

Or you can send it to
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NEWS FROM AROUND THE COUNTRY

>>Teens Help Teach Younger Peers to Avoid Violence<<
According to Reuters Health (Oct. 31, 2000)A program
in which inner city adolescents teach 7 to 13 year olds
about avoiding gang activity, drugs, and violent behavior
appears to be a win-win situation, benefitting both
"teachers" and students. The 18-month study of Children
Teaching Children shows those taught appeared to be less
accepting of violence than did their peers who did not
receive the lessons. According to Chicago Youth Program
Director Joseph DiCara, the "teacher-students" also benefit
from the program. Overall they have lower rates of
pregnancy, delinquency, and are more likely to go to
college or trade school, and graduate than their peers. In
addition the program recruits medical and law student
volunteers to provide teen teachers the knowledge they
need to design classes for younger kids.

>>School Violence Drops<<
From the third Annual Report on School Safety
(Departments of Education and Justice, October 26, 2000).
Overall school crime continues to drop, consistent with a
declining crime rate against students outside of school. In
addition, the findings show a decline in the percentage of
high school-aged students who reported carrying a weapon
to school 7% in 1999, down from 12% in 1993. Finally,
violent deaths at school are extremely rare 34 violent
deaths were reported in 1998-99, compared to the high of
49 deaths in 1995-96. See
<http://www.ed.gov/offices/OESE/SDFS/publications.html>
Also see related report below.

>>Crime in Schools Declines<<
(From Justice Department's Bureau of Justice Statistics and the Department
of Education's National Center for Education Statistics, "Indicators of
School Crime and Safety 2000"). The report indicates that between 1992
and 1998 violent victimization rates at schools dropped from 48 crimes per
1,000 students to 43 per 1,000. The percentage of students who said they
were victims of crimes (including theft or violent crimes) at school
decreased between 1995 and 1999 from 10% to 8%. See
<http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2001017>

>>NIMH Expands National Outreach Partnership<<
The NIMH recently named 25 Outreach Partners for its
Constituency Outreach and Education Program, which

enlists State organizations in a nationwide partnership to help close the gap between mental health research and services. This brings the number of Partners to 43. Each Outreach Partner conducts a mental health communications program for the general public and health professionals, through media relations, statewide coalition building, and outreach to minorities and special populations such as the youth and elderly. See <http://www.outreach.nimh.nih.gov>

>>Medicaid Freeze Affects Schools<<

Hundreds of school districts are not getting reimbursed for millions of dollars in health services because federal officials say they have systematically overcharged the Medicaid program intended to serve poor and disabled school children. See <http://www.edweek.org/ew/ewstory.cfm?slug=07medicaid.h20>

>>High Schools Join Community College Push<<

Reformers are looking to community colleges as a resource in addressing an array of high school ills from overcrowding to "senioritis." The aim is to ease crowding in high schools, make college vocational classes available to younger students, give ambitious students a way to start college early and discourage students from slacking off in the last year of high school. The hope also is to increase interest in college by giving the high schoolers early exposure. See <http://www.latimes.com/news/learning/20001031/t000104126.html>

>>Comprehensive School Reform Evaluation Receives Funding<<

Secretary Riley recently announced the award of \$21 million in grants to six research organizations to study the success of comprehensive school reform models. The studies will examine programs in terms of (1) effectiveness in improving achievement for all students, (2) improvement in teaching specific types of students and in specific settings; and (3) the conditions necessary for effective implementation. See <http://www.ed.gov/PressReleases/10-2000/101700a.html>

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Dilbert's Rules of Order

Needing someone is like needing a parachute. If they aren't there the first time, chances are you won't be needing them again.

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~~~~~RECENT PUBLICATIONS~~~~~

\*CHILDREN'S MENTAL & PHYSICAL HEALTH<=<=<=<=<

"Compact Clinicals . . . condensed reviews for professionals" is a series

developed to provide mental health practitioners with "easy-to-read treatment descriptions and examples." Focused on the "latest assessment and treatment strategies," the series has published small reference-type books on Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder, Conduct Disorders, among others. Contact 816/587-0044.

"Racial and Ethnic Differences in Children's Access to Care" by R. Weinick & N. Krauss (2000). American Journal of Public Health, 90, 11-14. Explores reasons for racial and ethnic differences in children's access to care. Finds that black and Hispanic children are at a substantial disadvantage compared with whites, even when accounting for health insurance and SES.

"Ready Resources Investing Welfare Funds in Teen Pregnancy Prevention" by I. Sawhill & J. Hutchins (2000). A new guide on investing welfare funds in teen pregnancy prevention. See <http://www.teenpregnancy.org/campub.htm>

"Youth Development Issues, Challenges, and Directions" by Youth Development (2000). Focuses on the historical, political, and social context for "positive youth development" as a guiding idea in youth policy, evidence for this approach, and the institutional challenges to its success. See <http://www.ppv.org/content/reports/youthdevvolt.html>

"A Child's Simple Guide Through Grief" by A. Cunningham (2000). Aims to help children through the grieving process after losing a loved one. Jalmar Press.

#### \*DELINQUENCY, VIOLENCE, & SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION<=<=<=<

"Youth at Risk A Prevention Resource for Counselors, Teachers, and Parents, 3rd Ed." by D. Capuzzi & D. Gross. Focuses on strategic prevention with at-risk populations, explores destructive behavior and school violence, and promotes resiliency. Contact American Counseling Association, 800/422-2648.

Two resources from the Office of Juvenile Justice

- (1) "Juvenile Mentoring Program A Progress Review" Describes OJJDP's Juvenile Mentoring Program (JUMP) which provides one-to-one mentoring for youth at risk for delinquency, gang involvement, education failure, or dropping out of school. See <http://www.ojjdp.ncjrs.org/about/press/ojj970918.html>
- (2) "Youth Gangs in Schools" This Youth Gang Series Bulletin exams characteristics of gangs in schools, reasons for greater gang prevalence in some schools, and the impact of gangs on victimization at school. See <http://www.ncjrs.org/pdffiles1/ojjdp/183015.pdf>

#### \*FAMILY, COMMUNITY, & SCHOOLS<=<=<=<

"Beyond the BellA Toolkit for Creating Effective After-School Programs" by North Central Regional Educational Laboratory (2000). Contact Ph800/356-2735; Fax630/571-4716; <http://www.ncrel.org>

"Child Care Patterns for School-Age Children with Employed Mothers" by J. Capizzano & G. Adams (of the Urban Institute) & K. Tout (of Child Trends) (2000). Shows how younger children and children in low-income families face the greatest challenges while in self-care and may have the most to gain from structured, supervised activities. <http://www.urban.org/news/pressrel/pr000911.html>

"Building Healthy Individuals, Families, and Communities" by Youth Development (2000). Overviews the Creating Lasting Family Connections drug and alcohol prevention program. Contact 212/620-8000; <http://www.wkap.com>

"Education = Success Empowering Hispanic Youths and Adults" by A.P. Carnevale (2000). Compares whites and Hispanics on academic achievement, job equality, and skill level. Free from Educational Testing Service 609/734-5050.

"Conversamos?" by the National Education Association (2000). A Spanish-language parent-child communication program, an adaptation of the successful program, "Can We Talk?" Contact 800/229-4200; <http://www.canwetalk.org>

"Adults Do Matter to Kids The Potential Role of an Adult Mentor in Influencing High-Risk Behaviors in Adolescents" by Beier et al., Archives of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine, April 2000. Shows the impact of "a parent or trustworthy adult". Free online <http://archpedi.ama-assn.org/issues/v154n4/full/poa9162.html>

"Working Together for Reliable School Reform" by A. Datnow & S. Stringfield (2000). Synthesizes findings from 16 diverse studies of schools implementing school reform programs. Download <http://www.aft.org/edissues/downloads/working.pdf>

Two publications from the Council for Chief State School Officers (2000). Available for download at <http://www.ccsso.org/>

- (1) "Extended Learning Initiatives Opportunities and Implementation Challenges" Describes six state-sponsored extended learning initiatives.
- (2) "Current State and Local Initiatives to Support Student Learning Early Childhood Programs and Innovative Programs to Better Address the Needs of Youth" Discusses early childhood education initiatives and approaches to increase school safety.

"Schools as Centers of Community A Citizen's Guide for Planning and Design" by US Dept. of Education (2000). Helps educators, planners

and community members provide effective educational facilities to serve their communities.

Contact 800/872-5327; fax 301/470-1244; edpubs@inet.ed.gov

\*POLICY & STATISTICS<=<=<=<

"Opportunities to Use Medicaid in Support of Maternal and Child Health Services" by Health Resources and Services Administration (2000). Discusses Medicaid policy for School-based health service coverage. For a fact sheet, see <http://www.hrsa.gov/medicaidprimer>

"America's Children 2000" a report by the Interagency Forum on Child and Family Statistics. Focuses on children's economic security, health, behavior and social environment, and education. <http://www.childstats.gov/ac2000/ac00.asp>

"Trends in the Well-Being of America's Children and Youth 1999" by US Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Education (2000). Describes changes in risk-taking among high school students and the co-occurrence of teen risk behaviors. <http://www.gpo.gov>

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Dilbert's Rules of Order

"I don't suffer from stress. I am a carrier."

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^^^UPCOMING INITIATIVES, CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS^^^

"National Multicultural Conference and Summit II"  
January, 25-26, 2001 in Santa Barbara, CA. Theme The psychology of race/ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation and disability intersections, divergence and convergence. Contact <http://www.apa.org/conf.html> or (303) 652-9154.

"National Leadership Conference To Strengthen HIV/AIDS Education and Coordinated School Health Programs" January 22-25, 2001 in Washington, DC. Theme Healthy Kids, Healthy Communities We Can Make a Difference. Contact Fax 703/476-3428; <http://www.cdc.gov/nccddphp/dash/conference/index.htm>

"National Network for Youth Symposium" February 18-21, 2001 in Washington, DC. Theme Youth & Adults Uniting for Community Change. Contact 202/783.7949

"Igniting the spirit of youth the path of the heart" April 1-4, 2001 in Pacific Grove CA. Contact <http://www.nta-yes.com/asilomar.pdf>

"National Student Assistance Conference" April 4-7, 2001, in Orlando FL. Theme Effective Programs Mean Student Success. Contact 800/453-7733; Fax 800/449-5718.

FOR MORE CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENTS, REFER TO  
OUR WEBSITE AT <http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu>  
(Go to "Contents" then click on "Upcoming Events of Interest".)

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"It worries me that if the only kids the media cover are the small percentage of kids who are taking drugs, dropping out or killing people, society will demonize all youths, and people will decide the problems we have are intractable, and that nothing works. It's very important that people think there are possible solutions and they can make a difference."

-Marion Wright Edelman

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#### ~~~~~CALLS FOR GRANT PROPOSALS/PAPERS

#### GRANTS

"Leadership for a changing World" a Ford Foundation awards program for community leaders tackling tough social problems is accepting nominations through January 5, 2001. Leaders receive \$100,000 to advance their work. For information go to <http://www.leadershipforchange.org>. Or phone (202)777-7560.

"Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Substance Abuse Policy Research Program" Letter of intent for projects under \$100,000 may be submitted at any time; deadline for letters of intent for projects over that amount is March 5, 2001. See web site <http://www.rwjf.org>, click on applying for grants, then click on list of open calls for proposals.

"National Institute on Alcohol Abuse & Alcoholism is accepting proposals for research on alcohol use among ethnic teens. Deadline for letters of intent is Feb 9 with proposals due April 10, 2001. Information available from National Institutes of Health, Division of Extramural Outreach and Information Resources phone (301)435-0714, e-mail [GrantsInfo@nih.gov](mailto:GrantsInfo@nih.gov). RFA-AA-001

"Association for Medical Education and Research in Substance Abuse invites prospective fellows to apply for the Faculty Development Program of the HRSA-AMERSA-SAHMSA/CSAT Interdisciplinary Program to Improve Health Professional Education in Substance Abuse. Deadline for application is January 19, 2001. Contact [doreen@amersa.org](mailto:doreen@amersa.org) or 401-785-8263.

#### CALL FOR PAPERS

"National Mental Health Consumers' Self-Help Clearinghouse conference Alternatives 2001 in Philadelphia, August 23-26, 2001, is calling for submissions. Conference themes are policy, financing, community support, research, treatment, education, and advocacy. Deadline for submission is January 15, 2001. See <http://www.mhselfhelp.org/cfpalt2001.html>.

"Building Family Strengths, International Symposium" in Lincoln, NB May

8-10,2001, is calling for proposals. Due date is January 15,2001. Submit via email to cwills2@unl.edu or fax (402) 472-9170. For more information phone (402) 472-8209 or see web site at <http://familystrengths.unl.edu>.

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"If we are to achieve a richer culture, rich in contrasting values, we must recognize the whole gamut of human potentialities, and so we weave a less arbitrary social fabric, one in which each diverse human gift will find a fitting place. "

-Margaret Mead

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#### ~~~~OTHER HELPFUL RESOURCES~~~~

##### >>Mental Health/Substance Abuse/Health

"Primary caregivers and psychological problems of children" research on pediatricians time/relationship with family determines assessing/referrals for counseling. See

<http://www.pediatrics.org/cgi/content/full/106/4/e44#Conclusion>.

"Center for the Study of Youth Policy" U Penn. Has publications on substance abuse and minority youth. See <http://www.kidspolicy.org>.

"Healthy people 2010" publications available online  
Understanding and improving health and Healthy People 2010  
Vol I and II at <http://www.health.gov/healthypeople>  
Tracking Healthy People 2010 at  
<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/hphome.htm>.

"Health Status Indicators" to facilitate comparison at national, state and locales at  
<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/products/pubs/pubd/hp2k/statnt/20-11.htm>.

"Public Education Network" launched a new health section on its web site to help ensure students come to school at their best. See  
<http://www.PublicEducation.org/health>.

##### >>Parents, Schools, and Community

"School Spending The Business of Education" a new report from the American School Board Journal is now online at  
<http://www.asbj.com/schoolspending>.

"I Am Your Child Foundation" website provides English and Spanish materials for parents and caregivers to foster young children's development. See <http://www.iamyourchild.org>.

"IDEA website and E-Newsletter" for teachers and families interested in advances in special education. See <http://www.ideapractices.org/>

~~~~~TRAINING & JOB OPPORTUNITIES  
(including fellowships and scholarships)~~~~~

<Research Analyst>

"Urban Strategies Council," Oakland, CA . Focus on community building to reduce persistent poverty. For information see <http://www.urbanstrategies.org>. Or contact admindir@urbanstrategies.org.

<Director>

" Resolving Conflict Creatively Program"sponsored by Educators for Social Responsibility. Deadline 12/12/00. For information see <http://www.esrnational.org>. Or contact maysie@uic.edu.

<School Health Programs Coordinator>

Center for Child and Family Health, Adolescent Health Section, Oregon Health Division. Part of the Center for Disease Control Coordinated School Health Program grant. 12/11/00 deadline. Contact robert.j.nystron@state.or.us or call (503)731-4771.

<Technical Assistance Positions>

"Child Care Health Program," funded by the California Children and Families Commission to provide technical assistance to county planning groups. Contact by fax (510)839-0339 for more information.

<Leadership Training>

"Interdisciplinary leadership education in adolescent health" training program at the University of Rochester, funded by the Maternal Child Health Bureau. Contact LEAH@urmc.rochester.edu or fax (716)242-9733.

<Postdoctoral Fellowship>

" Family/Community Intervention Research" at Virginia Commonwealth University. Starting December, 2000. Contact Albert Farrell at afarrell@vca.edu.

<Postdoctoral Fellowships>

"Minority Health Disparities Scholars, Center for the Advancement of Health, funded by the Kellogg Foundation." Two year interdisciplinary program. Go to <http://www.cfah.org> for application.

<Community-Clinical Professors>

DePaul University program with strong ties to community. Deadline 12/15/00. Contact Irobinso@wppost.depaul.edu.

<Assistant Professor>

Early intervention/early childhood education, Department of Individual and Family Studies, University of Delaware. Deadline 1/15/01. Contact (302) 831-1589; <http://www.udel.edu/ifst>.

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***REQUESTS/INFORMATION/COMMENTS/QUESTIONS
FROM THE FIELD***
WANT TO RESPOND? Go to our Website

(<http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu>.) and click on Net Exchange or send us an email (smhp@ucla.edu).

REQUEST

A colleague asks for a "resource that summarizes the developments and new directions (initiatives, programs, etc.) in school mental health." We sent him several things on this topic, and also are extending his request to readers of ENEWS. If you have something we should let him know about, send us an email, and we will forward the info to him and share it with others.

COMMENTS

In response to the emerging issue entitled "Values, Character, Civility Morals, Manners, or Social Control" (in the November ENEWS)

"If you're asking whether schools should teach character classes, my opinion is 'yes.' Sharing with our children the knowledge of how to live a civilized life is critical to our growth and maturation as a society...How do you teach values in a public school? You have to be religion-neutral, race-neutral, gender-neutral, etc. You just have to run the curriculum past the public, and carefully document their reactions..."

A member of a State of Board of Education shared her experiences in working with the Board to pass Character Education Policy. She sent a copy of the Preamble expanding on the need for the policy citing the historical role of schools in preparing citizens and fostering a civil society. Her recommendation is one of "inviting and encouraging schools, school districts and communities to work together to improve the quality of life for everyone."

NEWS FROM THE TWO NATIONAL CENTERS FOCUSING ON MH IN SCHOOLS

^^Updates from our Center at UCLA

>Just mailed out the Fall, 2000, hard copy newsletter. If you are not on our mailing list, please contact us so you can be added. The cover article is "Addressing Barriers to Learning and Promoting Healthy DevelopmentA Usable Research-Base." This is a summary of our response to the Iowa State Department of Education request for research to share with policy makers. This material has also been assembled into a Issue Brief.

>Just completed Issue Brief on "Financing Mental Health for the Young."

The newsletter and the Issue Briefs are available on line
(<http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu>.)
Or you can receive hard copies by contacting us.

>Based on feedback about our new links "map" "Gateway to a World of Resources for Enhancing Mental Health in Schools," we are adding new

WHO ARE WE?

Under the auspices of the School Mental Health Project in the Department of Psychology at UCLA, we established a Center for Mental Health in Schools in 1995. The Project and Center are co-directed by Howard Adelman and Linda Taylor. The UCLA Center is one of two national centers initially funded in October 1995 by the Office of Adolescent Health, Maternal and Child Health Bureau (Title V, Social Security Act), Health Resources and Services Administration (Project #U93 MC 00175). Both Centers were refunded in October 2000 (for a 5 year cycle) with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's Center for Mental Health Services joining HRSA as a co-funder.

Our group at UCLA approaches mental health and psychosocial concerns from the broad perspective of addressing barriers to learning and promoting healthy development. Specific attention is given policies and strategies that can counter fragmentation and enhance collaboration between school and community programs.

We are involved in model development and implementation, training and technical assistance, and policy analysis. Our activities include gathering and disseminating information, materials development, direct assistance, and facilitating networking and exchanges of ideas.

For more information about the Center or about ENEWS, contact Center Coordinator Perry Nelson or Center Co-Directors Howard Adelman, or Linda Taylor at UCLA School Mental Health Project/Center for Mental Health in Schools
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