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 Releases Our Journey Together: Work Experience Activities Brief. This document provides a summary of the policies and program design considerations to assist local program operators developing work experience activities for WIOA Youth program participants. Please note that information in this document is not meant to cover all aspects of the work experience program element. To view the document, visit: https://youth.workforcegps.org/resources/2018/10/30/15/56/Work-Experience-Activities.

DOL Awards $1.9 Million to Improve Apprenticeship Opportunities for Youth and Adults with Disabilities. The U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP) announced the award of a $1.9 million contract to develop pilot projects focused on apprenticeship opportunities for youth and adults with disabilities in high-growth industries. ODEP awarded a two-year contract to Social Policy Research Associates Inc. (SPRA) of Oakland, California, to research, develop, test, and evaluate innovative strategies in existing apprenticeship programs that provide skills training to people with disabilities. Efforts will specifically focus on quality pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship pilots in high-growth industries such as information technology, healthcare, and emerging sectors. SPRA will document and share best practices so that other apprenticeship efforts may replicate promising approaches. To view the press release, visit: https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/odep/odep20181011.

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.
DOL Awards Nearly $1.5 Million to Help American Women Enter Apprenticeships, Expand Job Opportunities. The U.S. Department of Labor has awarded nearly $1.5 million to help recruit, train, and retain more American women in quality pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship programs, and pursue careers in manufacturing, infrastructure, and cybersecurity, among other industries. The Women in Apprenticeship and Nontraditional Occupations (WANTO) grants announced help expand pathways for American women to excel in the workplace. To view the press release, visit: https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/wb/wb20180926.

U.S. Department of Labor Announces Disability-Related Compliance Assistance Resources for Employers and Employees. With the start of National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM) in October, the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Compliance Initiatives (OCI) and its Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP) is helping raise awareness of disability-related nondiscrimination laws and regulations. The ODEP-funded Job Accommodation Network helps employers comply with disability nondiscrimination laws by advising about workplace accommodations for people with disabilities. The ODEP-funded Employer Assistance and Resource Network on Disability Inclusion (EARN) helps employers foster disability-inclusive workplace cultures and recruit, hire, retain, and advance people with disabilities. To view the press release, visit: https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/odep/odep20181010.

HHS Awards $50 Million to Assist American Indian and Alaska Native Tribal Efforts to Combat the Opioid Overdose Epidemic. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) awarded grants of about $50 million to American Indian and Alaska Native tribes to strengthen their efforts to combat the opioid overdose epidemic. The Tribal Opioid Response grant program aims to address the opioid overdose epidemic in tribal communities by increasing access to culturally appropriate and evidence-based treatment, including medication-assisted treatment using one of the three FDA-approved medications for the treatment of opioid use disorder (OUD). To view the press release, visit: https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2018/09/26/hhs-awards-50-million-assist-american-indian-and-alaska-native-tribal-efforts-combating-opioid-overdose-epidemic.html.
Youth Resource Connections
NEW LETTER

Headlines (continued)

Walmart and the Walmart Foundation Announce Nearly $4 Million in Grants to Create Innovative Pathways for Lifelong Learning and Training. Walmart and the Walmart Foundation announced nearly $4 million in grants for three organizations working to provide innovative pathways to learning and training to help create mobility for workers: The Foundation for California Community Colleges (the Foundation), Code for America Labs, Inc. and edX.org. The funding is the latest investment as part of Walmart and the Walmart Foundation’s Retail Opportunity Initiative, a five-year, $100 million philanthropic effort aimed at making it easier for frontline employees in retail and adjacent sectors to gain new skills and advance in their careers. To date, Walmart and the Walmart Foundation have funded more than $80 million in grants and collaborated with leading nonprofits, employers, government agencies and educational institutions to identify and implement innovations aimed at increasing the economic mobility of retail and related-sector workers. To view the press release, visit: https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20181009006022/en/Walmart-Walmart-Foundation-Announce-4-Million-Grants.

AYPF Post Blog: Setting State Equity Goals takes Planning & Partnerships. The American Youth Policy Forum released a blog which discusses how equity in education does not just happen. It needs to be thoughtfully planned for and carefully monitored. This was one of the key messages at a recent meeting that Dr. Loretta Goodwin attended, which brought together the Innovation Lab Network (ILN) states who are supported by the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO). Each state is charged with creating an equity framework to ensure that all students have equitable access to quality, personalized, competency-based education. To view the blog, visit: https://www.aypf.org/blog/setting-state-equity-goals-takes-planning-partnerships/.

DOL Seeks Comments on Data Collections From Industry-Recognized Apprenticeship Program Accreditors. The U.S. Department of Labor’s Employment and Training Administration has published a request in the September 20 FEDERAL REGISTER seeking comments concerning proposed authority to conduct the voluntary information collection request (ICR) titled, “Industry-Recognized Apprenticeship Programs Accrediting Entity Information.” Comments due: November 19.

SBA Seeks Comments on Proposed Information Collection. The Small Business Administration has published a request in the October 1 FEDERAL REGISTER seeking comments on plans to launch an online entrepreneurship learning platform for women entrepreneurs looking to scale their businesses in the spring of 2019. In order to collect meaningful metrics, SBA is proposing a new data collection to track entrepreneur’s progress over time. Comments due: December 1.
Headlines (continued)

Maryland Announces More Than $1.6 Million in Funding to Grow “Employment Advancement Right Now.” Maryland Labor Secretary Kelly M. Schulz today announced the award of more than $1.6 million in state funds to grow the Department of Labor’s Employment Advancement Right Now (EARN) Maryland program. EARN Maryland is the state’s nationally recognized workforce solution that helps businesses cultivate the skilled workforce they need to compete while preparing Marylanders for meaningful careers. EARN Maryland awards funding to strategic industry partnerships comprised of employers, non-profits, higher education, local workforce development boards, and local governments. The 15 partnerships announced are comprised of more than 80 employer partners and will train nearly 600 Maryldanders in in-demand careers including cybersecurity, healthcare, and construction trades. To view the press release, visit: http://www.dllr.maryland.gov/whatsnews/earnrecipt.shtml.

U.S. Department of Education Awards $4.9 Million Grant to University of California, Davis to Develop Free, Open Textbooks Program. To help stem the rising cost of college textbooks, the U.S. Department of Education announced a $4.9 million grant to the University of California, Davis (UC Davis) to lead a pilot program to develop free, open textbooks in targeted subjects. Under the Open Textbooks Pilot Program, funded by Congress in the FY 2018 omnibus spending bill, UC Davis will head a consortium of 12 campuses that will begin by creating open textbooks focused on high-enrollment courses like chemistry, as well as career-technical education (CTE) fields. Technical textbooks are among the more expensive books that students must purchase, as they often must be updated frequently to keep pace with changing technologies. To view the press release, visit: https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/us-department-education-awards-49-million-grant-university-california-davis-develop-free-open-textbooks-program.

Governor Cooper Announces $1.8 Million In Finish Line Grants Funding Awarded to Community Colleges. In a visit to Carteret Community College on October 23, Governor Roy Cooper of North Carolina announced the state has distributed more than $1.8 million in Finish Line Grants funding to community colleges across the state. In July, Governor Cooper announced the Finish Line Grants program to help community college students who face unforeseen financial emergencies to complete their training. The program uses $7 million in federal funds to help students pay for transportation, housing, medical needs, dependent care, or other financial emergencies that students face through no fault of their own. For additional information, visit: https://www.ednc.org/2018/10/23/governor-cooper-announces-1-8-million-in-finish-line-grants-funding.awarded-to-community-colleges/.
MPS Announces Launch of Community Resource Program. Milwaukee Public Schools (MPS) launched a new initiative Wednesday to provide safe places for young people to go and additional access to wellness resources for youth and families. MPS C.A.R.E.S., Community and Recreation Engaging Students, will provide expanded programming at North Division, South Division and Washington High Schools, including but not limited to Twilight Centers, Midnight Sports Leagues and Wellness Days. The district is working with community partners, including the City of Milwaukee Office of Violence Prevention, Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Milwaukee and Safe & Sound, to identify and implement additional programming. For additional information, visit: http://milwaukeerecreation.net/en/Programs/MPSCARES.htm.

Matthew seemed an unlikely candidate to graduate from college seven years ago. He was an 18-year-old on probation for a variety of offenses dating back to age 4. He grew up in east Des Moines and was raised by his father who tried to rein him in, but Matthew shrugged off his advice. He was kicked out of traditional high school his freshman year and then attended the district’s alternative school, until he dropped out at 16. He used alcohol and drugs, sold drugs and committed crimes, most of which were as a juvenile. Matthew stated that his father “tried his best, but I had a big personality and I’m stubborn,” and “drugs and alcohol took precedent.” Eventually, his alcohol and drug abuse were out of control, which is how he wound up in jail, shackled in a room with no one to call. He attended mandatory drug treatment, dried out and embraced recovery. After rehab, Matthew stayed at Harbor of Hope Recovery House.

Matthew’s grandfather connected him with a YouthBuild program through the Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC) which teaches young people how to build houses, provides pre-apprenticeship training, and assists participants with obtaining a high school credential. A counselor at YouthBuild asked Matthew what he wanted to do and he stated that he wanted to be a writer, maybe a journalist. The counselor asked him how they could help him get there. Matthew took general education classes at DMACC while he worked construction jobs. He earned admission to Drake and enrolled as a double major in journalism and English.
Matthew’s life took another dip while he was taking a journalism course that required him to learn page design. Due to his limited experience with computers and the program, he decided to quit. He also failed all but one of his classes at Drake his first year. That might have been the end, but he connected with a program called Post-Secondary Education Retention Program (PSERP) through Iowa Homeless Youth Centers. The group helped him get reinstated to Drake and find help with the skills he needed to navigate college life. It still was not an easy climb. Low grades got him kicked out of the journalism school, but he reapplied and was accepted again. Matthew takes a full load of courses while working at Harbor of Hope, the same halfway house where he landed after rehab. He helps others connect with services to get their lives on track the way others helped him find YouthBuild and PSERP. He remains active in his own recovery.

Matthew, who is now 25, has certainly seen lows. He has made mistakes, but he paid his debts to society. He works to help people find the same resources that helped him. He fought through his own struggles and now he is on the verge of getting a degree from a highly regarded university. Yes, the line of Matthew’s life has been erratic at times, but the line of this man’s life is on the rise.

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.
Able Trust Accepting Applications for Florida-Based Employment Placement Programs. The trust currently is accepting applications for grants in two categories: Strategic Employment Placement Initiatives and General Support for Employment Placement Programs. Eligible applicants must be a Florida-based organization considered tax exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code.

- Strategic Employment Placement Initiatives: Grants of up to $250,000 will be awarded to programs that support employment placement of Floridians with disabilities. [read more...]
  Deadline: November 16.

- General Support for Employment Placement Programs: Grants of up to $65,000 will be awarded to support programs that promote employment placement for participating individuals with disabilities, including programs that encompass equipment and/or staffing needs of an applicant organization to expand an existing program in a new way or create a new program. [read more...]
  Deadline: April 5, 2019.

Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Invites Applications for Undergraduate Scholarships. This program helps high-achieving low-income students reach their full potential through education. Eligible applicants must plan to graduate from a U.S. high school in the spring of 2019 and enroll in an accredited four-year college in the fall; have earned a cumulative unweighted GPA of 3.5 or above; achieve an SAT combined math and critical reading score of 1200 or above or an ACT composite score of 26 or above; and demonstrate unmet financial need. Up to 40 scholarship recipients will receive awards of up to $40,000 a year for four years to help cover the costs of tuition, books, living expenses, and required fees. [read more...]
  Deadline: November 20.
Funding & Other Opportunities (continued)

NewSchools Venture Funds Invites Proposals for Pre-K-12 Learning Initiatives. The NewSchools Venture Fund is accepting applications for its Innovative Schools program. Through the program, the fund will invest in new and redesigned pre-K-12 public schools across the country, in both school districts and charter networks. Priority will be given to schools that prepare students — regardless of the future they might want to pursue — with everything they need to be successful in college, career, and life. The fund is seeking teams of educators who begin with a clear definition of student success as their guide and can design a school that meets the full range of their students' needs. Investments include new schools, redesigned schools, and partnerships with model providers. However, this particular funding opportunity will focus only on teams planning to launch a new school in the next one to three years. read more... Deadline: November 26.

Broward Education Foundation Accepting Applications for Teacher Innovation Grants. The Broward Education Foundation is accepting applications from Broward County educators for its Teacher Innovation Grants program. The program will award grants of up to $1,200 in support of classroom projects designed to enrich the standard curriculum and explore new alternatives to traditional methods of learning. Priority will be given to projects designed to enhance and expand students’ and teachers’ integration of character education, classroom management, community involvement, drama, foreign language, health and physical education, language arts, life skills, multicultural subjects, mathematics, music, public speaking, science, social studies, STEM subjects, technology, and/or visual arts. Eligible applicants must be a Broward County public school teacher or school-based administrator working with grades pre-K-12. read more... Deadline: November 26.

The Grant Plant Invites Applications for its Autism Welcome Here Grants Program. This annual program will award grants of up to $5,000 in support of projects and services for any age group. Applicants may propose to initiate a new, creative program or service, bring an already-existing, successful program or service to their library for the first time, or enhance a program or service they already offer. All programs or services must benefit people with autism and/or their families, directly or indirectly. Libraries in the United States or Canada are eligible to apply. read more... Deadline: December 1.
Funding & Other Opportunities (continued)

**Arnall Family Foundation Invites Application for Oklahoma Foster Care Transportation Projects.** This new grant program is focused on improving transportation for families in Oklahoma County who have children in the foster care system. According to the United Way of Central Oklahoma's Social Service Needs Assessment, limitations regarding transportation are one of the three primary challenges faced by foster care agencies serving vulnerable populations. **Deadline:** Letters of Intent must be received no later than December 1. Upon review, selected applicants will be invited to submit a full application by February 1, 2019. [read more...]

**Sodexo Stop Hunger Foundation Invites Applications for its Stephen J. Brady Stop Hunger Scholarship.** This scholarship is designed to recognize up to five students who will receive a $5,000 scholarship for their education and a $5,000 grant for their hunger-related charity. **Deadline:** December 5.

**AAUW Invites Applications for Community Action Grants Program.** This annual program provides funds to individuals, American Association of University Women (AAUW) branches, and AAUW state organizations as well as local community-based nonprofit organizations for innovative programs and non-degree research projects that promote education and equity for women and girls. Eligible individual applicants must be women who are a citizen or permanent resident of the United States. Nonprofit organizations must be based in the U.S. Grant projects must have direct public impact, be nonpartisan, and take place within the U.S. or one of its territories. Awardees will receive one-year grants of up to $7,000 to support community-based projects and two-year grants of up to $10,000 to provide start-up funds for new projects that address the particular needs of the community and develop girls' sense of efficacy through leadership or advocacy opportunities. Project topic areas are unrestricted but should include a clearly defined activity that promotes education and equity for women and girls. Special consideration will be given to projects focused on the achievements of K-12 girls and community college women in science, technology, engineering, or math. **Deadline:** December 11.

**AMS Invites Applications for Youth Summer Programs.** The American Mathematical Society (AMS) is accepting applications for its Epsilon Fund Grants for Young Scholars Programs. The programs will provide grants of up to $15,000 in support of summer mathematics programs for mathematically talented high school students. Programs should have been in existence for at least a year, and preferably more. Programs can also focus on problem solving or mathematical research in any area of mathematics. Funding is for a year, and it is expected that half the funds will be used for student scholarships and half for program expenses. **Deadline:** December 15.
**Funding & Other Opportunities (continued)**

Susan Thompson Buffett Foundation Invites Nominations for Outstanding Teacher Award. The Susan Thompson Buffett Foundation is accepting applications for its Alice Buffett Outstanding Teacher Award. The annual award recognizes up to fifteen public school teachers in Omaha who have instilled in their students a desire to learn and achieve; understand the individual needs of students and encourage their talents; and demonstrate a thorough knowledge of their individual subject matter and possess the ability to share it effectively with students. Any Omaha public school teacher or counselor (K-12) with a minimum of two years’ experience is eligible for nomination. Teachers cannot self-nominate. Awardees will be publicly recognized and awarded with a $10,000 cash gift, an Alice Buffett Outstanding Teacher Award Medallion, and $500 in McDonald’s gift certificates. read more... Deadline: January 15.

Kars4Kids Invites Applications for its Small Grant Program. This program supports educational initiatives and youth development programs in North America with grants ranging from $500 to $2,000. The program is especially interested in encouraging continued education outside of school and empowering future citizens and leaders of the community. Fundable activities include libraries, afterschool programs, mentoring, exercise programs, weekend programming, incentives for continued reading and math work, and anti-bullying initiatives. read more... Deadline: Rolling.

Harry Gregg Foundation Invites Applications from People With Disabilities in New Hampshire. The Harry Gregg Foundation will provide small grants to low- and moderate-income New Hampshire residents with disabilities for products and services that enhance their independence and improve their quality of life. Grants are limited to $1,200 but are often less, as award amounts are dependent on the number of requests received each quarter. read more... Deadline: Rolling.
Government Accountability Office Released the Following New Reports Below:

- **Vocational Rehabilitation: Additional Federal Information Could Help States Serve Employers and Find Jobs for People with Disabilities.** This report examines (1) the steps VR agencies have taken under WIOA to work with employers and place individuals in mainstream employment, and the extent Education has addressed any challenges; (2) how VR agencies have coordinated with other workforce programs and the extent federal agencies have addressed any challenges; and (3) how federal agencies have measured state VR agencies' efforts to serve employers. GAO surveyed all 79 VR agencies (74 responded); conducted three discussion groups with 36 state VR officials and four with 29 employers that worked with VR; interviewed VR and other workforce officials in three states, selected for geographic dispersion, among other factors; and reviewed relevant federal laws, regulations, and guidance.

- **Students with Disabilities: Additional Information from Education Could Help States Provide Pre-Employment Transition Services.** This report examines (1) steps states reported taking to implement pre-employment transition services, and (2) implementation challenges states reported and how Education has addressed them. GAO reviewed documents and funding data from Education, and federal laws and regulations; surveyed all 79 state VR agencies (74 responded); held discussion groups with representatives of 29 state VR agencies; and interviewed officials from Education and three states (Idaho, Illinois, and Maryland) GAO selected for variety in size and type of agencies, among other factors.

**Public High Schools with More Students in Poverty and Smaller Schools Provide Fewer Academic Offerings to Prepare for College.** This report released by the U.S Government Accountability Office (1) examines the extent to which high schools of different poverty levels offer courses to prepare students academically for college, and (2) describes the challenges students in high-poverty schools face being prepared to attend college. GAO analyzed 2015-16 Education data on course offerings by school poverty level, type, and size, and developed a generalized linear regression model to explore whether certain school-level characteristics may be associated with course offerings; reviewed a generalizable sample of public 4-year college websites for course requirements for admission; and interviewed officials from Education and the Department of Justice. GAO also conducted site visits to 12 high-poverty high schools in three states selected to provide variation in course offerings, among other things. In this review, GAO focused on public 4-year colleges because they offer a bachelor's degree and are generally a more affordable 4-year option.
FHI 360 Work-Based Learning Manual: A How-To Guide For Work-Based Learning. This Work-Based Learning Manual developed by FHI 360 is a how-to guide with suggestions and tools for planning and conducting specific activities. Although district or school priorities and local partnership opportunities may vary, the manual provides information to implement each activity in the context of the complete WBL continuum.

Reducing Juvenile Recidivism. This resource released by the Council of State Governments determined in many states, up to 80 percent of the youth who are incarcerated are rearrested within 3 years of release, and outcomes for youth on community supervision are often not much better. In response to these challenges, the CSG Justice Center offers tools, resources, and technical assistance to help state and local officials develop and implement plans to improve outcomes for youth and use resources more efficiently. The CSG Justice Center offers states and locales intensive technical assistance to develop system-wide plans, based on the research for “what works” to improve outcomes for youth in their juvenile justice systems. To review the infographic summary, visit: https://csgjusticecenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/Changing-Landscape_Infographic-11.pdf.

Career Navigator Toolkit. This toolkit released by the Denver Opportunity Youth Initiative (DOYI), in partnership with Colorado Workforce Development Council is a collection of promising practices from career navigators in Colorado.

Approaches to State Workforce Development Systems. This report released by the Education Commission of the State draws on interviews in four states and identifies the trending components seen in 2018 workforce development legislation. The five common components noted in workforce development legislation are: data utilization, coordination and collaboration, leadership, outcomes alignment and funding.

Homelessness in America: Focus on Families with Children. This brief released by the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness focuses on families with children experiencing homelessness. It also summarizes the most relevant data and research regarding different sub-populations to help inform the work done across the federal government, states, and local communities, to end homelessness once and for all.

STEM Mentoring: Supplement to the Elements of Effective Practice for Mentoring. This resource released by MENTOR: The National Mentoring Partnership provides additional research-informed recommendations for youth mentoring programs with a science, technology, engineering, or mathematics focus, made possible by generous support from Genentech.
Improving Community College Completion Rates by Addressing Structural and Motivational Barriers. This new report released by Brookings, discusses the structural and motivational barriers community college students face, potential solutions, and offers policy recommendations to boost completion rates.

Career and Technical Education – Current Policy, Prominent Programs, and Evidence. This paper released by MDRC begins with an overview of the issues in the education system and the labor market that led to the current revival of CTE: It argues that the skills today’s employers need are not the ones schools are providing adequately. This section is followed by one describing how various policies have fostered the growth of CTE. The third section of the paper provides detail on the major types of programs and their various components. Specifically, the paper defines what is meant by CTE instruction and training, career pathways, apprenticeships, and career-readiness skills. The evidence section that follows begins by discussing the value of various types of evidence. It then provides a literature review of the available evidence to support each of the program types detailed in the third section, touching on both the amount of evidence available in each area and its level of rigor. The paper concludes by suggesting that while CTE instruction could bolster students’ economic mobility by helping them gain postsecondary credentials and obtain higher-paying jobs, there are challenges involved in turning that promise into reality. Investments in data and evidence-based practices can give CTE a better chance at success.

Upcoming Webinars

HUD and True Colors Fund will host two webinars entitled: Youth Collaboration. The webinar will allow participants to learn about how one’s community can create authentic and meaningful partnerships with youth who have experienced housing instability or homelessness.

- Register for Tuesday, November 13, 2018 Webinar from 2:00 - 4:00 PM EST
- Register for Thursday, November 15, 2018 Webinar from 3:00 - 5:00 PM EST
On November 19th, the Employment and Training Administration will host a webinar entitled: **Our Journey Together, Work Experiences in Rural Areas: Corps and Workforce Partnerships.** During the webinar participants will learn how corps partnerships with the workforce system can create meaningful work experiences for youth. The Corps Network will share promising practices they’ve found when corps and workforce development boards collaborate to prepare youth for careers and hear why corps programs can be good models for youth to gain work experience. Participants will also learn what two local corps programs are doing to serve youth in rural areas with WIOA Youth program funds and the types of work experiences they offer their youth. To register for the webinar, visit: [https://www.workforcegps.org/events/2018/10/23/13/18/Our-Journey-Together-Work-Experiences-in-Rural-Areas-Corps-and-Workforce-Partnerships](https://www.workforcegps.org/events/2018/10/23/13/18/Our-Journey-Together-Work-Experiences-in-Rural-Areas-Corps-and-Workforce-Partnerships).

**Past Webinars**

On October 30th, the U.S. Department of Labor’s Employee Benefits Security Administration (EBSA) and Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP) hosted a webinar entitled: **Get Empowered – Make the Most of Your Job and Improve Your Financial Security: Building Financial Solutions for People with Disabilities.** During the webinar, ODEP discussed ways to improve financial security through Social Security work incentive programs that protect your federal benefits and use of Achieving Better Life Experience Act accounts that can be utilized to save for future goals. EBSA will provide information on setting and achieving financial goals, budgeting, managing debt and determining a target retirement saving rate so you can make the most of your workplace-provided retirement plan.

On October 24th, the Employment and Training Administration hosted a webinar entitled: **Adult Learning Strategies at Community Colleges.** This webinar is part of the Innovations Leading to Career Success Webinar Series and showcases strategies and resources developed by community colleges engaged in career-focused education and training. The colleges featured throughout the series are grantees of the Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training program, a collaboration between the U.S. Department of Labor and the U.S. Department of Education.
On October 18th, the U.S. Department of Labor’s Employment and Training Administration and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration hosted a webinar entitled: Implications of Substance/Opioid Misuse and Addiction for the Workforce Development System. During the webinar, speakers discussed Federal efforts to support communities in addressing these challenges. Participants also learned about the Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) approach to the delivery of early intervention and treatment to people with substance use disorders and those at risk of developing these disorders.

**Upcoming Events**

November 12-18. National Apprenticeship Week

November 27. Workforce Development Summit Through CTE

November 28 - December 1. ACTE’s CareerTech VISION


To subscribe or unsubscribe to the Youth Resource Connections Newsletter, visit: [http://www.doleta.gov/youth_services](http://www.doleta.gov/youth_services) and click the “Subscribe to E-mail Updates” button.

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: [your_email@example.com](mailto:your_email@example.com).

The Department of Labor (DOL), Employment and Training Administration (ETA) does not take responsibility for non-endorsed DOL/ETA resources included in the newsletter.