Health and Human Services PERFORMANCE UPDATE

The Performance Institute

MAY 2006

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UPCOMING EVENTS

The 2006 Social Services Performance Summit
June 26-28, 2006 | Washington, DC

The 2006 Youth Services Summit
July 17-19, 2006 | Arlington, VA

The 2006 Affordable Housing Symposium
August 21-23, 2006 | Arlington, VA

The 2006 Foundation and Nonprofit Performance Conference
September 25-27, 2006 | Arlington, VA



WEBINARS

Pay for Performance for Social Services
June 27, 2006 | 2:00 pm EST

Nonprofit Performance Management
August 1, 2006 | 2:00 pm- 3:30 pm EDT

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

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Results-Based Management in Social Services & Public Health

May is Mental Health Month

The National Mental Health Association has named May as National Mental Health Month. This year's theme is “Mind Your Health” and focuses on the mind-body connection. In June, The Performance Institute will be hosting the 2006 Social Services Performance Summit, with tracks focusing on mental health and effective case management strategies, reporting performance, performance measures and evaluation. To view the agenda go to www.performanceweb.org/SocialPolicy , or to read the press release from the National Mental Health Association, go to http://www.nmha.org/may/index.cfm

Social Services Managers

The 21st century mandate to social services organizations is clear: operate more efficiently and serve stakeholders more effectively. From the recent wave of management reforms sweeping across the government, social services organizations at all levels are increasingly under pressure to measure the performance of their programs and report results to their stakeholders. In order to ensure that your organization achieves full compliance and successful implementation of the performance management reforms in social services, we invite you to join us at the **2006 Social Services Performance Summit** , being hosted June 26-28, 2006 , in Washington , D.C. To learn more, go to http://www.performanceweb.org/CENTERS/SP/Events/S182/index.html

Health Legislation Puts Emphasis on Pay for Performance

In Massachusetts, the hundreds of millions of dollars slated for providers under the health reform legislation will only be allocated if hospitals and doctors must show they are meeting or exceeding quality standards, staying within their budgets and reducing racial and ethnic disparities in the delivery of healthcare services and outcomes for their patients. The quality requirements will take effect in July 2007. The legislation does not detail the performance measures or the dollar amount that will be at risk. To read more, go to http://www.boston.com/news/local/articles/2006/04/05/health_legislation_puts_emphasis_on_pay_for_performance/

How Does your Organization Measure Up?



The Performance Institute is helping government manage for RESULTS! See how well your organization measures up. Take our free Performance Measurement Assessment: www.PerformanceWeb.org/Survey

Child, Family and Youth Services Innovations

Youth Services

In July, The Performance Institute will host the 2006 Youth Services Summit. Attendees will learn about best practices and innovations from the leaders in youth services. One of the case studies will focus on Educational Service District 112 in Vancouver , Washington . At ESD 112, they have implemented a structure of academies in their youth workforce programs. Since the implementation of the career fields, success rates have substantially increased, with more students than ever completing the programs and moving into career fields. You can view their website and the various academies at www.esd112.org/ywp/index.html , and hear their strategies for success along with many others at the 2006 Youth Services Summit, July 17-19, 2006 in Washington , DC . www.YouthServicesSummit.org

Children in Kinship Care Gaining Ground

The Urban Institute recently released a study focusing on children in kinship care, or living with a family member that is not a parent, as opposed to foster care. The study commented that though children in kinship care often faced many challenges, many new federal, state and local benefits have been put in place over the past few years to help kinship families face these challenges. The study also showed that the standard of living for children living in kinship care improved significantly in the measured period, from 1997 to 2002, while the percentage living in poverty declined, along with the percentage with no health insurance. Read the full report at http://www.urban.org/publications/311310.html

HHS Approves Child Welfare Waivers for Five States

In an initiative to improve safety and promote permanency for children, the US Department of Health and Human Services granted waivers to California, Florida, Iowa, Michigan and Virginia. These waivers provide states with flexibility in the use of their federal foster care funds in that they may utilize the funds to create innovative and flexible approaches to keeping children safe from abuse and neglect, assist families in addressing problems that place their children at risk and promote permanency for foster children. All projects must be evaluated by a third party and be cost-neutral to the federal government. View the complete press release at http://www.acf.hhs.gov/news/press/2006/five_child_welfare_waivers_April_6.htm

Agency Aids Young Adults Too Old to Stay in Foster Care

Each year in Arizona, 250 youth age out of the foster care system. These young people are often not prepared for the world that greets them; they end up receiving public assistance at three times the national average and end up incarcerated at four times the rate of their peers, according to a study by the Casey Family Programs. However, there are programs designed to combat these statistics, ones such as the Florence Crittenton organization, which recently refurbished an old apartment building as a place for young women to live, receive job training, life skills and financial help so that they can make the successful transition from youth to adulthood. Read the complete article at http://www.zwire.com/site/news.cfm?newsid=16253564&BRD=1817&PAG=461&dept_id=68561&rfi=8

Improve Positive Development Outcomes for Youth

Young people are our most valuable resource, and they hold the key to the future of our communities, our nation and our world. Today's youth need guidance, support and opportunities more than ever, and with this support they will ?ourish and develop the assurance they need to succeed and become self-sufficient. However, the challenge lies not only with the creation of the programs,

but also in compiling sufficient data to analyze and evaluate the programs. Learning how to measure outcomes and results is essential to the success of your agency or organization.

To improve positive development outcomes for youth, you are invited to the 2006 Youth Services Summit, in Washington , DC , July 17-19, 2006. To learn more, go to http://www.youthservicessummit.org/

HHS Approves California Plan to Expand Coverage to Unborn Children

HHS Secretary Mike Leavitt approved a California proposal extending health care coverage to pregnant women and their unborn children. The women who will be able to be covered must have family incomes of up to 300 percent of the federal poverty level. This is intended to help combat the instances of low birth weight, premature birth and other potentially disabling defects that can occur because of a lack of prenatal care. California is the eighth state to adopt this policy; the 2006 federal poverty level for an individual is $9,800 a year, and $20,000 for a family of four. To read more, go to http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2006pres/20060328.html

FY 2007 Bush Budget and Children

The Child Welfare League of America has published statistics on President Bush's 2007 budget proposals and how cuts will affect social services agencies and organizations. In the proposal, states could opt to receive a fixed rate amount, known as a block grant, rather than an amount based on the number of children in the foster care system. Read the statistics and information on how this could affect your budget at http://www.cwla.org/advocacy/budgetchildren07.htm

Workforce Development & Self-Sufficiency Innovations

Nursing Tops List of Hot Hoosier Job

Nursing was a career of focus at The Performance Institute's 2006 National Conference on Health Care Workforce Development May 4-5, 2006. This field is one that's growing in almost every city around the country, and recently topped the list of Indiana 's “50 Hot Jobs” list, provided by the Indiana Department of Workforce Development. According to the Commissioner of the Department of Workforce Development, the list was published as a way to give emerging workers insight into fields that are growing, where they will be able to succeed and have above average compensation. Other jobs that topped the list were teachers, special education teachers, computer systems analysts and dental hygienists. Read the entire article and see the list at http://www.insideindianabusiness.com/newsitem.asp?ID=17713

Missouri Receives Award for Local Employment Dynamics Program

The U.S. Census Bureau recently awarded Greg Steinhoff, the Director of the Missouri Department of Economic Development for cross-sharing information with Illinois on employment data as part of a Local Employment Dynamics (LED) program. The data has helped both states understand commuting patterns and also their shared labor markets. This data will help the local workforce boards in understanding the labor market, allocation of resources and how to best pair business with potential employees. Read the entire article at http://www.infozine.com/news/stories/op/storiesView/sid/14544/

The Department of Labor (DOL) Releases Free Database of Qualified College Students and Graduates Seeking Summer and Full-time Jobs

At the upcoming Youth Services Summit, The Performance Institute will address youth with disabilities entering the workforce. This comes just as DOL's Office of Disability Employment Policy and the Department of Defense have announced they will be offering the “Workforce Recruitment Program.” This database is free of charge and identifies nearly 2,000 qualified college students and recent college graduates with disabilities who are searching for summer and fulltime jobs. The database, available to public and private sector employers, is focused on assisting employers meet their hiring needs. For more information visit: http://www.doleta.gov/usworkforce/whatsnew/eta_default.cfm?id=1415

Struggling Students Want Vocational Education, Poll Shows

A recent study of ninth and tenth graders in California found that six in 10 students did not like school and were unmotivated to work hard and succeed. Of these students, over 90% said they would be interested in classes relevant to their future or to their careers. The poll was conducted by the James Irvine Foundation, which is funding a new center focused on career education called ConnectEd: The California Center for College and Career. The goal of the center is to target at-risk youth and ensure that they are motivated and prepared for college or a career, taking into account different aspirations and learning styles. Read the whole article at http://www.latimes.com/news/education/la-me-voced6apr06,1,5971960.story?coll=la-news-learning&ctrack=1&cset=true

Missouri Department of Labor Implements New Method to Detect Potential Unemployment Overpayments

A grant for $128,000 from the US Department of Labor has enabled Missouri to utilize programming detect overpaid unemployment benefits. The programming allows them to cross-match their data to that of the National Directory of New Hires, which will allow the state of Missouri to know if someone claiming unemployment in MO has gone to work in another state but is still claiming unemployment. Read the complete press release at http://www.dolir.mo.gov/newsreleases/releases/NewHires.htm

Mental Health & Substance Abuse

NACoA invites ONDCP Drug – Free Communities Grantee Coalitions and other CADCA Coalitions to apply for mini-grants to address high risk youth

The National Association for Children of Alcoholics (NACoA) has announced a grants contest for community coalitions to support and create programming for children whose parents are in treatment for substance abuse. The goal of these programs should be breaking the cycle of addition, drawing attention to a sector of the population who are at high-risk for addiction themselves and creating solutions to fill a need in the community. Read the announcement and requirement for application at http://www.nacoa.org/mini-grants.htm

SAMHSA Unveils State Substance Abuse Data from 2004 National Survey on Drug Use and Health

On April 6, SAMHSA released a study regarding substance abuse data gathered from all 50 states. Reports indicate that California and Wisconsin saw increases in underage drinking, while South Carolina and Michigan saw declines. Six states saw decreases in illegal drug use for youth ages 12-17, and no states saw significant increases in this area. SAMHSA Administrator Charles Curie commented that because states see such varying results, it is important to continue to have flexibility when working with federal dollars to promote prevention and treatment for substance abuse. Read the report at http://www.samhsa.gov/news/newsreleases/060406_survey04.htm

Drug Treatment Program Lowers Jail Population

A study released reports that Proposition 36, California's plan to treat drug offenders instead of imprisoning them is saving taxpayers millions of dollars, and that the rate of drug imprisonment has decreased 34%, nearly 60,000 people were arrested but kept out of jail because of the proposition. Advocates are hoping that funding for the program will only be increased in the future. Read the complete article at http://www.latimes.com/news/printedition/california/la-me-drugs13apr13,1,2351593.story?coll=la-headlines-pe-california

Collaborative Relationships: School Counselors and Non-School Mental Health Professionals Working Together to Improve the Mental Health Needs of Students

In an effort to better serve school children, partnerships are being formed between counselors and non-school mental health workers, with the goal being improvement of the often-fragmented mental health services that youth receive. Research has indicated that less than one-third of youth who are candidates for mental health services receive the care they need. As schools are increasing responsible for the mental health of their students, the partnerships would seek to bridge the gap between the in-school and out-of-school lives of children. http://www.blackenterprise.com/yb/ybopen.asp?section=ybng&story_id=91911484&ID=blackenterprise

Grants, Contracts & Partnerships News

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Announces Funding for Improved Collaboration for Child Welfare Program Outcomes

The Administration for Children and Families (ACF) at HHS announced they will be accepting applications for grants totaling $400,000, to be awarded to six grantees. ACF plans to award the grants to those who seek to: demonstrate collaboration and partnerships between public assistance (TANF) and child welfare agencies to improve outcomes for children and youth who have already entered, or are at risk for entering, the child welfare system; assess, evaluate and record the processes and outcomes of these efforts; and develop sites that other cities, states or organizations wanting to improve collaboration between TANF and child welfare agencies can look to for direction and lessons learned, with the potential for replication. The deadline for the application is June 19. To read more about the requirements, please visit: http://www.acf.hhs.gov/grants/open/Corrections_to_CW0103.html

Secretary of Labor's New Freedom Initiative Award

May 31, 2006 is the deadline for those wishing to apply for the 5 th Annual Secretary of Labor's New Freedom Initiative Award. Businesses, individuals and non-profit organizations may apply for the award, which is granted to businesses and individuals who have supported enhancing the employment and workplace for people with disabilities. View past winners and see how to apply at http://www.dol.gov/odep/newfreedom/nfi06.htm

Program Spotlight:

2006 One-Stop Career Center Summit

In March, The Performance Institute hosted the 2006 National One-Stop Career Center Summit. Representatives from one-stops, employment commissions and local governments gathered to learn new strategies and innovations for improving the effectiveness of their local one-stops. Alice Oliver, who manages the Racine County Workforce Development Center in Racine County , Wisconsin presented about Racine County and the strides it has made through cost allocation in creating an effective one-stop system. In 2002, the center received the national Pyramid Award for excellence in customer satisfaction. View Alice 's presentation here: http://www.performanceweb.org/CENTERS/SP/media/Alice_Oliver_slides_2006.pdf

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The **Health & Human Services Performance Update** is provided as an informational newsletter to all social services, public health and workforce development agencies about news and innovations in
performance management reforms in social service and public health programs.

The **Performance Institute** is a private think tank that serves as the nation’s leading authority and repository on performance-based management practices for government organizations. Its mission is to identify, study and disseminate the leading management innovations pioneered by “best-in-class” government programs at federal, state and local levels. Through its national conferences on pressing issues, interactive executive training programs, and best practice research projects, the Institute provides cutting-edge expertise in the design, implementation and evaluation of strategies to solve operational challenges and enhance government performance.

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