children until they attain the age of 26, regardless of tax or student status. The percentage of adult children with employment-based coverage as a dependent increased from 24.7% in 2009 to 27.7% in 2010. To see more, go to: www.ebri.org/pdf/PR954.10Jan12.PPACA.pdf.

NIH Study Shows HIV-Exposed Children at Risk of Language Delay

Children exposed to HIV before birth are at risk for language impairments, according to a study by researchers at the Nat'l Institutes of Health and other institutions. Moreover, children exposed to HIV before birth may benefit from routine screening for language impairment, even if they don't have any obvious signs of a language problem, the researchers say. The researchers found that 35% of a group of school-age children born to women with an HIV infection during pregnancy have difficulty understanding spoken words and expressing themselves verbally. To see more, go to: <http://tinyurl.com/cdpubs-nio>. Posted Online: 1/19/12 08:05 AM

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