

NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Federal Agencies Hold Forum on Employment Strategies for the Formerly Incarcerated: Department of Labor (DOL) Secretary Hilda Solis, Attorney General Eric Holder, and Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) Chair Jacqueline Berrien hosted a roundtable discussion last month on "Turning 'Tax Takers' into Taxpayers" by creating employment opportunities for individuals recently released from federal, state, and local corrections facilities.

During the event, which included academics, criminal justice practitioners, business leaders, and an audience of more than 200, Secretary Solis announced 15 grant awards, totaling \$20 million, through the department's new Civic Justice Corps to juvenile justice organizations working with incarcerated individuals ages 18-24. The grantees are local government agencies and non-profit service providers from across the country. Grant awards range from \$719,000 to \$1.4 million.

The Civic Justice Corps works to reduce recidivism rates by providing postsecondary education and training, community networking, high staff-to-participant ratios, career advancement, and post-program attention and follow-up support to the participants. The program ultimately aims to offer assistance to recently released young people so they can make a successful progression to the community and workforce.

"The grants announced today will directly support young people looking to improve their skills and long-term employment prospects," said Solis. "The Civic Justice Corps includes learning through community service and valuable experiences that serve not only participants but also the families and communities to which they are returning."

Continue reading: <http://www.dol.gov/opa/media/press/eta/eta20110944.htm>

Big City Mayors Endorse Senator Webb's Commission Bill: The U.S. Conference of Mayors (USCM) has endorsed the National Criminal Justice Commission Act, sponsored by Senator Jim Webb (D-VA) and Senator Lindsay Graham (R-SC), which would create a bipartisan commission to review, and recommend reforms to, the nation's criminal justice system. An identical bill passed the House and the Senate Judiciary Committee in the last Congress but failed to win the approval of the full Senate. The bill has the strong backing of NCJA and over 100 other groups interested in the effective functioning of the criminal justice system.

The Commission created by the bill, S. 306, would have 14 members, four of whom must represent state and local government interests. Among those with whom commission members are required to consult are federal, state, local, and tribal government and nongovernmental leaders, including law

enforcement officials, legislators, and criminal justice planners. The bill makes clear that the Commission may not impose mandates on state and local governments, and "shall not infringe on the legitimate rights of the States to determine their own criminal laws or the enforcement of such laws." The Commission must also consider the "financial and human resources of State and local governments."

The USCM resolution cites the nation's high incarceration rate as the primary reason for reforming the justice system, noting that "the United States has by far the world's highest incarceration rate, with just five percent of the world's population but 25 percent of the world's prisoners," incarcerating "one in every 100 U.S. residents." The resolution calls the war on drugs "the principal driver of mass incarceration in America," with incarceration rates that are imbalanced across racial groups.

The resolution also notes that while the costs of justice programs continue to grow, a "comprehensive evaluation" of the system has not been undertaken since 1967.

Continue reading: <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/BILLS-112s306is/pdf/BILLS-112s306is.pdf>

TRAINING/RESOURCES

Free Grant Writing Seminars: OCJS is hosting free Grant Writing seminars in 2011. OCJS's grant trainings provide an overview of identifying grant sources, analyzing program objectives, creating a budget, seeking letters of support, and writing proposals. Federal and state grants available to criminal justice professionals are discussed. Attendees also receive the OCJS publication, *Grant Writing: Identifying and Applying for*

Funding in a Competitive Market. Grantwriting 101 trainings take place on the following dates: **July 25, August 18, September 22, October 12, November 7 and December 14**. Please visit http://www.ocjs.ohio.gov/GrantTraining_2011.pdf to view class titles. Specialized Grant trainings for the remainder of the year are: *Incorporating Evidence-Based Practices (July 25)* and *Designing an Effective Evaluation Strategy (October 12)*.

All trainings are held from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the Ohio Department of Public Safety's Motorcycle Classroom, located at 1970 W. Broad St., Columbus, on the first floor. To download and print a training registration form, visit: http://publicsafety.ohio.gov/links/ocjs_TrainingForm.pdf

TRAINING/RESOURCES CONT.

The Impact of Adverse Childhood Experience on Adults: The impact of violence, abuse, neglect, disaster, war, and other harmful experiences continues long after the traumatic event has ended. Exposure to trauma is a pervasive issue that has significantly impacted the health and well-being of millions of Americans and nearly everyone seeking services in the public health and social services systems. Understanding how trauma affects the emotional, behavioral, cognitive, social, and physical functioning of the people we care for can improve our services.

All health and social service providers are welcome, including medical care providers, dentists, social workers, teachers, mental health workers, substance use disorder treatment providers, corrections officers, and community program staff, to name a few.

Presented by: Vincent Felitti, MD
Principal Investigator, Adverse Childhood Experience Study

Date: July 20
Time: 2pm Eastern
Cost: Free

After participating in this webinar participants will:

- * Express an understanding that adverse childhood experiences are surprisingly common although typically concealed and unrecognized
- * Recognize that adverse childhood experiences still have a profound effect 50 years later, although now transformed from psychosocial experience into organic disease and mental illness
- * Recognize adverse childhood experience as one of the main determinants of health and social well-being of the nation

Register Now! <https://services.choruscall.com/links/womenshealth.html>

Justice Involved Women Webinar: This webinar, led by three criminal justice professionals with diverse backgrounds and sponsored by the Bureau of Justice Assistance National Training and Technical Assistance Center, will center around the key differences between female and male offenders and their implications for practitioners and others working with justice-involved women. Evidence-based and gender-responsive approaches, strategies, and tools for achieving more successful outcomes with women will be discussed, as well as, the emerging research findings concerning women offenders.

Lastly, the webinar will focus on resources offered by the newly created National Resource Center on Justice-Involved Women and other organizations.

Presenters include:

Becki Ney, Principal, Center for Effective Public Policy and Project Director, National Resource Center on Justice Involved Women
Georgia Lerner, Executive Director, New York Women's Prison Association
Patricia Van Voorhis, Ph.D., Professor, University of Cincinnati School of Criminal Justice.

Date: Tuesday, July 12
Time: 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm EDT
Cost: Free

To register: <http://bjatraining.org/2011/06/13/achieving-successful-outcomes-with-justice-involved-women-a-review-of-the-research-tools-and-resources-for-practitioners/>

Strategies for Fostering Safety and Promoting Wellbeing for Families Experiencing Domestic Violence in the Child Welfare Settings (Webinar): This webinar will provide participants with an overview of key strategies for fostering safety and promoting wellbeing for families experiencing domestic violence, particularly for

families in child welfare settings. Building a partnership with victims of domestic violence is a key first step to fostering safety. Information shared during this webinar can provide a strong foundation for on-going assessment, identification and safety planning. Presenters will provide participants with a snapshot of the research, successful practices and practical tips for engaging and fostering safety for victims, children and abusive partners.

As result of the webinar participants will have:

- Increased understanding of the benefits to building a strong partnership with victims of domestic violence;
 - Practical tips for identifying and assessing for domestic violence;
 - Enhanced knowledge about safety and safety planning with victims of domestic violence and their children
- Strategies identifying domestic violence resources at the Federal level and within local communities

Date: Thursday, July 14
Time: 3 pm - 4:30 pm EDT
Cost: Free

After registering you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the Webinar.

System Requirements: PC-based attendees required: Windows® 7, Vista, XP or 2003 Server

Macintosh®-based attendees required: Mac OS® X 10.5 or newer

Space is limited. Reserve your Webinar seat now at: <https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/833024538>

GRANTS/FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Building Neighborhood Capacity Program Training and Technical Assistance Coordinator FY 2011 Competitive Grant Announcement:

<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/grant/11BNCTTAsol.pdf>

DEADLINE: July 25, 11:59 P.M. Eastern Time.

OVERVIEW: The Neighborhood Revitalization Initiative (NRI) is a White House-led federal partnership that supports transformation of distressed neighborhoods into neighborhoods of opportunity. The Building Neighborhood Capacity Program (BNCP) Training and Technical Assistance Coordinator (TTA Coordinator) Program is a core component of the

NRI strategy. BNCP focuses on the nation's neediest neighborhoods, those that struggle with such issues as crime, poor health, struggling schools, inadequate housing, and access to employment. BNCP seeks to assist neighborhoods in developing the capacity to undertake comprehensive planning and development activities and to partner with neighborhoods in the long-term process of rebuilding and revitalization.

ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS: Nonprofit organizations, faith-based and community organizations, institutions of higher learning, and for-profit organizations (commercial) with significant experience in supporting neighborhood and community development

through training and technical assistance. For-profit organizations must agree to forgo any profit or management fee.

AWARD INFORMATION: One cooperative agreement of \$2 million will be awarded for a 24-month budget period. Pending funding availability in future years, this project could be extended to 60 months.

CONTACT: Justice Information Center at (877) 927-5657 or JIC@telesishq.com. Center hours of operation are 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Eastern Time, Monday through Friday. On the solicitation close date, the Center will be open from 8:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., Eastern Time.

OCJS CONTACT

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