



## Dear Provider Community:

### Recognizing Human Trafficking Prevention Month and Strengthening our Response

Each January, ACS joins the country in raising awareness of human trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation. Human trafficking involves the recruiting, transporting, selling, or buying of people for the purpose of various forms of exploitation, including labor and sexual exploitation. Young people with involvement in the child welfare, juvenile justice systems, as well as homeless and runaway, immigrant, LGBTQ, and other marginalized youth are particularly vulnerable to exploitation.

Those who work directly with young people are the city's greatest resources for identifying victims and linking them to the services and support. Over the years, ACS has invested in building our investigative capacity, clinical expertise, and a range of supports and services.

We have made significant investments to prevent trafficking and have hired a dedicated Director of the Office of Child Trafficking Prevention & Policy, Selina Higgins. ACS has also provided training to nearly 1,000 ACS and contract agency staff. In addition, ACS is updating our policy to incorporate the latest federal and state directives on this issue. Please [download a list of resources](#) compiled by the Office of Child Trafficking Prevention & Policy. The Office of Child Trafficking Prevention & Policy has created an e-mail mailbox, [Child.Trafficking@acs.nyc.gov](mailto:Child.Trafficking@acs.nyc.gov) to respond to requests for assessments and resource referrals. Please use that mailbox if you have questions about a particular case or would like to make a notification of a potential trafficking case.

I encourage everyone to attend special child trafficking event at the Nicholas Scoppetta Children's Center on January 28. I hope that you can join me in declaring that "No Child is For Sale!"

Gladys Carrión, Esq.  
Commissioner

## Cross Divisional

### Collaborative Quality Improvement (CoQI) Conference

Agency Program Assistance (APA) is kicking off the New Year by hosting our first Collaborative Quality Improvement (CoQI) Conference -- **Building a Collaborative Vision in 3D: Data; Discussion; and Determination** -- on Wednesday, January 27, 2016 at The Nicholas Scoppetta Children's Center from 9 am to 4:30 pm. The purpose of this event is to bring together provider and ACS leaders, managers and quality improvement staff to:

1. Share system-wide data about child outcomes and provider and ACS performance
2. Provide learning opportunities to address challenges reflected in the data

The conference will begin with a system-wide data presentation and remarks from Commissioner Gladys Carrión and other ACS leadership. After that, there will be two rounds of small group workshops related to the conference theme of using data in practice. Please see the attached document which includes the day's agenda and descriptions of the workshops being offered.

Because space is limited, we are asking that Provider agencies which have both foster care and preventive services invite up to four participants to attend and agencies which only have one program (foster care or preventive) to invite three participants to attend.

Please RSVP your attendance to the conference by emailing [APACoQI@acs.nyc.gov](mailto:APACoQI@acs.nyc.gov). **RSVP is required by Friday January 22nd** as we will be providing lunch. Registration for conferences will be on a first come first serve the morning of the conference.

We look forward to seeing you there to celebrate our accomplishments and work on our challenges together. Before then, if you have any questions, please contact Camelia Anders at [camelia.anders@acs.gov.nyc](mailto:camelia.anders@acs.gov.nyc).

[Download the conference schedule](#)

## Foster Care

### Opportunities for Youth

[Please share this information with the youth you serve and support them in the process of completing and submitting an application.](#)

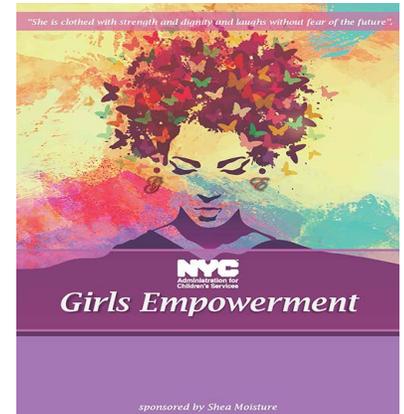
#### FosterClub All-Star Internship Program

FosterClub is now accepting applications for the 2016 All-Star Internship Program. As a FosterClub All-Star Intern, youth will receive leadership training, help to improve outcomes for foster youth transitioning out of care, educate peers and industry professionals, and change of public perceptions about foster youth. Deadline for application is February 20. For complete details, go to [www.fosterclub.org](http://www.fosterclub.org) [Download the flyer](#).

#### The Princeton University Summer Journalism Program

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Girls Empowerment Workshop



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## FEEDBACK

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## Archived Bulletins



The application for summer 2016 is now available [here](#). Applications are due by 11:59 pm est on February 26, 2016.

The program's goal is to diversify college and professional newsrooms by encouraging outstanding students from low-income backgrounds to pursue careers in journalism. All expenses, including students' travel costs to and from Princeton, are paid for by the program. Students who attend the program come from across the country. Classes at the program are taught by reporters and editors from *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *Newsweek*, *The New Republic*, *The New Yorker*, CNN and ABC News, among other media outlets. The program is also designed to give students a taste of what life is like at one of the best colleges in the country—students live on campus and eat in one of the university's cafeterias—and to prepare them to apply to top schools.

**Who is eligible?** This program is intended for low-income students with excellent academic records who are committed to pursuing a career in journalism. To apply for the program, you must meet the following qualifications:

- You must currently be a junior in high school.
  - You must live in the United States.
  - You must have at least an unweighted 3.5 grade point average (out of 4.0).
  - You must have an interest in journalism.
- The combined income of your custodial parent(s)/guardian(s) plus child support payments, if any, must not exceed \$45,000, but there may be exceptions. For more information about the program, visit <https://www.princeton.edu/sjp/>

#### **NYC Ladders for Leaders Now Accepting Application**

NYC Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD) is now accepting applications for its Ladders for Leaders Program.

#### **Program eligibility includes:**

- Youth between the ages of 16-22 who are enrolled in high school or college
- A minimum Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.00
- Resident of one of the five boroughs of New York City
- Anyone with prior work experience, either paid or volunteer
- Legally allowed to work in New York City

For more information, please contact DYCD Youth Connect at 1-800-246-4646 or apply [online](#) now.

#### **NYS State Department of Labor is recruiting Construction and General Building Laborers**

The Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee for Construction and General Building Laborers, Local Union #79, will conduct a **limited recruitment from Friday, January 15, 2016 through January 28, 2016 for 100 skilled construction craft laborer apprentices**. The recruitment for Local Union #79 will be offered online from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. every business day during the recruitment period. The recruitment will be offered for 10 business days or until 1,000 applicants are reached, **whichever comes first**. Applicants who do not have Internet access may visit their local library or call 311 and ask for the nearest New York State Department of Labor Career Center.

#### **Applicants must:**

- Be at least 18 years old at the start of the program.
- Have a high school diploma or a high school equivalency diploma (such as TASC or GED).
- Attest that they are physically able to perform the work required of a skilled construction craft laborer, which may include:
  - Working at heights.
  - Working in confined spaces.
  - Working in extreme temperatures, both indoors and out.
- Pass a test of physical ability, which includes:
  - Lifting and carrying 94 pounds of material for a distance of 30 feet and stacking it to a height of approximately 54 inches.
  - Using a shovel to load approximately half of a cubic yard of material into a wheelbarrow, wheeling it 100 feet, and depositing it into a container.
- Pass a pre-hire drug screening, at the applicant's expense, after selection and prior to indenture.
- Provide military transfer card or discharge form DD-214, if applicable, after selection and prior to indenture.

**Application Instructions:** Go to <http://www.mttf.org/> and follow the links for Local Union #79.

#### **[NYC Department of Youth and Community Development](#)**

DYCDs Out-of-School Youth (OSY) program serves eligible youth aged 16-24 years old who are not working or in school, and need assistance upgrading their educational and occupational skills. Funded through the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), OSY programs are operated by community-based organizations in all five boroughs of New York City, and offer a combination of occupational skills training in industries and sectors with growing demand for entry-level workers. Programs also offer High School Equivalency and basic skills instruction, work readiness training, case management, supportive services and internships.

#### **[State University of New York \(SUNY\) Bronx Educational Opportunity Center](#)**

SUNY Bronx- EOC (Educational Opportunity Center) is offering free high school equivalency training classes. This program provides academic instruction and test preparation in order to assist students in achieving their GEDs. Teacher-led instruction is provided in the areas of writing, grammar, math, and reading. Additionally, students are assigned time in the ATTAIN lab where they can work on test preparation through computer aided instruction. Classes are free. **The next cycle is scheduled to begin January 25, 2016. Interested youth may register at 1666 Bathgate Ave, Bronx , NY 10457; Monday and Wednesday at 8:30AM. For more information, call 718-530-7000. [Download the flyer](#)**

#### **[State University of New York \(SUNY\) Manhattan Educational Opportunity Center](#)**

State University of New York Manhattan Educational Opportunity Center (MEOC), are still accepting applications for the Civil

Service Exam Prep class. Interested youth (18+) may complete an online. The Civil Service Exam Prep class help students develop time management skills and ensure that they are comfortable with the types of questions to expect on the real written test – for **FREE!** Students will also be informed of upcoming exams and filing dates by the instructor. Classes being January/early February.

To find out if youth are eligible for the programs and what documents are needed, visit <http://www.bmcc.cuny.edu/meoc/> or the MEOC location at 163 West 125th Street, 15th Floor.

### **STRIVE- Green Construction/Maintenance Program**

STRIVE is a Green Construction/ Maintenance skills training program that prepares participants for employment in green/construction careers. Participants will be trained in carpentry, plumbing, electrical, building operation and maintenance.

**The next cycle begins January 22, 2016.** Strive program runs for 10 weeks; Monday- Friday; 8:45-5:00PM. **To enroll**, visit STRIVE located at 240 East 123rd Street, 3rd Floor, New York, NY, 10035.

For more information on the Green Construction/Maintenance program or other programs such as the Office Operations or Medication Technology, visit <http://striveinternational.org/strive-new-york/employment/> call (212) 360-1100 and ask for Tanika Brazier or Emmanuel Pacheco.

### **18th Annual Awards for Youth in Foster Care**

Youth Communication is sponsoring an award to promote a more positive image of New York City foster youth among agency staff, youth workers, and the general public. Fifteen young people will be awarded prize money at a ceremony in May 2016. Five Grand Prize winners will receive \$1,000 each, and ten additional winners will receive \$500-\$700 each.

Anyone born in 1995 or later who is or has been in the New York City foster care system is eligible to apply. Applicants must write two essays to enter this contest, and can be nominated by any adult (including teachers, mentors, agency staff, youth workers, religious leaders, foster parents, or biological parents). Deadline: March 4, 2016. [Get more information and download the nominating form.](#)

### **College & Career Corner – Next Session is January 27th**

The Office of Education Support and Policy Planning has launched the College and Career Corner so 11th and 12th grade students in foster care can connect to a peer mentor and receive help with college applications and career advice from peers who have received ACS services. College advisors from the Options Institute will also be available for consultations! Sessions are held twice a month at ACS - 150 William Street. The last session for the month will be held on January 27th, 4pm to 7pm, 150 William Street, 19th Floor, Staten Island Room. Dinner and Metro cards will be provided. For more information contact, Karyn Boutis at [Karyn.Boutis@acs.nyc.gov](mailto:Karyn.Boutis@acs.nyc.gov)

### **Preventive Services**

#### **New Interim Policy: Family Treatment/Rehabilitation Program – Revised Casework Contact and Practice Requirements for Service Providers**

The *Family Treatment/Rehabilitation Program – Revised Casework Contact and Practice Requirements for Service Providers*, was signed by the Commissioner Gladys Carrión as an **interim policy in effect** on January 11, 2016. This policy provides new casework contact requirements for families receiving Family Treatment/Rehabilitation (FT/R) preventive services; modifies the minimum qualification requirements for supervisors; provides guidance and clarifies expectations for documentation; standardizes the use of clinical diagnostic team (CDT) assessment tools for FT/R preventive services providers; and clarifies the roles, responsibilities, and referral processes for ACS staff and preventive services provider agencies. [Read the policy](#)

### **Juvenile Justice**

**There are no juvenile justice announcements in this edition.**

### **Early Care and Education**

#### **Trainings on ERSEA - Enrollment, Recruitment, Selection, Eligibility and Attendance**

ECE will offer **10** training opportunities on the new Performance Standards for ERSEA on Tuesday 1/26, Wednesday 1/27 and Thursday 1/28. In order to ensure that ELNYC Head Start Delegate Agencies are in compliance with the new regulations, **all** Delegate Agencies are expected to send all staff that handles enrollment and eligibility to these ERSEA training sessions.

It is our expectation that you will make reasonable accommodations to send your required staff to these sessions as this is part of our Federal Review Preparedness plan. Additionally, since the Final Rule requested that Director, Head of Agency, and Board of Directors also be trained, we advise you to take advantage of these available sessions to schedule senior staff and board members.

Click on the links below to register for the sessions. We will offer two sessions at the same time at two locations:

- Location A: 66 John Street, 8th Floor: <https://acsece-elnyc-ersea-66john.eventbrite.com>
- Location B : 110 Williams Street, 20th Floor: <https://acsece-elnyc-ersea-110w.eventbrite.com>

If you have any questions, contact Ivonne A. López, Executive Director of Head Start at [ivonne.lopez@acs.nyc.gov](mailto:ivonne.lopez@acs.nyc.gov).

### **Pre-K Targets for FY17**

The *Pre-K for All* application period for the 2016-2017 school year will be open between **January 25 and March 4, 2016**. *Pre-K for All* (PKA) is embedded in the full day of services for all EarlyLearn 4-year-olds.

To ensure that families with children born in 2012 that are currently enrolled in your program have the opportunity to remain with you, we will initially set your PKA target to match the number of 3-year-olds currently enrolled in your program, or, if higher, keep the FY16 target. After families receive an offer from the NYCDOE in early May and come to pre-register at the program, we will adjust your target to the number of children that register with your program by May 31, 2016. Your PKA enhancement budget will be based on the adjusted target set in May.

**Families with current EarlyLearn children born in 2012 must apply through SEMS**, even if they wish to remain in their current

EarlyLearn program. They can apply:

- Online at [nyc.gov/prek](https://nyc.gov/prek)
- Over the phone by calling [718-935-2067](tel:718-935-2067)
- In person at a [Family Welcome Center](#)

Our team will reach out to you to confirm your pre-k target in the coming weeks. Please contact Teija Sudol at [teija.sudol@acs.nyc.gov](mailto:teija.sudol@acs.nyc.gov) if you have any questions or concerns.

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