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## Don't Forget!

### Coordinating Youth Services Workshops

There's still time to register!  
[Read more by clicking here.](#)

### Save the Date - All Youth-One System Conference

January 25-27, 2004  
[Read more by clicking here.](#)

## Elements of a Comprehensive Youth-Serving System Gaining Attention

The All Youth-One System (AYOS) framework "Elements of A Comprehensive Local Youth-Serving System" has been adopted by intermediaries participating in the Improving Transition Outcomes for Youth with Disabilities (ITOP) initiative and California's Foster Youth Transition Action Teams. Stakeholders throughout California spent the last few months reviewing the AYOS Elements framework, and discovered ways to enhance its application to better serve the needs of the special populations they serve. Ensuring that youth who age out of foster care and youth with disabilities have the means and motivation to become successful adults requires innovative approaches to engage and prepare these youth for life on their own. Stakeholders participating and guiding these two new initiatives are working to ensure that partnerships among the state and local systems of public education, workforce development, and social services can leverage services and mobilize resources across communities to serve the needs of all youth, including foster youth and youth with disabilities.

As a result, the All Youth-One System frameworks are being updated and improved to

not only reflect the system-building activities of Youth Councils, but those of intermediaries and collaboratives focused on improving the transition to adulthood for special populations of young people.



For more information about ITOP [click here](#). For more information about the Transition Action Teams, contact Chandra at [clarsen@nww.org](mailto:clarsen@nww.org). The updated frameworks for the Foster Youth Transition Action Teams initiative will be showcased at the All Youth-One System conference January 25-27, 2005. For more information about the conference, [click here](#) or go to: <http://www.calworkforce.org/CWA/coferences/youthConference.php>.

## Campaign for Youth Advocacy Day

On Sept. 15, approximately 350 people gathered in Washington, DC for the Campaign for



Youth Advocacy Day, the result of the collaborative efforts of NYEC, YouthBuild USA, and the National Association of Service and Conservation Corps (NASCC). More than half of those in attendance were young people. Youth and young adults gathered to hear surrogates from the Bush and Kerry campaigns answer questions from seven of their peers. The event was organized by the Campaign for Youth, which represents more than 1,000 community and faith-based organizations that work with disadvantaged young people.

Read the full article by [clicking here](#). Kids Count has posted an excellent article about the event on its website, which you can access by [clicking here](#), or going to [www.connectforkids.org](http://www.connectforkids.org).



## *A Youth Perspective* **Helping Youth with Disabilities Successfully Transition to Adulthood**

In August 2004, Sara Vogler was among a large group of youth delegates who attended the Improving Transitions for Youth with Disabilities Project (ITOP) stakeholders meeting in Sacramento, California. ITOP's goals are to complete the statewide assessment of the existing youth service infrastructure utilizing multilevel stakeholder input and map resources at the state and local levels, and to develop a cross-agency multi-year state plan to improve transition outcomes for youth with disabilities. This article by Sara Vogler provides a youth perspective on this event and overall issues surrounding youth with disabilities. As Sara states, "I believe this project is helpful to youth because it gives youth with disabilities the ability to use ideas and be a resource to professionals."

[Click here](#) to read the full article and to learn more about the ITOP initiative. To learn more about ITOP, go to: [www.improvingyouthtransitions.org](http://www.improvingyouthtransitions.org).

## *YCidea* **Out-of-School Youth Order off a "Skillz Menu" to Acquire Basic Skills**

This latest *YCidea* highlights how the Southeast Los Angeles County Workforce Investment Board developed a "Skillz Menu," an incentive-based program which ensures that students earn money while completing a recognized training course or gaining certifications in various occupations. Through their Community Youth Corps (CYC) employment and training program for out-of-school youth, the CYC has creatively designed a program that not only attracts this hard to serve population, but is successfully ensuring that youth are attaining the skills needed to compete and gain employment in today's marketplace.

Read more about the success of this *YCidea* and see the "Skillz Menu" that you can replicate in your programs by [clicking here](#).

## *YCidea* **Building an Effective Youth Advisory Board**

This *YCidea* highlights the San Diego School-to-Career Youth Council's effective model of Youth Advisory Boards. The San Diego Youth Council was concerned with its level of youth involvement; attendance was poor and youth input limited. Inspired by information from YCi about the value of Youth Advisory Boards, the San Diego Workforce Partnership (staff to the Youth Council) decided to increase youth engagement by establishing one as an offshoot of its Youth Council.

Read more about how this *YCidea* has led to strong collaboration between adults and youth, and how they've increased retention of youth advisory board members by [clicking here](#).

## **Coordinating Youth Services: 2004-2005 Training and Content Calls Series**

Youth Councils, community providers, and educators are all striving to develop coordinated and connected youth-serving systems. Increasingly, funders are asking for evidence that communities and organizations are coordinating services and collaborating effectively in order to receive funding. In response, New Ways and CWA are sponsoring a series of capacity building activities through YCi, including workshops, content calls, and the upcoming All Youth-One System Conference. During the course of these activities, participants will learn the importance of and how to begin to:

- Map all services available to youth in the community;
- Develop a community framework for the delivery of youth services;
- Define a single year-round, comprehensive, coherent system;
- Intentionally link youth-serving organizations within a community.

The workshops, content calls and conference program will emphasize successful strategies for collaboration across systems and the benefits of connecting to each other. Topics and activities will focus on successful strategies for collaboration, what agencies and organizations who partner are accomplishing, ways to effectively pool resources, lessons learned from those who are working well together, and the common challenges of collaboration and how they are being addressed. Additionally, activities and workshops will share ways to engage youth more effectively, get youth to participate actively in their community, structure programs that youth want to participate in and other ways that demonstrate that youths' contribution & participation are valued. For more information about the series, [click here](#).

### *Coordinating Youth Services Workshops*

To kick off the series, three one-day workshops will be held regionally in three locations across the state, **November 17 (North), November 18 (South), and December 9 (Central)**. These interactive workshops will help to build your capacity for coordinating youth services with others partners within your community.

To register for one of the workshops, please contact Lauren Byrnes at (707) 824-4000 or visit [www.nww.org/whatsnew.html](http://www.nww.org/whatsnew.html) or [click here](#) for more information and a registration form.

### **Save the Dates!**

**Part Two in this series: All Youth-One System Conference**  
January 25-27, 2005 - Orange County. For more information or to register, [click here](#).

### **Part Three in this series: Coordinating Youth Services Content Call**

May 10, 2005 - 9:30-10:30am PST - look for future announcements.



## State Youth Council Update

### *State Youth Council to Hear Workgroup Recommendations*

The State Youth Council (SYC) has been busy over the last couple of months, with three member workgroups meeting to plan and prepare for expanding youth participation on the council and generating ideas for continued work at the state and local levels. The full State Youth Council met by conference call on July 14, 2004, to continue development of a Comprehensive California Youth Plan. Meanwhile the State Initiatives Work Group, Local Initiatives Work Group, and the ad hoc Youth Involvement Work Group met by conference call in August 2004 to further the same effort. The SYC will address the following recommendations at its upcoming SYC Meeting, Wednesday, October 27<sup>th</sup> ([click here](#) to see the agenda for the SYC meeting). [Click here](#) to read the workgroup recommendations.

### *California's WIA Annual Report Summary*

California's 2003-04 Annual Report (Title 1-B) concentrates on efforts that match the three priorities established by the administration in allocating the WIA Governor's 15 Percent Discretionary Funds to assist job seekers to enter employment and to retrain existing workers for high-need and high-wage jobs. Those priorities are:

- High-skilled, high-wage growth industries;
- Sectors and industries with statewide needs; and
- Populations with particular needs related to training for or succeeding in the labor market.

To download a copy of the Annual Report, [click here](#).

### *WIA Implementation Evaluation Underway*

The State Board and the Employment Development Department (EDD) have contracted with a research team from the University of California Davis to conduct the required evaluation. As a requirement of the contract with UC Davis the evaluation team has been asked to focus their efforts in the following four areas: (1) Local Area case studies; (2) Local Board and One-Stop surveys; (3) state-level implementation; and (4) synthesizing the findings of administrative data analysis in a final report.

State Board staff convened a technical advisory committee to provide feedback to the research team on the evaluation design and methods. An initial meeting was held to discuss the evaluation plan, and the principal investigator made changes to the plan in response to that meeting.

[Click here](#) to read more about the progress of this committee.

## A View from Washington & Sacramento

The California Workforce Association (CWA) and the National Youth Employment Coalition (NYEC) provide in depth federal policy and legislative analysis for the workforce system. YCi encourages practitioners to familiarize themselves with important issues related to WIA Reauthorization, Allocations, and other policies relevant to youth. CWA's policy analysis can be accessed by clicking the links in the summaries below, and by visiting their website at [www.calworkforce.org](http://www.calworkforce.org). NYEC's policy updates are available for review on their website at [www.nyec.org](http://www.nyec.org)

### State Update

#### *California Performance Review Commission Finalizing Public Hearings*

The CPR Commission held perhaps its most critical public hearing on September 27<sup>th</sup> at UC Davis. This hearing brought expert testimony on Government Reorganization and the underlying purpose of the CPR initiative. CWA Executive Director Virginia Hamilton was invited as an expert witness on Labor and Economic Development and Commerce and shared the panel with Art Pulaski of the California Labor Federation and Willie Washington of the California Manufacturers and Technology Association. The final Commission hearing is scheduled for October 20<sup>th</sup> at UC Irvine. [Click here](#) to read more about this event.

For a transcript and the written testimony of each of the panelists, including Ms. Hamilton's testimony on behalf of CWA, [click here](#). For more information and access to the full CPR report, go to [www.cpr.ca.gov](http://www.cpr.ca.gov). For a copy of CWA's formal response on the CPR report, [click here](#). To view a CWA chart of the CPR report recommendations regarding the workforce development system, [click here](#).

#### *Labor and Workforce Development Agency Opposes Consolidation of Local WIAs*

Of great concern to CWA and local Workforce Investment Boards around the state was the CPR's recommendation that the Governor reduce the number of Workforce Investment Areas from 50 to between 20 and 30. This particular section of the report (GG23) generated between 35 and 40 letters of opposition from local WIB chairs and other business leaders. Several WIB chairs also attended CPR Commission hearings and special Labor Agency forums to provide public comment in opposition to the recommendation. Additionally, several city councils and boards of supervisors initiated and passed resolutions in opposition to state-driven consolidation. Though the CPR Commission has not yet taken an official position, the Labor and Workforce Development Agency announced at the September State WIB meeting that it is officially opposed to the recommendation to consolidate local Workforce Investment Areas.



## ***Senate Bill to Create Youth Policy Council Fails to Win Governor's Signature***

Senator Dede Alpert's measure to create a California Youth Policy Council (CYPC) failed to win the support of the Governor. SB 215, the Youth Policy Act, sought to establish a cabinet-level body of decision-makers from key state agencies and departments with the purpose of coordinating state youth policy and services. Although the role of the proposed CYPC appears to parallel that of the State Youth Council, which is established in federal law, the author argued that the "State Youth Council has no state agency membership and exists only by administrative directive."

[Click here](#) to read more about SB 215 and the Governor's response. [Click here](#) to view the text of SB 215. To view the Governor's veto message on SB 215 [click here](#).

## ***Assembly Bill to Redirect WIA Funds Vetoed by Governor***

AB 1821, authored by Assembly Member Rebecca Cohn, would have established a new nurse training program funded with federal WIA discretionary funds and administered through the State Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPD). The legislation directs OSHPD to enter into contracts with accredited schools and programs that train licensed vocational and registered nurses. CWA raised concerns with Cohn's staff that the measure abrogates the Governor's discretion over this "discretionary money," abolishing the flexibility necessary to leverage other system resources and respond effectively to critical workforce needs. CWA was also concerned that the measure bypassed the State Workforce Investment Board and failed to build on successful local models established through the Caregiver Training Initiative (CTI) and the Nurse Workforce Initiative.

[Click here](#) to read more about AB 1821 and the Governor's response. [Click here](#) to view the Governor Veto Message. [Click here](#) to view the text of AB 1821.

## ***Governor Signs Master Plan/Williams Case Bills***

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger signed into law the landmark Master Plan for Education/Williams Case bills, heralded by many as the most important education bills of the session. The new laws enact the settlement provisions of the Williams case - calling for equitable education for all California public education students - while implementing many key parts of the state's Master Plan for Education. The settlement provisions - facility repair for low performing schools, a textbook for every student, a credentialed teacher in every classroom, and an end to the use of the Concept 6 school calendar, which shortens the school year by 17 days - were agreed on by the Williams plaintiffs and Governor Schwarzenegger in early August.

Master Plan recommendations range from improvements that directly impact students, such as those contained in the Williams settlement, as well as more tutors, more computers, and more challenging classes to better prepare students for work and continued education, to systemic improvements such as more accountability, streamlined methods of school finance, and alignment of governance.

For more information, call the Office of the Education Master Plan at 916-332-0005, or visit their website at [www.putstudents1st.org](http://www.putstudents1st.org).

## **Federal Update**

### ***Congress Breaks for a 5-Week Recess – Unfinished Business will have to Wait***

Congress broke on October 8<sup>th</sup> and headed home to districts for the final run-up to the November 2<sup>nd</sup> elections. Congress is not set to return to Washington until November 15<sup>th</sup>. Before leaving, Congress approved, and the President signed, a continuing resolution (CR) to fund federal government operations through November 20<sup>th</sup>. Given the short work period left for this Congress, unfinished legislation requiring further negotiation will not be passed this year - the Workforce Investment Act (WIA), TANF, and Perkins Reauthorizations will all be pushed to the new 109<sup>th</sup> Congress. [Click here](#) to read the full article, including status of FY 2005 Appropriations, WIA, TANF, and Perkins.

### ***Personal Re-employment Accounts - Again***

On September 24, 2004 the Department of Labor announced that it would use \$9 million in discretionary funds to set up a pilot program in nine states for personal re-employment accounts (PRAs). Appropriators in the House and Senate did not accept a \$50 million request in the Administration's FY 2005 budget request to fund PRAs. According to the Administration's proposal, PRAs are designed to help the unemployed pay for training, transportation, childcare, and other expenses up to a maximum of \$3,000 per recipient. There have been several failed attempts by the administration to have the PRA program authorized through Congress, both in the reauthorization of the Workforce Investment Act and as stand-alone legislation.

### **Join the YCi Listserve!**

*The YCi Listserve connects you with resource, network, and training opportunities relevant to education, workforce and youth development.*

To join, email Chandra Larsen at [clarsen@nww.org](mailto:clarsen@nww.org)



## US DOL Proposes New Management Information System – Locals Respond

On July 16, 2004, US DOLETA announced the solicitation of comments and recommendation on the establishment of a single, streamlined reporting and record keeping system, formally called the ETA Management Information and Longitudinal Evaluation (EMILE) reporting system, to replace the current data collection and reporting requirements for 12 employment and training programs, including, the Workforce Investment Act Title I-B Adult, Dislocated Worker, and Youth programs. Information about EMILE can be viewed online at: <http://www.doleta.gov/performance/emile/emile.cfm>.

New Ways to Work/YCi hosted a content conference call on September 2<sup>nd</sup>, in which participants discussed the EMILE reporting system. Ken Smith, Chief Information Officer of the California Workforce Investment Board was a guest on the call. Recommendations from participants on the call were drafted and sent to the California Workforce Association to be included in their letter to state and federal leaders. Further information about this and other content calls can be found online at: <http://www.nww.org/previouscalls.html>, and by clicking the following links:

**New Ways' Recommendations:** Recommendations submitted by New Ways to Work to CWA, following the content call can be downloaded by [clicking here](#).

**CWA's Recommendations:** While agreeing in concept that an improved performance management system is necessary for gauging the success of the system, CWA has serious concerns with the DOL's proposal. The following response which included concerns expressed on the content call were submitted to DOL, and can viewed by [clicking here](#).

## Teen Artists and Writers Wanted!

Share your talent, educate your peers, and earn cash prizes! Entries are now being accepted for this year's Safe Jobs for Youth Month High School Journalism Contest, and Teen Poster Contest. Every year, 100,000 teens are seriously injured on the job. Most teen workers don't know they have a right to protection on the job. These contests are designed to encourage education by and for teens about workplace health and safety. Winning posters and articles are seen by thousands of California youth! To view past years' winning articles and artwork, and to download this year's flyers and entry forms, visit [www.youngworkers.org](http://www.youngworkers.org).

Poster entries are due January 31, 2005. To enter the journalism contest, students must submit an article that has been published in their high school newsletter. A copy of the published article must be submitted by June 15, 2005. Top prize in both contests is \$400!

## Engaging Out-of-School Youth and Connecting to Alternative Education

New Ways to Work and YCi presented a content call on the topic of Out-of-School Youth and Alternative Education. As federal, state, and local leaders are focusing on new strategies for supporting vulnerable youth, practitioners are interested in learning about promising practices for serving young people.

On this call a panel of local practitioners discussed their specific strategies for engaging out-of-school youth and connecting to alternative education. We also had an opportunity to discuss with youth policy and legislative analysts the potential implications of the ETA's new strategic vision for youth services under WIA. Read notes and supportive information about the organizations highlighted on the call by [clicking here](#). Further information about this and other content calls can be found online at:

<http://www.nww.org/previouscalls.html>.

## Municipal Leadership for Reengaging Disconnected Youth

Municipal leadership on behalf of disconnected youth is one of the YEF Institute's newest project areas. This work began in recognition of the fact that disconnected youth, those ages 16-24 who are unemployed, high school dropouts, involved in the justice system, or otherwise disconnected, pose a significant challenge to cities and towns across the country.

Two principles of this emerging work are that cities have a vested interest in helping disconnected youth access positive opportunities and support to get their lives onto a positive path, and that cities cannot make progress in this area without strong cross-system relationships with the school districts, non-profit organizations, and state, and county agencies that interact with these youth on a daily basis. The YEF Institute's disconnected youth work will focus on researching cross-systems efforts in a number of cities and sharing this and other relevant information with the members of the Municipal Network on Disconnected Youth.

One of the first resources to emerge from the project area is the Institute's seventh action kit, *Reengaging Disconnected Youth*, which is available at [www.nlc.org/iyef](http://www.nlc.org/iyef). For more information about this initiative, [click here](#).

### Content Call- October 27<sup>th</sup> 10:30PST

As part of its YTFG communications effort, Connect for Kids will be hosting a conference call on effective messages for making a strong case for improving systems of support for youth in transition, and how to work with the media to help shape the public discussion on youth at risk. To register for this call, contact Jan Richer, Advocacy Director at Connect for Kids at: [jan@connectforkids.org](mailto:jan@connectforkids.org).



## Conferences, Trainings, & Networking Events

### **Youth in Transition Content Call - October 27, 2004**

As part of its YTFG communications effort, Connect for Kids will be hosting a conference call on effective messages for making a strong case for improving systems of support for youth in transition, and how to work with the media to help shape the public discussion on youth at risk. To register for this call, contact Jan Richer, Advocacy Director at Connect for Kids at: [jan@connectforkids.org](mailto:jan@connectforkids.org).

### **Youth Culture Convening - November 4, 2004 (Sacramento)**

By bringing youth and adults together to discuss and learn about youth culture, why it's important for adults to understand and how it affects youth everyday; this Convening will showcase youth culture and create discussions between youth and adults to help bridge understanding. The meeting is being sponsored by the Youth Development Institute. For more information email [jcole@leed.org](mailto:jcole@leed.org).

### **Coordinating Youth Services Workshops - November 17 & 18 and December 9, 2004 (Various California Locations)**

To kick off the series, three one-day workshops will be held regionally in three locations across the state, November 17 (North), November 18 (South), and December 9 (Central). These interactive workshops will help to build your capacity for coordinating youth services with others partners within your community. The workshop cost is \$60.00/person. (Teams of 5 may register for the discounted fee of \$250). To register for one of the workshops, please contact Lauren Byrnes at (707) 824-4000 or visit <http://www.nww.org/whatsnew.html> or [click here](#) for more information and a registration form.

### **All Youth-One System Conference - January 25-27, 2005 (Orange County)**

Back for its fourth year, the 2005 All Youth-One System Conference is designed to help local youth providers, Youth Councils and policy makers run better programs, connect to other systems more easily, learn about innovative strategies for serving youth, and to develop a network of colleagues to promote peer learning. For Conference information or to register, [click here](#). To make hotel reservations at the Hyatt, call 1-800-233-1234 and ask for the special CWA Youth Conference rate of \$99.00.

### **One-Stop Connection Workshops (Various dates and California locations)**

These workshops are hosted and facilitated by Dwight Brydie of the Employment Development Department. The goal of these one-day workshops are to equip WIA and Foster Care Practitioners with the tools needed to connect current and emancipated foster youth to WIA One-Stop and other WIA funded youth service providers. For more information, contact Dwight Brydie, Trainer, Employment Development Department at 916-654-9492 or email him at [DBrydie@edd.ca.gov](mailto:DBrydie@edd.ca.gov).

## YCi 2004 - 2005 Activities

*This is a calendar of events and activities of the Youth Council Institute Network for 2004 to 2005. Confirmed dates and locations will be posted online at:*

<http://www.nww.org/yCi/calendar.htm>

### **October**

October 25-26 Superintendent's High School Summit  
October 27 State Youth Council Meeting

### **November**

November 17 Content Training (Oakland, CA)  
November 18 Content Training (Long Beach, CA)  
**(Topic: Coordinated Services, Part 1)**

### **December**

December 9 Content Training (Visalia, CA)  
**(Topic: Coordinated Services, Part 1)**

### **2005**

#### **January**

January 11 Content Conference Call (9:30 a.m.)  
**(Topic: Involving Youth at the Conference)**  
January 25 Team Leader Meeting  
January 25-27 All Youth-One System Conference  
**(Topic: Coordinated Services, Part 2)**

#### **February**

February 22 Content Training (Central Valley)  
February 23 Content Training (Northern CA)  
February 24 Content Training (Southern CA)  
**(Topic: Engaging Workplace Partners)**

#### **March**

March 8 Content Conference Call (9:30 a.m.)  
**(Topic: Involving Youth on Youth Councils)**  
TBD CWA Spring Conference

#### **May**

May 10 Content Conference Call (9:30 a.m.)  
**(Topic: Coordinated Services, Part 3)**  
TBD State Youth Council Meeting  
TBD Team Leader Meeting

## About YCI

*The Youth Council Institute (YCi) was established in July 2001 with a goal to assist California's 50 Youth Councils by creating a unified and transparent network of local organizations whose diverse services are available to all youth. The "All Youth-One System" tools and frameworks serve as the foundation for YCi. YCi provides technical assistance and support, disseminates tools and practices, and conducts trainings and planning activities. It is supported by the CalWIB and managed and delivered through a partnership between New Ways to Work and the California Workforce Association.*