

NEW MEXICO TEEN PREGNANCY COALITION

NEWS FLASH

November 2006

Welcome to the November issue of the New Mexico Teen Pregnancy Coalition's
NEWS FLASH

If you would like to be removed from the **NEWS FLASH** list, please use the connection at the end of this issue to communicate with us.

MESSAGE FROM SYLVIA RUIZ, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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- SAVE THE DATE – NMTPC Conference

Message from the Young Father's Project

MESSAGE FROM SYLVIA RUIZ, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

The New Mexico Teen Pregnancy Coalition, the Bernalillo County Parks and Recreation Department, and the South Valley Male Involvement Project are pleased to announce the creation of the **Balance Training for Life Program**. The program will consist of four, two-day sessions, training young fathers to become sports officials for the Bernalillo County Sports Program, who will eventually become certified officials with the New Mexico Officials Association. Providing part-time jobs for the young fathers is the primary goal for the New Mexico Young Fathers Project, which will also enhance family recreation time for these young families. The roles officials' play is critical in facilitating a positive sports experience for today's youth. Additionally, young fathers become better role models for their own children while simultaneously introducing their children to an entirely different peer group.

Muchicimas Gracias to Balance Bar! Stay tuned for more details. The first training will happen in Santa Fe in January 2007.

Reminder: the New Mexico Teen Pregnancy Coalition “Teen Pregnancy in New Mexico: A Look at What Works” Conference will be on December 8, 2006 at the Embassy Suites Hotel. If you would like more information, please call our office at 505-254-8737 or you may download the conference registration form from our website: www.nmtpc.org.

We are still looking for donations for our silent auction that will be held during the conference. The silent auction proceeds go towards our scholarship fund to help high school seniors who are pregnant or parenting and high school seniors who are involved with adolescent pregnancy prevention projects and are planning on attending a post-secondary school.

Please Help us Help Youth Achieve their DREAMS by providing donations of time shares, massages, hair cuts, art work or jewelry. OR

Become a valued member of the New Mexico Teen Pregnancy Coalition so that we can continue to work to reduce adolescent births in our state!

Please join the Board of Directors for a celebration/fundraiser for the New Mexico Teen Pregnancy Coalition at the home of Carol Tucker Trelease

Date: Wednesday, December 6, 2006
Time: 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm
Place: Residence of Carol Tucker Trelease
8234 Raintree Drive NE
Albuquerque, NM 87122-1333

Suggested donation (not required): \$25

Please RSVP to: New Mexico Teen Pregnancy Coalition, 505-254-8737

There are two easy ways to get there:

1. Take 1-25 North to Paseo del Norte. Go east all the way to the end of Paseo del Norte. Turn right. Immediately get into the left lane to take the first left onto San Bernardino. Take an immediate left onto Raintree. You are entering a small subdivision called Quail Ridge. Take an immediate right onto Indigo, and you are facing the driveway of 8234 Raintree Drive NE.
2. Take 1-40 to Tramway. Go North on Tramway to San Bernardino. Turn right onto San Bernardino. Take an immediate left onto Raintree. You are entering a small subdivision called Quail Ridge. Take an immediate right onto Indigo, and you are facing the driveway of 8234 Raintree Drive NE.

You may call 275-1827 if you get lost.

Thanks as always for your continued support of all that NMTPC does statewide.

Sylvia Ruiz
Executive Director
New Mexico Teen Pregnancy Coalition
505-254-8737
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Mil Gracias

NATIONAL RESOURCES

[1. New from the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy](#)

By the Numbers: The Public Costs of Teen Childbearing

Despite a one-third decline in the teen birth rate since the early 1990s, teen childbearing in the United States cost taxpayers (federal, state, and local) at least \$9.1 billion in 2004, according to a new analysis released by the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy. The estimated cumulative public costs of teen childbearing between 1991 and 2004 totals \$161 billion.

The new analysis, **By the Numbers: The Public Costs of Teen Childbearing**, is authored by Saul Hoffman, Ph.D., Professor of Economics and Department Chair at the University of Delaware. The analysis is the first comprehensive national estimate of the public costs of teen childbearing in ten years. The report also provides the first-ever state-by-state analysis of the costs of teen childbearing, which ranged in 2004 from \$1 billion in Texas to \$12 million in Vermont.

"This report makes clear that teen pregnancy and child-bearing have significant economic and social costs," said Sarah Brown, Director of the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy. "Making further progress in reducing teen pregnancy will benefit taxpayers and the economy, as well as improve the educational, health, and social prospects for this generation of young people and the next."

- [Visit the *By The Numbers* Website](#)
- [Read the *By the Numbers* National Report](#)
- [Read the *By the Number* Executive Summary](#)
- [Read a one-pager highlighting key data](#)
- [Read the *By the Numbers* national press release](#)

New Resource for Foster Parents on Preventing Teen Pregnancy

Youth in foster care are at significant risk for teen pregnancy. A recent research brief published by the National Campaign indicates that teen girls in foster care are 2.5 times more likely to have been pregnant by age 19 than those not in foster care. Even so, foster youth have been largely overlooked in terms of teen pregnancy efforts.

The National Campaign has been working with partner organizations for over two years now to highlight the connection between teen pregnancy and foster care. This focus on foster care youth has already helped spark new attention at the national, state, and local level to a population at very high risk of teen pregnancy and we hope that it will forge stronger partnerships between those working in the child welfare and teen pregnancy fields.

Just released by the National Campaign in support of this effort is Ten Tips for Foster Parents. The brief, user-friendly guide offers some ideas to help foster parents strengthen their relationships with foster youth and how best to communicate about sex, love, and relationships. It reflects input from foster parents as well as practitioners who work with them. Please visit www.teenpregnancy.org/fostercare to read or order the new publication. The foster care web page also has related materials, including the full report *Fostering Hope: Preventing Teen Pregnancy Among Youth in Foster Care* and the research brief *Science Says #27: Foster Care Youth*.

[2. New from Advocates for Youth](#)

Advocates for Youth's Youth of Color Initiative

Feature: Science Based Prevention Programs*

Despite recent declines in teen pregnancy, US teen birth and sexually transmitted infection (STI) rates remain among the highest in the western world. Advocates for Youth undertook exhaustive reviews of existing research to compile a list of the programs proven effective in reducing teen pregnancy and/or sexually transmitted infections (STIs) or to cause at least two beneficial changes in sexual risk behaviors. Three years ago, nineteen evaluated programs were described in *Science and Success: Sex Education and Other Programs that Work to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, HIV and Sexually Transmitted Infections*, (Advocates for Youth, 2003). A supplement to this highly successful report is due out in early 2007 and will include SiHLE, a science-based STI/HIV intervention for young African American women.

SiHLE comes from a Swahili word for beauty, and also is an acronym for "Sisters informing, healing, living, and empowering." This intervention is based on social cognitive theory and theories of gender and power. The program is culturally and gender-specific for African American adolescent women at risk for negative sexual health outcomes. The program's designers worked in partnership with community African American female teens to develop the intervention and the study conditions. The intervention consists of four sessions, each lasting four hours and implemented on consecutive Saturdays at a community health clinic. The program is implemented by a trained health educator who is also female and African American and by two female African American peer educators. The peer educators model skills and promote group norms supportive of HIV prevention.

SiHLE emphasizes the following:

- Ethnic and gender pride Discussion of the joys and challenges of being an African American adolescent female
- Awareness of HIV prevention strategies including abstinence, partner reduction, and condom use
- Building participants' confidence to make healthy decisions about sex
- The importance of healthy relationships.

For more information on science based programs, please visit:

www.advocatesforyouth.org/programsthatwork/

For more information on SiHLE, please contact:

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Rollins School of Public Health
Department of Behavioral Sciences and Health Education
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Atlanta, GA 30322
e-mail: rdiclem@sph.emory.edu

* This feature is adapted from *Science and Success: Supplement I*, by S. Alford, Washington, DC: Advocates for Youth, 2006

Capacity Building & Professional Development

The Diffusion of Effective Behavioral Interventions (DEBI) project is designed to bring science-based, community- and group-level HIV prevention interventions to community-based service providers and state and local health departments. Its goal is to enhance the capacity to implement effective interventions at the state and local levels, to reduce the spread of HIV and STDs, and to promote healthy behaviors.

In collaboration with the Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Center on AIDS & Community Health (COACH) at the Academy for Educational Development (AED) offers training and helps to coordinate technical assistance on twelve science-based, effective interventions for HIV prevention.

For more information, please visit <http://effectiveinterventions.org>

Staying Alive 2006: Although focused on the needs of people living with HIV/AIDS, this conference is open to all regardless of HIV status. Staying Alive is presented by the National Association of People With AIDS (NAPWA) in collaboration with a local host committee and national program committee.

Sessions at Staying Alive cover a diverse range of topics of interest to people living with HIV/AIDS, including up-to-date information about treatment and care, organizing for social change, the realities of intimacy and relationships, and the challenges of the worldwide AIDS epidemic.

The conference is taking place in New Orleans, LA from December 6th through 10th 2006.

For more information contact NAPWA, E-mail: stayingalive@napwa.org,
Phone: (866) 846-9366; or access the website: www.napwa.org/staying_alive.html

Tailoring HIV Counseling & Testing to the Unique Needs of Adolescents:

This one-day training will prepare participants to tailor HIV testing services to the unique needs of adolescents. It will help build participant skills in meeting the counseling requirements of Article 27-F, including talking with adolescents about HIV reporting, conducting domestic violence screening, and assisting with partner notification.

Topics to be covered include: (1) Legal rights of adolescents when seeking HIV testing and treatment; (2) Overview of the department of health guidelines titled "HIV & Adolescents: Counseling and Testing, Linkage to Care and Partner Notification" and (3) Understanding adolescent development, including opportunities for values clarification.

The training will be held in Buffalo, NY on December 19th 2006.

For more information or to register, email hivet@health.state.ny.us or access the website at: www.nyhealth.gov/diseases/aids/training/hivtest.htm#tailor

SisterSong, an organization whose goal is to improve the lives of indigenous women and women of color through reproductive justice, will host their 2007 National Conference in Chicago, May 31-June 3. Entitled "Let's Talk about Sex", this four-day conference will include workshops and plenaries on topics such as birth control, senior sexuality, STDs, microbicides, gynecological health and wellness, erotica, and more, all through a reproductive justice lens. There will also be special workshops designed by and for young women and teens.

For more information, please visit: www.sistersong.net

Funding Opportunity

The National Minority AIDS Council (NMAC) and the National Institutes of Health (NIH), Office of AIDS Research (OAR), are pleased to announce the 2006-2007 Equal Access Initiative (EAI) Computer Grants Program.

The EAI provides HIV/AIDS organizations a computer and Internet access, increase their capacity to provide their constituents access to online HIV/AIDS information and resources.

Qualified community-based organizations (CBOs) in the United States, its territories and possessions are invited to submit an application to participate in this program. Applications are due December 1st, World AIDS Day.

For more information, please visit:

www.nmac.org/programs_services/computer_grants_program/875.cfm

Announcements

African NIAID/NIH Launches "Be the Generation" Campaign: The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), one of the National Institutes of Health, recently announced the launch of the "Be The Generation" public awareness campaign, challenging young Americans to be the generation that ends AIDS through the discovery of a safe and effective preventive HIV vaccine. Using multi-generational pairs of individuals, the awareness ads compare major social issues such as civil rights with the search to end the AIDS epidemic. The campaign challenges this generation to become involved in changing the world as the generations before them did.

For more information, please visit: www.bethegeneration.org

The National Minority AIDS Council's Stigma Resource Center is now open! In addition to reading the latest articles on the stigma around HIV/AIDS, you may also find tools to counter stigma in your community, links to other websites and much more.

For more information, please visit: www.nmac.org/nmac2/stigma/resources/main.html

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[3. New from the Center of Law and Social Policy](#)

Paid Sick Days Legislation: A Legislator's Guide

by Jodie Levin-Epstein with Laura Boyd. Unlike most of the nations of the world, the U.S. has no national paid sick days policy. But lawmakers are starting to address the issue at the local and state levels. This guide, a joint publication of CLASP and the Women Legislators' Lobby, is intended to help legislators think through the provisions that make up paid sick days legislation. It identifies ten primary issues to consider when moving from a hypothetical idea to concrete legislation, and it offers several possible options for addressing each. (13 pages)

Analysis of Fiscal Year 2005 TANF and MOE Spending by States

by Marcie Weadon-Moreno and Elizabeth Lower-Basch. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has published data concerning use of federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and state maintenance of effort (MOE) funds in FY 2005. This set of state-by-state charts shows how each state used its TANF and MOE funds in FY 2005.

Proposed Medical Child Support Regulations

by Paula Roberts. This publication describes new proposed federal regulations relating to medical support enforcement and suggests issues on which interested people may wish to comment. (6 pages)

From the Tennessee Justice Center:

Reaching TANF Recipients with the Greatest Barriers to Work: Tennessee's Family Services Counseling Program

by Shawn Caster and Russ Overby. TANF recipients have an incidence of physical or mental health impairments that is at least three times higher than that of the population as a whole. Tennessee's Family Services Counseling (FSC) initiative was established to provide qualified professionals with small caseloads to assist those families with the greatest barriers to work.

Child Care and Early Education State-by-State Data

This set of state-by-state data includes new analysis of 2005 child care spending from Child Care Development Block Grant and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families funds and of 2005 Head Start Program Information Report data, along with data (published in March 2006) on states' use of community-based child care to provide pre-kindergarten.

Making the Juvenile Justice - Workforce System Connection for Re-entering Young Offenders: A Guide for Local Practice

by Linda Harris with Charles Modiano, consultant. This guidebook is designed to provide advice from the field to communities who are interested in pursuing more formal connections- or strengthening existing connections- between the workforce and justice systems. It draws on experiences in eight communities and focuses on on-the-ground challenges and solutions related to blending the cultures, adapting programming, engaging employers, and meeting performance. (58 pages)

Child Care Assistance in 2005: State Cuts Continue

by Hannah Matthews and Danielle Ewen. State spending on child care assistance declined in 2005 for the second consecutive year. Twenty-two states made cuts to their child care programs, as the number of children living in low-income families that received help from these programs continued to decline. Many families turn to child care assistance programs to get help paying for the child care they need in order to work and to succeed. This policy brief provides an overview of national expenditure data for the Child Care and Development Block

Grant (CCDBG) and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funds directed towards child care. (9 pages)

Families USA Annual Conference

Families USA, a national nonprofit, non-partisan organization dedicated to the achievement of high-quality, affordable health care for all Americans, is holding its annual conference, Health Action 2007, January 25-27, 2007 in Washington, D.C. Speakers include Sen. Barack Obama, healthcare economist Uwe Reinhardt, and National Council of Churches head The Rev. Dr. Bob Edgar. Reduced-rate early bird registration ends December 18.

New people at CLASP

CLASP welcomes three staff members:

- Sara Hastings is a Policy Analyst working on youth policy. She holds masters degrees in social work and public policy from the University of Minnesota; her most recent position was as a program analyst at the District of Columbia's Department of Human Services.
- Jedd Cohen is a Research Assistant working on youth policy. A 2005 graduate of Swarthmore College, he comes to CLASP from an internship at the American Youth Policy and Education Sector.
- Alex Twyman is CLASP's Front Desk Associate. He is a student at the University of Maryland, where he's majoring in family studies.

[4. New from the Annie E. Casey Foundation Family Economic Success Newsletter](#)

Baltimore Event Screens Documentary and Examines Policies Affecting Low-Income Workers

On Tuesday, September 19, Baltimore advocates, community leaders and policy-makers attended a screening of "Waging a Living: Opportunities for Action" at the Reginald F. Lewis Museum of Maryland African American History & Culture. Congressman Elijah Cummings kicked off the event and subsequently published an opinion-editorial on the documentary. After the screening of the 26-minute film, which focuses on the challenges low-income workers face in making ends meet, a panel discussion was moderated by WBAL television investigative reporter Jayne Miller. Event panelists discussed policy changes needed to help low-income workers, including increasing the minimum wage and exploring a new health insurance system in America. A Baltimore worker shared his personal story of working in a dead-end minimum wage job without benefits, until he entered a new workplace training program that enabled him to climb up the economic ladder. As a follow-up to the event, the Jobs Opportunity Task Force (JOTF) hosted a number of smaller showings and discussions at Alternative Directions, an organization that provides assistance to families that are separated due to incarceration. To host your own screening event or to order a copy of "Waging a Living: Opportunities for Action," contact Laura Hayes, laura@wagingaliving.net or 301-656-0348

[Read coverage of the event in the Baltimore Sun](#)
[Read U.S. Representative Cummings' op-ed](#)

PROGRAMS

Program Wins Grant to Meet Healthcare Needs and Provide Worker Opportunities

A new program of the Baltimore Alliance for Careers in Healthcare is one of nine projects

nationwide that has been selected for funding by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. The program, called First Span, seeks to bridge the current gap between healthcare jobs with lower skill requirements and higher skilled jobs through a combination of classroom training and internships over a fourteen-month period. The program will enable workers who are currently employed at participating hospitals to complete most training for patient-care jobs without leaving the hospital setting or losing their employment. The First Span program will be instituted at Good Samaritan Hospital, Johns Hopkins Hospital and University Specialty Hospital, an affiliate of the University of Maryland Medical System. The Baltimore Alliance for Careers in Healthcare is a nonprofit corporation that was formed to address a critical shortage of healthcare workers while also providing employment opportunities for Baltimore residents. Initial funding for the Alliance, was provided by Casey and other foundations concerned with workforce issues in Baltimore.

[Read the news release](#)

PUBLICATIONS, PRESENTATIONS

New Report Evaluates Jobs Initiative's Results and Lessons

Good Jobs, Better Systems: Overall Results and Lessons Learned, by Abt Associates, is volume three of a final report series on Casey's Jobs Initiative (JI) from 1995 to 2005. The reports have focused on three phases of the Initiative – planning, capacity building and implementation. Collectively, the reports address the JI sites' system change strategies and achievements, examine the role of sites as workforce development intermediaries, assess the sites' influence on local workforce development, and analyze the overall results and lessons learned of the Initiative. The executive summary is currently available, below, and the full report, volume 3, will soon be posted to the Casey Foundation's website. Previous evaluations and numerous other JI publications also are on the website.

[Read the executive summary](#)

Better Communications, Training and Support Needed for Qualifying Child Residency Certification Process

A study commissioned by the Casey Foundation, Implementation Study of the Qualifying Child Residency Certification Requirement in Hartford, CT, looks at the IRS certification test conducted in Hartford County, CT in 2005. The test was part of the IRS's efforts to reduce over-claim errors in the EITC program. The sample from Hartford County was one-third of the entire 2005 nationwide test sample of 25,000 (8,200 EITC claimants). One-half of the Hartford County sample was selected from the city of Hartford, and half from the surrounding county. Hartford was chosen for the test because it is representative of other cities with a high level of EITC claimants – 31 percent of its population subsists below the federal poverty level. The study was undertaken to assess the certification procedure, and identify implementation and policy issues for eligible taxpayers and community service organizations that might arise if the procedure was undertaken on a national scale. The study analyzes how the IRS test affected taxpayers and VITA sites in Hartford, and it provides recommendations for improvements in the certification process.

[Read the study](#)

Community Free Tax Assistance Campaign Data Now Available

Reports are now available from the 2006 tax season, the fourth year in which Casey has coordinated the collection of data from sites that are participating in the National Tax Assistance for Working Families Campaign (NTA). Data were received from forty-six participating local campaigns. Created by the Casey Foundation, the NTA's goals are:

- to promote awareness of tax code benefits (especially the Earned Income Tax Credit, or

- EITC) among low-income families,
- to advance use of low-cost or free tax preparation, and
- to incorporate the use of tax refunds as part of an overall asset-building strategy.

Many of the local campaigns participating in the NTA are also members of the broader National Community Tax Coalition coordinated by the Center for Economic Progress. A description of the campaigns may be found in the Campaign Profile report, and data definitions and descriptions of the types and amount of data submitted are in the Source Data report. Other reports provide more detailed analyses.

Read the reports:

[Campaign Profiles and overview](#)

[Source Data, methodology and statistics](#)

[Statistical Summary](#)

[Tax Credit and Refund Statistics \("dollars received"\)](#)

[Household Demographics and Economics](#)

[Prior Year Filing profile](#)

VITA Sites are Linking Tax Returns and Asset Building in Native Communities

With support from the Annie E. Casey Foundation and the First Nations Development Institute, the Center for Social Development (CSD) and the Kathryn M. Buder Center for American Indian Studies at Washington University engaged ten community organizations that currently provide free tax preparation services to Native Americans in a study that examined uptake and potential uses of Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) income. The study was prompted by interest from the EITC committee of the Native Financial Education Coalition.

Through these ten sites alone, \$6,988,621 was returned to Native communities via tax returns. Community surveys showed that a majority of respondents (88.26 percent) have bank accounts. Many of the community members planned to use their refunds for personal expenses, often citing emergencies and catching up on bills as primary uses. More than 24 percent indicated that they plan to put their tax return in a savings account, while others plan to use the refund to obtain necessary household items such as vehicles and furniture.

Community members expressed strong interest in getting information about matched savings accounts, homeownership and financial management education, as well as starting their own business. These findings provide insight into the kinds of community infrastructure and programs that help dollars stay in a community and help citizens leverage their assets.

[Read the report](#)

[Learn more](#)

Tax Refunds Can Help Promote Banking Services in Latino Communities

The EITC and other tax credits provide an opportunity to connect the fast-growing Latino population with asset-building activities, according to a presentation by Dr. Barbara Robles, associate professor at the School of Social Work and Center for Community Development and Civil Rights, Arizona State University, at the National Community Tax Coalition Conference held in Los Angeles, CA, October 11-13. Latino purchasing power increased from \$223 billion in 1990 to \$490.7 billion in 2002, and is projected to grow to \$1.1 trillion by 2009 (Selig Center for Economic Growth, University of Georgia). The Hispanic population is the fastest growing population in the U.S. Mainstream financial institutions must reach out to this "highly brand loyal" populace with products and services that recognize the reality of multiple wage earners in Latino families and provide opportunities for families to pool resources for asset building.

[View the power point presentation](#)

Strategies and Policies that Increase Support Services Can Help Postsecondary Students Succeed

A new policy brief by the Working Poor Families Project examines the hurdles facing lower-income community college students and the approaches state and local governments can take to increase retention and graduation rates. The brief makes clear that many obstacles for community college students are not directly related to academics. The report concludes that there must be increased focus on student support services, which can help students overcome problems, stay in school and complete a certificate or degree.

[Read the brief](#)

MEETINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

Regional Initiatives to Support Workforce Intermediaries are Focus of Peer Learning Meeting

The Investing in Workforce Intermediary Initiative conducted a peer learning meeting in Baltimore, October 10-12, for sites across the country that are involved in regional initiatives to launch and support workforce intermediaries. Fifty-five foundations, state policy makers, researchers and technical assistance providers came together to discuss their strategies to support new projects, build the capacity of local workforce intermediaries, align resources, and strengthen their regional steering committees. Five sites presented updates on the progress they have made since the Initiative began in 2004 as a collaborative effort of the Casey and Ford Foundations. Working with Jobs for the Future, the foundations launched the pilot effort to seed a national support infrastructure for workforce intermediaries, which also includes local and state efforts. The initiative supports and highlights promising demonstrations in order to inform policies and practices in communities and states and at the national level. Its efforts encompass philanthropy, business, and the public sector.

View the presentations:

[Baltimore](#)

[Pennsylvania](#)

[Boston](#)

[Bay Area Workforce Funding Collaborative](#)

[New York City Workforce Innovation Fund](#)

National Community Tax Coalition Conference Draws 450 Attendees

The 5th Annual Conference of the National Community Tax Coalition (NCTC), Building Prosperity for Working Families, was held in Los Angeles, October 11-13. Practitioners, advocates, researchers, corporate and community partners from across the country who work to advance free tax assistance and asset building gathered to share their successes, identify ways to improve tax preparation and asset-building practices, and examine the challenges of achieving scale and sustainability. National and local leaders shared best practices and new approaches.

[View conference presentations](#)

Camden Workforce Efforts Examined from Regional Perspective

Community-based groups, organizers, workforce developers, intermediaries and funders gathered at Rutgers University's Camden Campus (NJ) on October 5-6 for a convening titled Camden Works: Mobility, Opportunity and Development in a Regional Context. The meeting was held to learn about participants' current efforts and how they are shaped by regional equity/regional responsibility perspectives; emerging workforce development efforts supported by the Annie E. Casey and Ford Foundations and others; to hear about linking regional and

workforce strategies; and to identify points of intersection and ways to align current efforts in Camden. The meeting was co-hosted by the Center for Justice, Tolerance and Community at the University of California, Santa Cruz, and the Mid-Atlantic Regional Center for the Humanities at Rutgers-Camden.

[Read the agenda, view presentations, learn more](#)

The Annie E. Casey Foundation Family Economic Success (FES) Newsletter is produced by: The Hatcher Group, www.thehatchergroup.com
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5. New from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

Campaign Urges Online Youth To Type Smart, Post Wisely

The U.S. Postal Inspection Service, the primary law enforcement arm of the U.S. Postal Service, has launched a campaign to encourage youth to practice safe, smart habits when posting information about themselves on social networking Web sites and blogs.

As Chief Postal Inspector Lee Heath observes:

As the popularity and usage of online social networking sites continue to flourish, it is essential that we empower youth to be cautious, aware and intelligent about the information they post. The 2 SMRT 4U campaign, and its tagline, "Type Smart, Post Wisely," is a Postal Inspection Service-led effort designed to reinforce the U.S. Attorney General's Project Safe Childhood initiative to promote Internet safety. We hope it will help remind teens of the importance of navigating smartly and thinking before posting personal information online.

Resources:

To learn more about 2 SMRT 4U campaign, visit: www.2smrt4u.com

For additional information about Project Safe Childhood, visit www.projectsafechildhood.gov/

Subject: Desktop Guide Provides Key Information on Cases Handled by Youth Courts

The American Bar Association (ABA) and the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) have announced the release of "Youth Cases for Youth Courts: A Guide to the Typical Offenses Handled by Youth Courts."

Published by ABA with funding from OJJDP and others, this desktop guide provides community leaders with helpful information that equips them to address questions critical to the effective implementation of youth courts.

As OJJDP Administrator J. Robert Flores and ABA President Karen J. Mathis observe in their introductory message: “The ideal of justice for all can only be achieved when people both understand and trust our justice system. Through youth court, the nation’s young people have a chance to contribute directly to the administration of justice and develop a foundation for that trust.”

Resources:

To access “Youth Cases for Youth Courts,” visit www.abanet.org/publiced/youthcases_youthcourts.pdf

Hard copies may be ordered at www.abanet.org/abastore/index.cfm?section=main&fm=Product.AddToCart&pid=2350229.

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention is a component of the Office of Justice Programs in the U.S. Department of Justice.

*Each month the New Mexico Teen Pregnancy Coalition provides a review of the research and policy reports distributed by National and Local Resources for your information only. The information, and comments expressed in this News Flash as well as any of the information distributed do not necessarily reflect the position of the NMTPC or its funders. Therefore, NMTPC assumes no responsibility for the concepts expressed in this **NEWS FLASH**.*

LOCAL RESOURCES

From New Mexico Voices for Children

Health Scare for All

Sorry, but we couldn’t resist using a bad Halloween pun. Of course the thought of losing one’s health coverage – assuming you’re fortunate enough to have it in the first place – is a pretty scary proposition. Hopefully, New Mexico will take the fear out of the current health care coverage system by replacing it with one that covers everyone.

As you may know, the Health Care for New Mexicans Committee has selected three plans that will be studied to determine their financial feasibility.

The Health Security Act would provide coverage to all New Mexicans (except non-residents and undocumented immigrants) under one plan. Participants would be free to choose their provider, pharmacist, hospital, etc. Participants would also be allowed to purchase extended coverage.

New Mexico Health Choices would provide vouchers to all New Mexicans not covered by public programs such as Medicaid. The vouchers, the amounts of which would be based on participant income, could be used to purchase one of six plans. Coverage would be mandatory for all residents.

The Build on the Existing System plan would also require that everyone buy commercial insurance, participate in employer-sponsored plans, or, if they are eligible, sign up for a public plan, such as Medicaid. Employers and consumers would both receive incentives for the coverage, such as tax credits, and Medicaid would be expanded. Five options would be offered.

When the Santa Fe New Mexican reported on the plans last week, it also conducted an online poll. The Health Security Act was the preferred plan according to those who participated in the poll. Even so, vouchers were a very popular element, as was the freedom to choose providers.

You can read the whole poll here (may require registration):

www.freewmexican.com/poll_results.php?pollid=74

Moving Forward Together

4th Annual NM Youth Practitioners Summit
December 5-7, 2006
Albuquerque Convention Center

Join us as we move forward together toward positive outcomes for New Mexico's youth. The Summit will feature presentations by national and local leaders, interactive workshops, and a resource pavilion to support positive youth and community development throughout New Mexico.

For more information or to reserve your space visit our website: www.nmforumforyouth.org

Or Contact:

NM Forum for Youth in Community
Phone: 505-821-3574
wendy@nmforumforyouth.org

SAVE THE DATE

The NM Teen Pregnancy Coalition Annual Conference will be held in Albuquerque on December 8, 2006. The Topic this year is **A Look at What Works in New Mexico**.

Find out about **Promising Interventions** and hear from some of the fourteen counties that met the **Challenge 2005** and reduced their teen pregnancy rates by a minimum of 20%. Hear what they did that worked from representatives of successful Counties.

Message from the Young Fathers' Project

The New Mexico Young Fathers Project staff and participants presented to the Legislative Health and Human Services Interim Committee on Thursday, November 2, 2006.



Top row: Jesus Gonzales – NMYFP Santa Fe Site Coordinator, Steve Romero, James Wheeler, Dave Breault – Counselor

Bottom row: Danny Vigil, Sylvia Ruiz – Executive Director, NM Teen Pregnancy Coalition, John Mejia, Alex Garcia Salas with his son, Alejandro.

For information on the Young Fathers' Project please call:

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