



ACS Provider Bulletin



Cross Divisional

Foster Care

Preventive

Juvenile Justice

Early Care and Education

Wednesday, May 25, 2016

Dear Provider Community:

May is Mental Health Awareness Month -

As we join the nation in observing May as Mental Health Awareness Month, we should also take this opportunity to redouble our efforts to serve children, youth and families who are facing mental health challenges. This year, ACS joins Mayor de Blasio and First Lady Chirlane McCray to launch [Thrive NYC](#), an effort designed to ensure New Yorkers have access to the mental health services they need.

As part of ThriveNYC, ACS has launched six new programs for families with young children, to ensure that parents who have experienced trauma and other adverse experiences are well-supported and able to address their own challenges, even as they learn about healthy infant and toddler development and begin to nurture their very young children. Currently, these programs are available to families in early care and education, preventive and foster care. We will be launching additional programs and models over the coming year. [Learn more](#) about ACS' six Thrive NYC initiatives as well as additional mental health focused work conducted by our staff.

While it is critical that we provide these vital services for families, we must also be mindful that our staff who work directly with children and families are in stressful situations and need mental health support. I encourage staff to participate in The Resiliency, Wellness and Self-Care for First Responders to Child and Family Trauma sessions, which are being facilitated by the Office of Clinical Practice, Policy & Support. These sessions can help you gain the necessary skills to combat the symptoms and impact of secondary and primary trauma and stress. We strive to create a safe, supportive workplace and we encourage staff to use the resources listed below whenever they feel overwhelmed.

As professionals and in our personal lives, we know that mental health is essential to our wellbeing and to the success of the children and families we serve. Together, we can overcome mental health challenges to thrive, grow, and become healthy and strong.

Gladys Carrión, Esq.
Commissioner

Cross Divisional

[Changes to the June 2016 SSPS Upload for July Recurring Payments](#)

To: Foster Care Executive Directors, Chief Financial Officers and SSPS Liaisons

On May 17, 2016 the Division of Financial Services alerted relevant staff that the SSPS uploads for May care days must be completed by no later than June 20, 2016 in order to ensure timely processing of the July Recurring Payroll. This revised timeline will be discussed during the June 1st ACS/Contract Agency SSPS Liaison meeting. [Click on this link for more information.](#)

[Youth Development Training](#)

The NYC Youth Funders Network, in partnership with the NYC Administration for Children's Services, NYC Department of Probation, NY Juvenile Justice Initiative, NYC Foster Care Funders Working Group, and Youth Transitions Funders Group, invite you to join representatives from philanthropy, government, and the nonprofit sector for a day of training on how to help young people foster internal resilience, develop positive coping strategies, and build competencies, titled : **Positive Youth Development, Trauma-Informed Care and Resiliency: Tools and Techniques to Help Young People Thrive** Training delivered by Dr. Kenneth Ginsburg, Adolescent Medicine specialist at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and a Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine.

When: Monday June 27, 2016 9:30am-4:30pm

Where: The Nicholas Scoppetta Children's Center, 492 First Avenue (between 28th and 29th Streets), NYC

We encourage agencies to bring teams of two to six people representing management, middle-management and line staff. Go to the [NYC Youth Funders Network Website](#) for information on the event. The event is free, but you must register to attend.

[NYC AmeriCorps VISTA Paid Opportunities with ACS](#)

NYC VISTA is an AmeriCorps VISTA program administered by NYC Service. NYC VISTA members serve for 12 months (August 2016 - July 2017) in New York City government agencies, with a mission of building capacity to lift New Yorkers out of poverty.

ACS and other city agencies have partnered with NYC Service and AmeriCorps to offer three opportunities within the Divisions of Family Permanency Services, Youth & Family Justice, Communications & Community Affairs, and the Offices of Public Private Partnerships. AmeriCorps NYC VISTA members help improve upon management and data tracking and training systems, develop resources, and organize outreach.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

[Save the Date - NYC Juvenile Justice Reentry Conference](#)

NEW DATE!

NYC Juvenile Justice Reentry Conference

Conference highlights include:

- Core Principles for Reducing Recidivism and Improving Other Outcomes for Youth in Juvenile Justice System
- Best practices and insights to help youth succeed following placement
- Empowering primary caregivers and panel discussions
- Skill building workshops
- Community resources focused on building the assets and competencies in all young people
- Networking opportunities and much more!

SAVE THE DATE

TUESDAY – JULY 19, 2016
9AM to 5PM

CUNY John Jay College



[Responsible Fatherhood Leadership Training](#)



June 9, 2016

9:00am to 4:00pm

Federation of Protestant Welfare Agencies (FPWA)
40 Broad Street, 5th Floor, NY 10004

Breakfast and Lunch will be provided.

Contact: Scott Leach, (646) 343-6424

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FEEDBACK

[Click here to share comments and feedback about the bulletin](#)

[JJRC Flyer_07_19_2016](#)

This is a great opportunity for recent college graduates or those transitioning from another career to gain experience in government. VISTAs are paid a monthly stipend, transit assistance, education awards and student-loan forbearance or forgiveness. [Get more information](#). Applications are due by May 31st.

[Bronx Stork Nest Program for Expectant Moms](#)

Staff are invited to participate and refer expectant moms to the [Stork's Nest program](#), a collaboration between the March of Dimes and Zeta Phi Beta for expectant moms wishing to enroll in the program. The Stork's Nest program objectives are to:

- Provide incentives for expectant mothers to obtain early and regular prenatal care.
- Provide clothing and nursery items for pregnant women who use community health services.
- Provide educational opportunities for pregnant women to help them make informed choices and decisions relating to parenting, nutrition, and health.
- Provide information and referral to community resources to enhance the physical and emotional well-being of mothers and their families.

For over 6 years, the program has run successfully at Union Community Health Center in the Bronx. The June session will kick off on June 4, 2016 Baby Shower and orientation. [Click on this link for information](#). Questions?, contact Lillian Pyatt-Castro, Bronx Stork's Nest Coordinator at 914-705- 2350.

[Hearst Program in the Prevention of Child Maltreatment](#)

The 18th annual Hearst Program in the Prevention of Child Maltreatment, will be held at the Fontana Center this September 2016 through January 2017. The program offers participating early career and transitioning professionals the opportunity to acquire or enhance the competencies, skills and insights necessary to effectively work with and for children and families who are at-risk of or involved in the child welfare system.

Participating social workers who take the course for continuing education contact hours will now receive 28 hours for completing the course! The program is open to non-social work professionals as well. The program will be filled on a first come first serve basis, so please apply and share this information as soon as possible!

Click on the links below for more information

[Program brochure for full details about the program's content and weekly speakers.](#)

[Program application including details regarding submission.](#)

[Foster Care](#)

[Columbia University Workplace Center Training and Technical Assistance on Youth Career Readiness](#)

The Division of Family Permanency Services is pleased to announce an opportunity for foster care agencies to receive training and technical assistance from the Workplace Center at Columbia School of Social Work to build the skills of foster care staff to improve employment services and outcomes for youth in foster care. Foster care agencies will have the opportunity to apply and ACS will select 5 agencies to participate in this initiative.

To learn more about this opportunity, please [click here to RSVP](#) for the webinar on June 9, 2016. In collaboration with the ACS Workforce Institute, the Workplace Center will work with the 5 selected care agencies to implement the Young Adult Work Opportunities for Rewarding Careers (YA WORC) model, which has been implemented with success in Rhode Island and California and is currently being implemented at two NYC foster care agencies.

[DCAS Civil Service 101 Training for Youth in Foster Care](#)

NYC Department of Citywide Administrative Services (DCAS) is holding a Civil Service 101 training for youth and case planners as part of the Civil Service Pathways for Youth Program (CSPYP). The CSPYP educates youth in foster care ages 17.5-21 about the civil service process and helps prepare them to take civil service exams and prepare for civil service careers. Participants earn up to \$1350.00. The program is NOW RECRUITING and the Civil Service 101 training is the perfect opportunity for both youth and staff to learn about the program and DCAS. To attend this exciting training, RSVP today. The next cohort of the Civil Service Pathways for Youth Program begins July 5th. [Download the program flyer.](#)

[Summer Youth Employment Program \(SYEP\) Youth Sign Up Event- June 2](#)

The ACS Office of Family Engagement and Youth Advocacy is preparing to welcome 100+ youth at the Youth Employment Opportunity event on June 2. This is an opportunity for youth to sign up for summer employment and internship programs. We hope that provider agency staff working with these youth have informed them of the event. If youth 16-24 are interested in working in various ACS units and borough offices, college interns, participating in the Civil Service Pathways for Youth Program, and the Rising Sons Program.

When: Thursday, June 2, 4:00pm- 7:00pm

Where: 150 William Street, 19th Floor (Bronx Room)

Youth must bring:

- Birth Certificate
- Social Security Card
- Report Card
- Working Papers (if under 18)
- Photo Identification- School, city, state, government issued
- Proof of Address- Agency Letter of Residency

If a young person has already completed and submitted an SYEP application to a vulnerable youth (VY) provider and is interested in working at ACS or participating in either of the workforce programs, they do not have to attend the event but must [complete a SYEP Tracking Form](#) and send it by June 2 to Meka Nurse at workforcedevelopment@acs.nyc.gov. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Courtney Ramirez at 212 442-5595. [Download the flyer for more](#)

information

School Social Workers Conference

The Columbia School of Social Work (CSSW) and the New York State School Social Workers' Association (NYSSWA) are proud to announce their second annual School Social Work Conference titled "Reframing the Dream: Helping Our Nation One Child at a Time."

When: Thursday, June 9, 8 a.m. to 5:05 p.m.

Where: Faculty House, 64 Morningside Drive at Columbia University [Directions »](#)

The conference will attempt to address national, state and city political initiatives that bring school social work to the forefront in education. The conference will also address evidence-based school social work, homelessness, hip-hop education, reality pedagogy and restorative practices. The cost is \$100 for members and \$150 for nonmembers. 6.5 contact hours will be available to all New York State-licensed social workers. You can contact the New York State School Social Workers' Association at info@nyssswa.org. [Register for the conference now »](#)

ACS Youth Webpage Features Resources for Youth in Care

All staff and providers who work with you youth are encouraged to share the ACS Youth Page receiving ACS services as well as helpful information for youth who have been in ACS care.

The site features topics such as education, training and employment opportunities, housing, planning for your future and much more. Share this great resource for youth you work with. Visit and share feedback by e-mail to pressoffice@acs.nyc.gov.

College & Career Corner 2016 – Final Session

Please share this information with eligible youth. The Office of Education Support and Policy Planning College and Career Corner connects 10th, 11th and 12th grade students in foster care with a peer mentor, assists with college application completion and offers career advice from peers who have received ACS services. College advisors from the Options Institute are available for consultations!

The final two session for the year will be held **June 15**, 4pm to 6pm, at 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.

[Download the flyer.](#)

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

Preventive Services

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

Juvenile Justice

[Save the Date - Juvenile Justice Reentry Conference Announcement - DATE CHANGE!](#)

ACS Division of Youth and Family Justice (DYFJ), in collaboration with CUNY John Jay College, the Office of Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention, the Center for Court Innovation, and the National Reentry Resource Center, is pleased to announce that the: NYC Juvenile Justice Reentry Conference: Building Foundations for Positive Youth Outcomes, will take place at John Jay College on **Tuesday, July 19, 2016**.

This full day conference is geared toward juvenile justice professionals and will include keynote speakers, engaging plenary sessions, networking opportunities, and enlightening and skill building workshops on best practices to support effective reentry planning to reduce recidivism and improve the wellbeing of New York City's vulnerable young people.

We invite all juvenile justice stakeholders to attend, especially our residential and aftercare provider staff working directly with youth and families, including: case planners, case managers, supervisors, program directors, therapists, social workers, education specialist, and school guidance counselors.

More detailed information will follow about special guests, speakers, and all workshops in the coming weeks. Feel free to share this information. Questions? Contact Stephanie Wilson, Director of Special Projects, 212-788-8340. [Download the flyer.](#)

Early Care and Education

[Engagement Network Meeting](#)

This session will place an emphasis on raising self-awareness, enhancing practice skills and developing working agreements in the area of cultural competency for our EarlyLearn NYC Programs.

Tuesday, June 7, 2016 from 9:30am & 1:30pm

ACS/ Nicholas Scopetta Children's Center
492 First Ave (Btwn 28th and 29th Street), Auditorium
New York, NY 10153

Specific objectives for the training include:

- get grounded in the concepts of cultural competence as they relate to the client/worker relationship.
- review key skills used to build culturally competent human services practice.
- learn the key elements of culturally competent programs and strategies to assess changing communities
- explore emerging challenges engaging new and established immigrant families and communities.
- explore new strategies to enhance their skills in this area.
- negotiate a working agreement to help strengthen culturally competent relationships with the families and communities they serve.

Target Audience: EarlyLearn NYC Family Service and Education Staff, Coordinators and, Directors.

Register at the following link: <https://acsece-elnyc-engagementnetworkmtg.eventbrite.com>

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