



Department of Community  
and Human Services

# YOUTH TOPICS NEWSLETTER

IN THE NOVEMBER 22 EDITION:

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## EVENTS

### **Titan Takeover (December 2)**

The Alexandria Campaign on Adolescent Pregnancy's *Keepit360 Club* and the Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition of Alexandria's *Above the Influence Club* are hosting a special Holiday Teen Night featuring holiday activities and games, basketball, a cookie decorating station, DJ, and photo booth. Wear an ugly holiday sweater to be entered into a gift card raffle. The event will take place from 7 – 10 p.m. at Cora Kelly Recreation Center (25 W. Reed Avenue). To attend, text "Titan" to 30644 or email [Kim Hurley](#).

### **Scottish Christmas Walk Parade (December 3)**

The [parade](#) begins at 11 a.m. at St. Asaph and Wolfe Streets and conclude at Market Square with a massed band concert.

### **Torpedo Factory Holiday Festival (December 3)**

The Torpedo Factory will be the [afternoon destination](#) after the 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Scottish Christmas Walk Parade and before the 17th Annual Alexandria Holiday Boat Parade of Lights, which floats past the Torpedo Factory's riverfront entrance. Shoppers will be welcomed into the studios of Torpedo Factory artists to consider original gifts of art such as handmade jewelry and ornaments, ceramics, couture finds, *objet d'art*, and other fine works. Special holiday promotions and discounts will be offered by dozens of artists and galleries. The afternoon will feature a children's scavenger hunt, live music with the Alexandria Choral Society and Braddock Brass, and a visit from Santa. Admission to the Holiday Festival is free. Festivities run 2 – 6 pm, but the doors will stay open until 9 pm to welcome visitors in from the waterfront.

### **Holiday Boat Parade of Lights (December 3)**

Alexandria's harbor will light up as dozens of illuminated boats cruise the Potomac River at the historic waterfront beginning at 5:30 p.m. The [event](#) is free.

### **SAPCA & ACAP Joint Community Meeting (December 6)**

The Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition of Alexandria and the Alexandria Campaign on Adolescent Pregnancy will host a [community forum](#) on the Alexandria Developmental Assets data. The forum is from 4:30 – 6:30 p.m. at the Durant Center ((1605 Cameron Street). Please [register](#) by December 2.

### **Beyond the Classroom: Strategies for Integrating the Worlds of Work and School (December 7)**

Work-based learning models like apprenticeship, structured internships, and cooperative education can help young people stay engaged with the worlds of school and work. An event sponsored by New America will release a new report by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) that explores strategies for building effective work-based learning systems. The report identifies best practices in work-based learning and strategies for engaging employers. The event from 2 – 3:30 p.m. will take place at 740 15<sup>th</sup> Street N.W., Suite 900. Live streaming will be available on the New America [website](#).

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## CAREERS/VOLUNTEERISM

### **American Youth Policy Forum Spring/Summer Internships**

AYPF is now accepting [applications](#) for spring and summer internships. Interns engage in a variety of activities, including researching and analyzing data, writing fact sheets and summaries, and planning and assisting with forums and briefings on Capitol Hill. In addition, interns benefit from ample opportunities to interact with a national network of leading researchers, practitioners, and policymakers through participation in meetings and events in Washington, D.C. The application process is rolling.

### **Elaine Chapin Scholarship Fund**

The program supports the postsecondary education of students affected by multiple sclerosis (either directly or as a family member) by awarding \$1,000 scholarships to deserving students. Recipients will be chosen on the basis of financial need, academic standing, and the degree to which multiple sclerosis has affected their lives. Applicants must be a citizen of the United States who plans to enroll or is enrolled in an undergraduate course of study at an accredited two or four-year college, university, vocational, or technical school in the U.S. The deadline for [applications](#) is April 30, 2017.

### **Sigma Xi Student Science and Engineering Research Grants**

Through the Sigma Xi Grants-in-Aid of Research program, the society of research scientists and engineers awards [grants](#) of up to \$1,000 to students from all areas of the sciences and engineering; up to \$5,000 for astronomy research, and \$2,500 for vision-related research. Funding can support travel expenses or non-standard laboratory equipment necessary to complete a specific research project. While membership in Sigma Xi is not a requirement for applying for a grant through the program, approximately 75% of funds are restricted to dues-paying student members or students whose project advisor is a dues-paying member. Students from any country are eligible to receive funding. Applications are due March 15, 2017.

### **International Exchange Program**

American Music Abroad, a partnership of American Voices and the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, is an [international exchange program](#) designed to share America's musical contributions and diverse culture with audiences around the world. Approximately ten ensembles are selected each year to conduct a month-long regional cultural exchange tour in Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe, Central and South America, or the Middle East. As part of their program activities, selected ensembles will perform high-profile public concerts, engage in intensive collaborations with local musicians, lead jam sessions, appear in local media, and offer educational activities such as workshops, music business training for aspiring musicians, and motivational and education programs for underserved youth. Musicians will also feature their music and share their expertise through Skype chats and Internet radio broadcasts on AMA Radio. The State Department funds international travel, hotels, and an allowance for meals and incidental expenses. In addition, a tour honorarium of \$200 per day is awarded to each individual musician in an ensemble. Participating musicians must be at least 18 years of age, a citizen of the United States, and either hold or be able to obtain a valid U.S. passport. Applications are due January 27, 2017.

### **Climate Crisis, Inequality Fellowships**

The Nathan Cummings Foundation focuses on finding solutions to the two biggest problems of our time — the climate crisis and growing inequality. The foundation is seeking applications for the [Nathan Cummings Foundation Fellowship Program](#), which provides three individuals with up to \$150,000 each to pursue a visionary social justice, economic justice, and/ or climate change objective for up to eighteen months. Fellowship applications should align with at least one of the foundation's focus areas within these two major issue areas: inclusive clean economy; racial and economic justice; corporate and political accountability; and voice, creativity and culture. The NCF Fellowship welcomes a diverse pool of applicants representing practitioners in a variety of fields. The deadline is December 12.

### **Kinship Conservation Fellows**

The [Kinship Conservation Fellows](#) is an environmental leadership program that emphasizes market-based solutions to environmental problems. Fellowships provide month-long, in-residence programming delivered by a faculty of global experts. Each fellow will receive a \$6,000 stipend and lodging for one month. The program will be held on the campus of Western Washington University in Bellingham, Washington from June 25 - July 26, 2017. Applicants must be a mid-career conservation professional (at least five years of experience) familiar with market-based mechanisms, and demonstrate leadership, innovative thinking, and mission-driven achievements. Applications are due January 16, 2017.

### **Open Society Fellowship**

The Open Society Fellowship invites proposals relevant to the following propositions: 1) Those who carry out human rights analysis and reporting have been seduced by legal frameworks and largely ignore imbalances of power that lead to rights violations; 2) Political leaders increasingly play on fears that human rights are a Trojan Horse, threatening societies by promising rights to dangerous "others." Applicants are invited to dispute, substantiate, or otherwise engage with one or both of these statements in their submissions. The program accepts proposals from anywhere in the world. Full-time fellows based in the United States will receive a stipend of \$80,000 or \$100,000, depending on work experience, seniority, and current income. Stipends will be prorated for part-time fellows. In addition to the stipend, fellows will receive a project budget. [Letters of Inquiry](#) must be received no later than March 1, 2017. Upon review, selected applicants will be invited to submit a complete application by March 24, 2017.

### **Retirement Research Projects for Junior Scholars**

The Center for Retirement Research at Boston College sponsors the annual Steven H. Sandell Grant Program for scholars in the field of retirement research and policy. The program provides opportunities for junior scholars from all academic disciplines to pursue cutting-edge projects on retirement income issues. Priority areas include Social Security; macroeconomic analyses of Social Security; wealth and retirement income; program interactions; international research; and demographic research. Up to five grants of \$45,000 each will be awarded. Grant recipients may be required to present their work to the Social Security Administration in Washington, D.C., or Baltimore. [Proposals](#) are due January 31, 2017.

### **Faculty Scholars Program**

The Josiah Macy, Jr. Foundation, which supports projects that broaden and improve health professional education, has issued a Call for Applications for Macy Faculty Scholars, an annual [program](#) designed to identify and nurture the careers of promising educational innovators in medicine and nursing. Macy Scholars are expected to implement new educational innovations at their home institutions and participate in career-development activities. Scholars will receive salary support of up to \$100,000 per year for two years. An informational [webinar](#) is scheduled for December 13. Applications are due February 15.

### **Carillonneurs Guild Scholarships**

The Guild of Carillonneurs in North America is dedicated to promoting the carillon art. It supports the development of proficient carillonneurs and encourages the building of new carillons, the improvement of existing installations, and the composition and distribution of carillon music. GCNA invites applications for a [scholarship](#) that affords the opportunity to pursue studies in North American carillon performance, composition, music history, or instrument design. The scholarship is open to all North Americans. Applications are due March 1.

### **Wilbur Awards**

The [award](#) of the Religion Communicators Council recognizes outstanding coverage and representation of faith and religion in the media. The prize is designed to honor excellence by individuals working in secular media — print and online journalism, book publishing, broadcasting, and motion pictures — in communicating religious issues, positive values, and themes.

### **Fellowship for Jewish Scholars**

The [program](#) of the Posen Family Foundation supports doctoral students in modern Jewish history and culture. Designed to provide early career support, the two-year fellowships include opportunities to participate in public engagement events and attend annual gatherings of noted academics and writers. All applicants should have completed their comprehensive exams, have their dissertation prospectus approved before April 1, 2016, and have approximately two years left before completion of the dissertation. Each fellow will receive a total of \$40,000 over two years. Applications are due January 15, 2017.

### **Young Jewish Humanitarian Prize**

The [Charles Bronfman Prize](#) celebrates the vision and endeavor of an individual (or group of individuals) under the age of 50 whose humanitarian work has contributed significantly to the betterment of the world. The prize is designed to bring public recognition to young, dynamic individuals whose Jewish values infuse their humanitarian accomplishments and provide inspiration to future generations. The prize accepts nominations from around the world in all areas of humanitarian endeavor across a broad spectrum of disciplines, including but not limited to medicine and science, education, human rights, conflict resolution, community development, and compassionate care. Nominees should be individuals or teams (not organizations). While nominees must self-identify as Jewish,

their endeavors may be universal, contributing to the betterment of the world at large. The prize recipient(s) will receive an award of \$100,000. The deadline is January 12, 2017.

### **Hillman Prize**

The annual program of the Sidney Hillman Foundation honors investigative journalism and commentary in the public interest. [Prizes](#) will be awarded for work produced, published, broadcast, or exhibited in 2016. Categories include books (nonfiction); newspaper reporting (print or online); magazine reporting (print or online); broadcast journalism (video or radio programs longer than twenty minutes and documentary film); web journalism (online multimedia reporting by an individual or an institution; should have a substantial visual component as well as text); and opinion journalism (commentary and analysis in any medium). Winners will be announced in April 2017. Each winner will receive a \$5,000 prize and a certificate at the foundation's awards ceremony and cocktail reception in New York City; travel expenses will be provided. The contest is open to journalists and subjects worldwide, although submitted work must have been published in the United States. Nominations are due January 30, 2017.

### **SAPCA November Newsletter**

Among the features of the latest [newsletter](#) is an article about the Prescription Drug Take Back Day. A total of 310 pounds of prescription drugs were collected at three collection sites.

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## **RESEARCH & RESOURCES**

### **ACPS and Alexandria Firefighters and Sheriff's Office Launch 'Community Heroes Read Across Alexandria'**

A new three-year [initiative](#) will afford members of the Alexandria Fire Department, the Black Fire Service Professionals of Alexandria, and the Alexandria Sheriff's Office the opportunity to serve as guest readers in ACPS elementary classrooms. In addition to promoting the importance of literacy, the community heroes serve as positive role models for students.

### **ACPS Appoints T.C. Alum and Founder of the Hall of Fame as Director of Student Activities**

ACPS has [appointed](#) T.C. Williams alum, administrator and founding member and chair of the Athletic Hall of Fame Mark Eisenhower as the Director of Student Activities. Eisenhower will oversee all extracurricular activities as well as athletic teams, training and competitive games at T.C. Williams King Street and Minnie Howard campuses as well as the middle schools. He will pay particular attention to connecting students to the academic curriculum through engagement in extracurricular activities.

### **Virginia's Schools Are Growing More Racially and Economically Segregated**

A [report](#) by the Commonwealth Institute found Virginia's schools have grown more racially and economically segregated during the past decade, with the number of students attending schools that are considered racially and economically isolated doubling from 2003 to 2014 – from about 36,000 to more than 74,000. The report defined an isolated school as one where more than 75% of the students are black or Hispanic and more than 75% of students qualify for free or reduced-price meals, an indicator of poverty. The City of Alexandria, where more than half of the city's public school students qualify for free or reduced-price meals, had five schools in the isolated category.

### **Principal Jesse Dingle Announces Plans to Leave T.C. Williams at the End of the School Year**

Dr. Jesse Dingle's will be leaving T.C. Williams High School at the end of the school year.

### **Meet Your Parent Liaisons**

ACPS [Parent Liaisons](#) help parents understand school policies and school report cards; address issues and concerns; facilitate collaboration between parents and school staff, and connect parents with community resources.

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## EDUCATION

### Early Childhood Education

#### Follow-up to Tennessee Pre-K Study Raises Questions About Program's Effects

Researchers at Vanderbilt University released a [study](#) last year showing children who attended Tennessee's state-funded prekindergarten program not only lost their early gains, but by 3<sup>rd</sup> grade they were performing worse on some academic and behavioral measures than those who did not enroll in state pre-K. A preliminary look at more results on measures such as state test scores, attendance, behavioral infractions, and grade retention revealed children who attended the Tennessee pre-K program were performing the same as, or worse than, children who had not enrolled in the program.

#### Taking Stock of Head Start in Southern States

All Head Start programs are required to submit annual program information reports to the federal Office of Head Start. [A Portrait of Head Start in the South](#) draws on the reports that were submitted by Head Start programs operating in Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and West Virginia. One interesting fact is that Head Start children in southern states are poorer than Head Start children nationwide—about 81% of enrollees in southern states qualified for Head Start because they came from families that have incomes equal to or below the federal poverty line (which in 2016 is \$24,300 a year for a family of four). Nationally, about 72% of children are qualified for Head Start by virtue of their family's income.

#### Tax Increases for Preschool Pass in Ohio Cities, Fail in Missouri

Residents in Cincinnati and Dayton approved [tax measures](#) that will provide money for early-childhood education programs. A cigarette tax that would have earmarked money for early learning that was backed by Big Tobacco failed in Missouri.

#### Federal Strategies Offered on Supporting Homeless Families with Young Children

Having a young child, with the attendant disruption in family and work schedules and the need for child care, often pushes low-income families to the financial brink. Research shows that individuals are most likely to experience homelessness in infancy up to age 1. The next most likely group to live in shelters or transitional housing is children ages 1 to 5. Recognizing these concerns, the federal departments of Education, Health and Human Services, and Housing and Urban development have released a [joint policy statement](#) that offers best practices for local and state organizations to support homeless families with young children. The overall theme is organizations must work together to support vulnerable families. That may mean, for example, that housing providers can help connect families with child-care assistance, programs such as Head Start, or early-intervention programs that are funded through the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

### Schools

#### Get to Know Donald Trump's Education Transition Team

President-elect Donald Trump's [education transition team](#) will help set the policy course—and likely even appoint key personnel—for the new administration. Their backgrounds could provide clues on the direction the Trump administration wants to go on K-12. Gerard Robinson, Virginia Secretary of Education under Governor Bob McDonnell, is a member of the team.

#### Troubled by Post-Election Climate, K-12 Groups to Issue “Call to Action”

A group of education-related organizations are calling on school leaders and educators to respond to numerous reports of violence, harassment, and intimidation that have occurred since the presidential election by publicly "reaffirm[ing] the inclusive values that are the foundation of healthy learning cultures". The organizations issuing the [call to action](#) are: the American Association of School Administrators (AASA), the School Superintendents Association; the American School Counselor Association; GLSEN, an LGBT student group; the National Association of Elementary School Principals; the National Association of Secondary School Principals; National PTA; the National School Boards Association; the National Association of School Psychologists; and the National Association of Independent Schools.

#### Why Most Parents Home School: Safety, Drugs, and Peer Pressure, Study Finds

The U.S. Department of Education's National Center for Education Statistics released a [report](#) that estimates the number of home schoolers in the U.S. as well as other key characteristics about the group. It estimated 1.8 million U.S. students are homeschooled: 83% of home schoolers are white; 41% live in rural areas; 28% in suburbs; 21% in

cities, and 10% live in towns. A large majority of home schooling parents said they chose to home school their children because of concerns over the environment in their original schools. Ninety-one percent said factors such as safety, drugs, or negative peer pressure helped drive them to home school their children. More than 30% of middle and high school home schoolers took online courses. Of those, 25% took courses through a district school, 22% from a charter school, and 21% through a private school.

### **Massachusetts Votes Reject Ballot Question on Charter Schools**

A majority of Massachusetts voters (62%) [rejected](#) a proposal to authorize up to twelve new charter schools in the state each year. The vote is a major victory for teachers unions and civil rights organizations, which argued charters are diverting too much money and attention from traditional public schools that serve the overwhelming majority of students.

### **EAA to Pay \$2.25 Million to Detroit District, Return Schools by July**

Detroit's floundering Education Achievement Authority will return its schools to the city's main school system and pay \$2.25 million (a fraction of what it originally owed) to settle its debts. The EAA's schools will be folded into Detroit Public Schools Community District by July 1, 2017. The reunification of schools was expected under legislation approved by lawmakers in June.

### **Many Students 'Stop Out' of High School, Studies Find**

Of the students who entered high school in 2009, fewer than 3% were no longer in school when researchers from the National Center for Education Statistics' High School Longitudinal Study checked in 2012. But nearly 7% of the 2009 freshmen had "[stopped out](#)"—left school for four weeks or more at some point in grades 9-11, only to have returned by 2012. The federal study found that students in the poorest 20% of families nationwide were generally more likely than those from other income groups to both stop out or drop out. They were more than twice as likely to stop school briefly, 12.2% versus 4.7 percent who left school permanently.

### **New Survey Details How Teachers Use Their Own Money to Fill in Equity Gaps**

Scholastic, the education publishing company, surveyed 4,721 public school educators (3,694 teachers, including 76 school librarians, and 1,027 principals) for its [Teacher & Principal School Report](#). On average, teachers who were surveyed spent \$530 of their own money on classroom items in the past year. Teachers in high-poverty schools spent nearly 40% more—an average of \$672.

### **California Voters Repeal Ban on Bilingual Education**

California voters rolled back a law passed 18 years ago that required "[English-only](#)" instruction for all students, including those who are not native speakers of the language. The Associated Press reported more than 72% of voters supported the ballot measure. The passage of Proposition 58 means that the state's public schools are now free of any restrictions on using various forms of bilingual education to teach the state's 1.5 million English-language learners.

### **Study: Current, Former ELLs Take Fewer Advance College-Prep Classes**

A [study](#) by the Regional Education Laboratory Northwest examined barriers that prevent English-language-learner students from taking more college-preparatory coursework, finding that academic preparation accounts for much of the difference in participation and performance. The researchers also found that current and former ELL students are less likely to complete Algebra I in middle school. Students who pass the course in high school are less likely to take higher-level math courses such as trigonometry, statistics, and calculus

### **Legal Backgrounder on Title IX and Transgender Students**

The U.S. Supreme Court has agreed to hear the case of *Gloucester County School Board v. G.G.*, which involves a high school senior who was born female but now identifies as male. He is seeking to use the restroom corresponding with his gender identity, but the Virginia school district adopted a policy requiring that students use restrooms limited to their "biological gender." A central issue in the case is the proper interpretation of a federal regulation under Title IX. *EdWeek* presented some of the [key background points](#) in the debate.

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## YOUTH WELL-BEING

### **The Digital Lives of African-American Tweens, Teens, and Parents: Innovating and Learning with Technology**

A [study](#) based on a national survey of 1,000 pairs of African-American teenagers and their parents found young African-Americans are passionate about their smartphones. Eighty percent of survey respondents described them as "very important" to their everyday lives. But when it comes to completing schoolwork or preparing college or job applications, young African-Americans reported strong preferences for computers over mobile devices. While more than three-fourths of survey respondents said they used a computer or mobile device to edit pictures and videos and watch online tutorials, less than 1 in 5 said the same about creating an app or website, or writing computer code. The researchers attributed those disparities to a lack of exposure and opportunity, both inside and outside of school.

### **In Their Words: Why Business Leaders Support CTE, Career Pathways and Career Academies**

Advance CTE and Ford Next Generation Learning partnered to host two roundtables with employers who are deeply involved in Career and Technical Education (CTE) in their communities to learn more about why and how employers can support and strengthen CTE programs. Nashville and Pinellas County, the two roundtable sites, are recognized by Ford Next General Learning as model communities. Drawing on these roundtables and the voices and perspectives of the participating business leaders, a [brief](#) offers successful strategies and recommendations for other communities as they consider employer engagement and recruitment strategies.

### **Social Work Movement Seeks to Build Financial Capability, Scale Up Best Practices for Youth**

Youth aging out of foster care need information about finances and social workers need to be trained to help them, said educators at a social work conference in Atlanta. Margaret Sherraden, professor of social work at the University of Missouri-St. Louis, was among presenters at the conference of the Council on Social Work Education. Sherraden and Julie Birkenmaier (a social work professor at Saint Louis University) are part of a movement in social work education to build [financial capability](#) among social workers and their clients. They have created a curriculum and, along with J. Michael Collins, co-authored a textbook that will be released next year.

### **Big Safety Campaign in Chicago Uses Wide-scale Mentoring to Help Teens Reduce Reactivity**

A major public safety [campaign](#) designed to cut crime in Chicago's most violent neighborhoods relies heavily on mentoring and group work with teens. Mayor Rahm Emmanuel announced the campaign earlier this fall, saying the city would add about 1,000 law enforcement officers and beef up police training and technology. The effort also includes a \$36 million public-private initiative to expand the mentoring program Becoming a Man to 7,200 boys as well as expand a smaller program for girls, Working on Womanhood, to 1,300 girls. Ultimately the mayor wants to provide a mentor to every 8<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> grade boy in public school in the city's 20 most violent communities.

### **After Election, Students Express a Mix of Emotions**

When teachers walked into their classrooms the morning after Donald Trump claimed the presidency, they had their [work](#) cut out for them. Some students were jubilant, with many wearing "Make America Great Again" hats and shirts in celebration. Others were angry and upset, with some crying in class. Immigrant students, or those from immigrant families, expressed fear that they or their family members would be deported. In a handful of schools, including in Berkeley, Calif.; Phoenix; and Des Moines, Iowa, students—and in some cases, teachers—staged walkouts in protest of the Republican nominee's win. Educators even reported physical outbursts and confrontations as emotions ran high.

### **Safety Central**

The National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC) has launched a free child safety app to help parents and law enforcement when a child goes missing. The app, [Safety Central](#), provides the latest news, media, and child safety tips from NCMEC. It is designed as a digital child ID kit that allows parents to save children's information, including photos and digital fingerprint images. It also includes a search feature for current missing children.

### **Health**

#### **Three-Fourths of U.S. Children Aren't Meeting Physical-Activity Guidelines**

According to a [report card](#) by the National Physical Activity Plan Alliance, three-fourths of children across the United States are not meeting the recommended amount of physical activity per week. The World Health Organization and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services suggest children participate in 60 minutes of daily moderate-to-vigorous physical activity, such as running or swimming, along with vigorous-intensity activity at least

three days per week. Based on data from the 2005-06 National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (the latest national report with up-to-date physical-activity data using accelerometers), just over one-fifth of youths between the ages of 6 and 19 participated in 60 minutes of moderate-to-vigorous physical activity at least five days per week. Self-reported data from the 2015 Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System painted a far more optimistic picture about physical activity among high schoolers, as 58% of boys and 39% of girls reported participating in at least 60 minutes of physical activity on five or more days in a given week. However, because those figures are self-reported rather than based off a device such as an accelerometer, the National Physical Activity Plan Alliance authors note there is reason to be skeptical about their accuracy.

### **NBA Unveils Rest, Participation Guidelines for Youth-Basketball Players**

The National Basketball Association and USA Basketball unveiled a set of [guidelines](#) aimed at reducing burnout and overuse injuries in youth basketball players.

### **Depression is a Deadly Growing Threat to Our Youth: Time to Rally**

An [article](#) in the November issue of *Pediatrics* sounds the alarm with two critical public health updates: depression is significantly on the rise in adolescents. Despite this disturbing development, the percentage of young people with a history of past-year major depressive episodes seen by primary care providers for depression care is only about 10% and has not risen appreciably in the past decade. Untreated youth depression is an urgent concern since suicide is the second leading cause of death for adolescents aged 15 to 19 years.

### **Barriers to Wellness: Voices and Views from Young People in Five Cities**

Youth of color represent the fastest growing segment of the U.S. child population and make up the majority of the youth population in about half of the 100 largest U.S. cities. Fear (along with inequitable access to the social supports, opportunities and experiences essential for healthy development) place this group at increased risk for poor health outcomes. To better understand the obstacles experienced by young people of color, the Center for Promise (CFP) implemented a youth-led health and wellness [assessment](#) in five cities: Boston, Chicago, Denver, Philadelphia, and St. Paul.

### **Autistic Children Over-Diagnosed with ADHS, Study Suggests**

A [study](#) conducted by the Center for Autism Research at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia found children with autism may be over-diagnosed with ADHD. Teachers and parents who use the screening tool to assess children for attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) may mistake autism-related social impairments for attention problems, which could affect the services and treatments that autistic children receive.

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## **WEBINARS**

### **Identifying Racial and Ethnic Disparities in the Criminal and Juvenile Justice Systems through Data Collection (November 29, 2:30 – 4 p.m.)**

The [webinar](#) will discuss how states and communities can use data to identify racial and ethnic disparities in their juvenile and criminal justice systems. Participants will learn about national trends and how they can collect, analyze, and use data at the local level to guide policies and practices to reduce disparities. The webinar is geared for juvenile and adult correctional agencies, reentry coordinators, probation and parole staff, and other stakeholders.

### **Health Data for City Leaders: Where to Find It, How to Use It, and Why It's Important (December 6, 1 - 2 p.m.)**

The focus of the web forum is ways cities can use data more efficiently to improve the health and well-being of all communities. The [webinar](#) will feature experts from Data Across Sectors for Health (DASH) and Community Commons, who will share data tools and resources that support efforts to build a Culture of Health. Leaders from Seattle, Washington and Santa Monica, California will also share latest trends, best practices, and lessons learned from their respective initiatives.

### **MBK Municipal Leadership: Building Sustainable Infrastructures (December 7, 2 – 3:30 p.m.)**

Over 250 municipal leaders accepted the MBK Community Challenge, which provides local leaders a playbook for taking immediate action to demonstrate a commitment to improving outcomes for boys and men of color. From

identifying where to house the effort and who will lead the effort to how to build the initiative's long-term capacity, the [webinar](#) will highlight strategies that local leaders are taking to sustain their MBK efforts.

**Leveraging Youth Voice to Support Pathways for Vulnerable Youth (December 7, 3:30 – 4:45 p.m.)**

Young people are often their own best advocates and their voices can be leveraged to promote pathways to long-term success. Youth advocacy and civic engagement is especially powerful for vulnerable populations (such as youth who are homeless, in foster care, or justice-involved) who can draw upon their own experiences to impact change. The [webinar](#) will feature the voices of young people and highlight three programs (Foster Youth in Action, UTEC, The Mockingbird Society) that are effectively leveraging youth voice and advocacy to promote policy change and support youth development, putting youth on pathways to success in education, work, and civic life.

**Childhood Trauma and Community Resilience: What You Need to Know to Build a Safer and Healthier City (On Demand)**

In a two-webinar series, the NLC's Institute for Youth, Education, and Families explored ways cities can help children overcome childhood trauma caused by Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES). The focus of the first webinar, [Childhood Trauma and Community Resilience: What You Need to Know to Build a Safer and Healthier City](#) was how trauma-informed policies and practices can make cities safer and promote young people's full and healthy development. The second webinar, [Childhood Trauma and Early Childhood Development](#), highlighted groundbreaking work on the impact of early life adversity on child growth and development.

**Accountability for Alternative Education: Lessons Learned from States and Districts (On Demand)**

As states and districts across the country strive to create a robust set of educational options that include alternative settings, they must be able to effectively collect and use the most relevant and reliable data to develop accountability systems – systems that should be responsive to the needs of students educated in alternative settings. In an American Youth Policy Forum [webinar](#), presenters explored the challenges and opportunities of accountability for alternative education along with promising practices from states and districts that have developed accountability measures and systems that are inclusive of all students in all types of educational settings.

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