Health and Human Services Performance Update

The Performance Institute

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Results-Based Management in Social Services & Public Health

UPCOMING EVENTS

2006 National Conference on Health Care Workforce Development
May 4-5 , 2006 | Arlington, VA

The Nonprofit Leadership Summit
May 15-16, 2006 | Arlington, VA

The National Summit on the Methamphetamine Edpidemic
May 15-17 , 2006 | Memphis, TN

2006 National Summit on Gang Violence
May 31-June 2 | Arlington, VA

WEBINARS

Strategic Human Capital Management in Government: Lessons Learned after 5 Years
April 19, 2006 | 1:00pm-2:30pm PM EST

To see more webinars events please click here
www.PerformanceWeb.org/Webcast

Child, Family and Youth Services Innovations

Report Highlights Positive in Nebraska Foster Care

Utilizing child welfare indicators, the state Foster Care Review Board published its report, highlighting a 43% increase in the number of foster children with specific plans in place for permanency. Also dramatically increased was the number of foster children who are seen on a regular basis by their caseworkers, with an increase of 130%. The board recommended six measures that could increase the goal of permanency for foster children, including increased support for caseworkers to prevent turnover and enhanced supervision for contracted services. Read the complete article at http://www.journalstar.com/articles/2005/12/21/local/doc43a98528793e7436862452.txt

California Receives Bonus Award for High Performance in the Welfare Program

For achieving high performance levels, California has been awarded a High Performance Bonus (HPB). This award is given under the federal welfare program, Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF). The award was based on achievement in two measures: the child care subsidy measure and the family formation and stability improvement measure. Read the complete article at http://www.hispanicbusiness.com/news/newsbyid.asp?id=26739 \

May is Foster Care Month

Did you know that on September 30, 2004, there were 518,000 children in the foster care system in the United States ? May is National Foster Care Month (NFCM), and the organization that sponsors NFCM, along with its partners, issued a statistics report with information on youth in foster care, including breakdowns by age, gender and race. Also addressed are youth who age out of foster care and what awaits them. To view these and other statistics, go to http://www.fostercaremonth.org/FactsAndStatistics/

Gang Rivals Declare Peace in San Jose

In San Jose 's City Hall, members of two of the most notorious gangs, Mexican Mafia and Nuestra Familia, renounced gang life and hugged each other. Neither was naïve enough to assume that this gesture would solve the problem of gangs or do away with gangs; however, they hope this will be a step in the right direction. The meeting was facilitated by Victory Outreach, a Christian organization dedicated to preventing violence and promoting families. Read the whole article at http://www.mercurynews.com/mld/mercurynews/news/local/13950378.htm

Gang Violence

Gang violence is on the rise and probably already present in your community. Gang-related homicides in the United States are up 50 percent from 1999. While the problem of gangs once only occupied major metropolitan areas, today gang violence does not make distinctions along socio-economic lines. Gangs have increasingly spread throughout communities nationwide, drawing members from all walks of life. Solutions and promising practices to the gang pandemic will be presented at the *2006 National Summit on Gang Violence* , May 31-June 2, 2006 in Arlington , VA. This summit will provide you with valuable information to effectively utilize your entire community to implement a strategic anti-gang plan to intervene, prevent and suppress gang violence and activity in your community. To learn more, go to http://www.gangsummit.org/

Welfare Agencies Seek Foster Children's Assets

Strapped for funds, welfare agencies across the United States are using federal funds, such as Social Security checks, to pay for foster care for youth. Opponents of this practice claim that this money should go for extra services, such as tutoring, or to ensure that these youth have some sort of investment for the day they age out of the system; however, the agencies simply do not have the funding to allow that. Read the complete article at http://www.nytimes.com/2006/02/17/national/17foster.html?pagewanted=1&ei=5094&en=8cf8e9d6ee24846a&hp&ex=1140238800&adxnnl=0&partner=homepage&adxnnlx=1140187175-8kfjcbnAS2Uw3qySO5JGbg

Workforce Development & Self-Sufficiency Innovations

“Outcome-Based Initiative: Collaboration with the Private Sector”

In Ohio , Workforce Development and Self-Sufficiency Innovations, the Clermont County Department of Human Services (DHS) and the Clermont Chamber of Commerce have entered into a pay for performance contract. The contract works in such a way that the Chamber has knowledge of employment opportunities in the area while DHS has a list of potential candidates for these positions. The Chamber is paid by Clermont DHS based on the services provided to the participants of Ohio Works First (OWF), the system that provides Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF). The partnership was started as an outcome-based initiative to help meet the work requirements of OWF, which places emphasis on self-sufficiency, personal responsibility and employment.

Since the initiative and partnership were put in place, there have been over 800 people referred to the Chamber for employment services. 60 people have found full-time jobs and over 600 have signed self-sufficiency contracts.To learn more about Ohio Works First, visit their website at http://www.huroncowia.com/financial_services.html#owf

Secretary of Labor Elaine L. Chao Announces $195 Million for Competitiveness Agenda

In his State of the Union address on January 31, President Bush promoted his new Competitiveness Agenda, which will be enacted through an initiative called WIRED (Workforce Innovation in Regional Economic Development). Through this initiative, the U.S. Department of Labor will invest $195 million in thirteen regional economies, with the goal being to encourage public and private partnerships to develop a more highly-skilled workforce, which would in turn attract more employers and businesses to the area. To hear more about this and the communities that were chosen, read the full article at http://www.dol.gov/opa/media/press/eta/eta20060177.htm

Report Calls Adult-Ed Programs Inadequate Workplace Suffers, Md. Officials Say

While the demand for skilled workforce is increasing, there are about 5,000 adults in Maryland on the waiting list for adult education services, with the largest number seeking English as a Second Language instruction. If MD cannot offer stronger services to their workforce, the communities will start to suffer economically, as employers will be less likely to move to an area where a skilled workforce is not available. Read the whole article at: http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/02/15/AR2006021501346.html

Health Care Workforce

There is a critical current and projected shortage of nursing and affiliated health care workers in the U.S. If left unaddressed, this shortage will have a severe and damaging impact on the quality of health care services. To solve the problem, the public workforce is now working with the Department of Labor, pri-vate businesses and educators at the high school and community college levels to help prepare workers for skilled jobs in the health-care industry.

Solutions and promising practices in designing, managing and funding workforce development and job placement programs for the health care indus-try are available at **The 2006 National Conference on Health Care Workforce Development** , May 4–5, 2006 in Arlington , VA. Identify and implement health care job training program solutions in your community to provide employment opportunities to unemployed and underemployed workers while satisfying the need for skilled health care workers. To learn more, go to http://www.performanceweb.org/CENTERS/SP/Events/S221/S221.htm

Workforce Partners Receive Performance Excellence Awards

The Tennessee Center for Performance Excellence recognized several partners to the state's workforce development system. The partners were selected based on assessments and evaluations by the Center in seven categories: leadership, strategic planning, customer and market focus, measurement, analysis and knowledge management, human resource focus, process management, and results. Read the whole press release here: http://www.state.tn.us/labor-wfd/news/awd_performance2006.htm

Mental Health & Substance Abuse

Trends in Methamphetamine/Amphetamine Admissions to Treatment: 1993-2003

The Drug and Alcohol Services Information System (DASIS) issued a report detailing the increase in methamphetamine use from 1993 to 2003. The report states that treatment admissions increased by over 23% and that those referred to treatment by the criminal justice system rose to 51% from 36% in 1993. Read the complete report with state-by-state statistics at http://www.oas.samhsa.gov/2k6/methTx/methTX.htm

Methamphetamine Epidemic

Our nation faces a staggering new drug epidemic in the rise in popularity of methamphetamine. From rural towns to big cities, meth labs are popping up in all 50 states. More than 12 million Americans have tried meth, and 1.5 million are regular users, according to federal estimates.

In order to address the meth epidemic, The Performance Institute is hosting **The 2006 National Summit on the Methamphetamine Epidemic** . This conference integrates the concerns of law enforcement and social services in tackling this dangerous drug problem. To learn more, go to http://www.performanceweb.org/MethAbuse/index.html

Transforming State Mental Health Systems

Mental health systems nationwide are becoming more recovery-focused in order to achieve desired results, focusing on intervention as well as offering a variety of services with the goal being higher-quality treatment to promote recovery. Grants are being awarded to states committed to being consumer-driven and offering services from promotion of awareness and prevention to treatment and recovery services. Seven states have received grants. Read the complete article at http://www.samhsa.gov/SAMHSA_News/VolumeXIV_1/article4.htm

Grants, Contracts & Partnerships News

Labor Department Solicits Grant Applications for Senior Community Service Employment

The Employment and Training Administration of the U.S. Department of Labor has published a notice of available funds in the form of grants for projects that that promote employment and training for low-income, unemployed individuals over age 55. Grants will be awarded through open competition, with special consideration given to programs and projects that show collaboration or partnership with their local One-Stop Centers and/or community colleges. Read the complete announcement at http://www.doleta.gov/Seniors/other_docs/SGA2006.pdf

Kellogg Creates Cross-Institutional Alliance to Strengthen Nonprofit Sector

In the first partnership of its kind, The Center for Nonprofit Leadership and Management at Arizona State University , The Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University , and The Dorothy A. Johnson Center for Philanthropy and Nonprofit Leadership at Grand Valley State University received a $7.5 million dollar grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. The alliance will operate under the name “AIM (Arizona-Indiana-Michigan) Alliance ,” and will focus on sharing and strengthening ideas, promoting leadership in minority communities, standardizing and publishing research in an effort to learn how to give and receive philanthropic resources efficiently. Read the whole article at http://philanthropy.iupui.edu/nr-AIM_announce.html

Program Spotlight:

Ensuring the Successful Transition into the Workforce: Improved Solutions for Urban Systems (ISUS)

In Dayton , OH , one charter school is helping youth make the transition to the workforce, and they are earning their high school diplomas while doing it. Improved Solutions for Urban Systems (ISUS), founded in 1992, began by offering training for construction jobs, with students repairing and rebuilding boarded up houses and then selling them to low-income families. Now students can earn a high school diploma and industry certifications or credits towards an associate's degree. Industries in which students can acquire training, closely aligned with the industries in Dayton , are health care, manufacturing, construction and technology. ISUS was the first school in Ohio to offer competency-based diplomas to out-of-school youth, and because of ISUS, four other schools in Ohio have adopted the same practice. To learn more about ISUS, visit their website at www.isusinc.com

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