



ACS Provider Bulletin



Cross Divisional

Foster Care

Preventive

Juvenile Justice

Early Care and Education

Wednesday, March 16, 2016

Cross Divisional

Developmental Disabilities Training

ACS' Developmental Disabilities Unit and the Office of Preventive Technical Assistance (OPTA) will present trainings on Developmental Disabilities for child welfare staff.

The training will provide:

- An overview of Developmental Disabilities
- A guide to understanding the supports and services for individuals with developmental disabilities
- A description of ACS' Developmental Disabilities unit

Trainings are scheduled for each borough with the remaining sessions in Staten Island and Queens:

April 13, 2016, 11:00am-2:00pm

Seamen's Society for Children and Families 50 Bay Street, Staten Island, New York 10301

May 11, 2016, 10:00am-1:00pm

Community Mediation Services, Inc., 89-64 163rd Street, Jamaica, New York

Trainer: Cliff Datys, ACS Developmental Disabilities Unit

Coordination: Stacyann Coley, DPS/OPTA

To register, go to: <https://www.hslcnys.org/hslc/>. For any additional questions: OPTA@acs.nyc.gov. [Download the flyer for more information.](#)

Legal Support for NYC Immigrants – Note from Atlas DIY

#DACA-Squad is a new initiative at Atlas DIY, funded by a grant from Fund for New Citizens, to help unlock access to legal support for New York City's immigrants. As part of this initiative Atlas is training nine of our members to assist individuals with citizenship, adjustment of status, employment authorization, and DACA applications, as well as screen candidates who may be eligible for immigration assistance under an expansion of President Obama's Executive Order. We are looking for nonprofits who are interested in having members of our #DACA-Squad, supervised by Atlas: DIY attorneys, to come and provide these free services to your constituents at your location. DACA Squad members speak Spanish, Mandarin, Bengali, and English and we can work with ANYONE regardless of age, and are to do trainings for your staff on identifying immigration issues and working with immigrant communities, as well as providing know your rights trainings for your communities!

[This initial survey is](#) simply to gather information about who is INTERESTED in the program. Please fill it out to the best of your knowledge, and our team will reach out to you to follow up individually. Please do not send this to other organizations that may be interested in our #DACA-Squad! Questions? Email #DACA-Squad Coordinator Natasha Lee at Natasha.lee@atlasdiy.org

Foster Care

College Support for ACS Youth

The ACS Office of Education Support and Policy Planning and Year Up is hosting a **Financial Aid Night** for all ACS involved high school youth, parents and foster parents to learn the basics of financial aid for college and vocational training.

When: Thursday, March 24, 2016 from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

Where: 150 William Street, 19th Floor, Manhattan Room

For more info or to RSVP, email Karyn.Boutis@acs.nyc.gov. [Download the flyer](#)

PrepNOW! Group Orientation Sessions for Foster Parents

PrepNOW!—a professional development foster parent training focused on how to create a college-going culture designed to support youth in care—is entering its third year with expanded goals for foster parent recruitment. The program is working closely with agencies to engage foster parents to improve educational outcomes for the youth in their care. Foster parents who have completed the training have expressed how useful and supportive the program has been for them. PrepNOW! staff will be contacting NYC-based agencies in the next few weeks to set up group orientation sessions for foster parents. **Interested parties should contact Stephanie Boyd Serafin at SSerafin@fedcap.org.**

New Yorkers for Children YAB Open House @ ACS

New Yorkers for Children Youth Advisory Board (YAB) is having an Open House, to introduce youth to the YAB, programs

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Foster Parent Recruitment

Foster Parent Informational Forum

Tuesday, March 29, 2016

5:30pm - 7:00pm

The Children's Aid Society Dunlevy Milbank Campus
14-32 West 118th Street | New York, NY 10026
(Between: Lenox Avenue and Fifth Avenue)

Contact: Denise Eugene – 212.949.4905

[Download the flyer](#)

New Yorkers for Children YAB Open House @ ACS

Saturday, March 26, 2016

12 noon

150 Williams Street, Manhattan Room 19th Floor,
Manhattan, NY 10038

RSVP by Email: Catherine Hilyard,

chilyard@newyorkersforchildren.org.

Call or Text: Peterson Rodriguez @ 914-803-6743 for more information <http://newyorkersforchildren.org>.

[Download event flyer.](#)

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Archived Bulletins



and events. This event will also introduce youth to resources and connect them to members of the YAB. YAB is open for membership to current and former foster care youth between the ages of 17 and 25.

When: Saturday, March 26, 2016 12pm

Where: 150 Williams Street, Manhattan Room 19th Floor, Manhattan, NY 10038

RSVP by Email: Catherine Hilyard, chilyard@newyorkersforchildren.org.

Call or Text: Peterson Rodriguez @ 914-803-6743 for more information <http://newyorkersforchildren.org>. [Download event flyer.](#)

[Job Training Opportunities for Youth](#)

NYF Tech Workforce Development Program

The New York Foundling has launched a Technology Workforce Development Program in partnership with [Year Up New York](#), [Per Scholas](#) and [General Assembly](#) and is currently working with foster care agencies to bring education and employment opportunities to young adults interested in tech careers. The purpose of the NYF Tech Program is to teach important skills and tools needed for a career in technology; develop participants' professionalism and self-awareness; and place participants in full-time technology jobs with a minimum salary of \$30,000 annually.

And for youth between the ages of 12 and 19 across all foster care agencies, check out New York Foundling's [Digital Inclusion Program](#). Youth will spend one full day in computer skills classes, and will have the opportunity to interact with professionals in the tech industry and experiment with some nifty technology products and games. To be eligible youth must:

- Youth must be currently in foster care (youth on trial discharge are also eligible)
- Youth must be between 12 and 19 years old
- Youth must be first-time Digital Inclusion participants, meaning that the youth has not received a laptop and mi-fi before
- Youth must **attend one full Saturday** from 9:30 am to 5:30 pm on **April 23rd** or **April 30th**
- Caregivers should participate in a half-day training if they have at least one youth participating in the program. Caregivers who complete the training will receive a \$100 gift card

Registration Deadline: **April 1st**. To register, youth must email techprograms@nyfoundling.org or call 347-880-6885 (NOTE: emailing RSVPs is strongly suggested, as we will be sending updates about the Summit to registrants regularly via email in the coming weeks)

Maysles Documentary Center- Teen Produces Academy Summer Intensive

A 6-week summer intensive film program where youth work in small teams to make a short documentary. Maysles Documentary Center is looking for youth who have a story to tell, and want to make moving and honest films about subjects important to you and your communities. Youth will learn how to produce a short documentary film while working within a small production team. This includes telling a powerful story from a simple concept, how to use an HD camera and professional audio recording equipment, and the art of cinematography and film editing. For more information and to apply, click [here](#).

CUNY Fatherhood Academy

The CUNY Fatherhood Academy at LaGuardia Community College is an intensive 4-month (3-day a week) training program which is sponsored by the NYC Young Men's Initiative. The program is designed to provide opportunities to young fathers such as education (high school equivalency exam/college preparation), college enrollment, job development/job placement, various workshops on parenting, career counseling, and life-skills specific to young fathers, financial literacy and best health practices. The program is specifically looking to recruit young fathers between the ages of 18 and 24 with or without a High School Diploma. The next semester will begin in late March. Orientation sessions will be held on a weekly basis prior to our start date.

[Download flyer](#)

New York County District Attorney's Office

The **New York County District Attorney's Office** is now accepting applications for its 2016 High School Summer Internship Program! If accepted, students will participate in a six week, paid opportunity that will expose them to many aspects of the criminal justice system. Attached, please find a flyer for your convenience. **The deadline is Friday, March 25th, 2016.** [Application](#)

Additional Programs, Events and Resources

[Summer Youth Employment Program](#)

[HOSTOS Center for the Arts & Culture](#)

[Share Information about Youth Education and Employment Opportunities](#)

Please feel free to contact Meka Nurse, Assistant Commissioner, ACS Office of Employment and Workforce Development Initiatives with any information on education and employment opportunities or special programs for youth in ACS care: meka.nurse@acs.nyc.gov.

Be sure to include:

- Name of your agency
- Name of Program
- Target Population
- Brief Summary
- Contact Person
- Links to applications or flyers

[College & Career Corner March 2016 – Now Accepting 10th Grade Students](#)

The Office of Education Support and Policy Planning has launched the College and Career Corner to connect 10th, 11th

and 12th grade students in foster care with a peer mentor, assist with college application completion and offer 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 final session for this month will be held on March 23, 4pm to 6pm, 150 William Street, 19th Floor, Staten Island Room. Dinner and MetroCards will be provided. For more information contact, Karyn Boutis at Karyn.Boutis@acs.nyc.gov

Preventive Services

[There are no Preventive Services announcements in this edition.](#)

Juvenile Justice

[DYFJ /Cure Violence Partnership Workshops for Youth in Detention](#)

City Council has awarded funding for the Division of Youth and Family Justice DYFJ/ Cure Violence collaboration. DYFJ youth will engage in programming in their community offered by selected Crisis Management Systems Providers. Youth will join a 3-month program with rolling and open admission, and engage in a weekly pro social mentoring and skill building group. Youth will have the opportunity to earn stipends. These CMS Providers specialize in conflict management, safer streets, workforce development and they employ credible messengers to reach youth. CMS providers have committed to offering workshops at Non-Secure Detention and Non-Secure Placement provider sites.

To schedule a workshop please email Tiffany Williams at Tiffany.Williams@acs.nyc.gov.

[New Juvenile Justice Policies](#)

The following policies were approved and signed by the Commissioner Gladys Carrión, Esq.

Family Treatment/Rehabilitation Program – Revised Casework Contact and Practice Requirements for Service Providers

The purpose of this policy is to provide new casework contact requirements for families receiving Family Treatment/Rehabilitation (FT/R) preventive services; to modify the minimum qualification requirements for supervisors; to provide guidance and clarify expectations for documentation; to standardize the use of clinical diagnostic team (CDT) assessment tools for FT/R preventive services providers; and to clarify the roles, responsibilities, and referral processes for ACS staff and preventive services provider agencies.

[Read the policy](#)

Allowances and Financial Literacy Training for Youth in Juvenile Justice Placement,

This policy prescribes that every youth placed with ACS in a juvenile justice placement facility shall receive a regular monetary allowance and financial literacy training from his or her assigned provider agency. This applies to youth placed in both non-secure placement (NSP) and limited secure placement (LSP) juvenile justice facilities. While provider agencies have discretion to design their own allowance and financial literacy training programs, all programs shall comply with the requirements of this ACS policy. Furthermore, all agencies shall promote the goal of financial responsibility and independence.

[Read the policy.](#)

[Draft Policies for Public Comment](#)

The following Draft Policies are available for comment:

Detecting Cell Phones and Other Wireless and Electronic Devices in Secure Detention

It is ACS' policy to promote the safety of youth and staff in detention facilities. Cell phones and other wireless devices are considered dangerous contraband, and as such, are prohibited from all secure detention facilities. This policy describes the procedures that staff must take to detect and confiscate cell phones or other wireless devices in a secure detention facility.

[Download the draft policy](#)

Comments should be submitted by **close of business April 4, 2016** to draft.policy.comments@acs.nyc.gov.

Room Confinement for Secure Detention

Room confinement is to be employed in secure detention facilities, only as a last resort, in situations when youth constitute a serious and evident danger to themselves or others, and only when other measures have been exhausted, are inappropriate, or have been or are likely to be ineffective. This policy provides protocols for the use of room confinement, including procedures for documentation, supervision, and practice reviews of completed periods of room confinement.

[Download the draft policy](#)

Comments should be submitted by **close of business April 27, 2016** to draft.policy.comments@acs.nyc.gov.

Early Care and Education

[2016 Annual Education Fair](#)

The ACS Early Care and Education and Head Start Policy Council 2016 Annual Education Fair will be held **Wednesday, April 20, 2016 at 150 Williams Street, Manhattan Room from 9:30am to 1:00pm.** CUNY and other educational institutions will provide information and speak with attendees about their educational goals. For more information please contact Director of Family and Community Engagement, Diane Black-Green at diane.greene@acs.nyc.gov.

[Please share the flyer with families.](#)

[New York State Pyramid Model Project](#)

The New York State Pyramid Model Partnership is conducting a brief survey to better understand and respond to the needs of providers in supporting young children who exhibit challenging behaviors. They are asking early learning programs to participate in the survey and respond by Friday, March 18, 2016. Survey responses will be confidential and results summarized to help improve practices in New York State. In appreciation of your time, the New York State Pyramid Model Project is offering a coupon for Lakeshore Learning (the code for this coupon is available at the end of the survey). Also included at the end of this survey is a link to a list of helpful early childhood resources on social and emotional

development. [Take the survey here](#). (also available in [Spanish](#)).

For more information on the New York State Pyramid Model Partnership and about local trainings, beginning in July 2016, on ways to better support young children's healthy social and emotional development, please [visit the New York State Early Childhood Advisory Council \(ECAC\) website](#). These trainings will be for providers, teachers, administrators and others who work with children birth to 8 years of age. Also, you can see a comprehensive listing of early childhood local training sessions on the Aspire Training Calendar or www.nyworksforchildren.org/aspire/go/.

[Raising of America Documentary Series on Better Outcomes for Children](#)

In honor of [Week of the Young Child](#) (April 10-16), National Public Health Week and National Child Abuse Prevention Month, **watch all five episodes of *The Raising of America* FREE, April 1 - 17** and learn how you can help change the conversation about early childhood in America. Go to www.raisingofamerica.org for more information.

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