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## April 2003 E-News

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## Announcements

The latest news and information from around the country.

## New Projects

### **New Web Site to Gather Comments about Disability Research Needs**

<http://www.ed.gov/news/pressreleases/2003/02/02242003.html>

A new Web site has been developed by the government's Interagency Committee on Disability Research (ICDR) to gather comments and recommendations on research needs for Americans with disabilities. The committee produced the site to help ensure that federal research efforts meet the needs of the disability community. The site can be found at <http://www.icdr.us/>.

## Legislative Announcements

### **Budget Fact Sheets by State**

<http://www.ed.gov/about/overview/budget/statefactsheets/index.html?exp=0>

President Bush's 2004 budget boosts education funding to \$53.1 billion, the largest dollar increase of any domestic agency and an \$11 billion increase since the President took office. This Web site offers highlights of what the President's education budget request means for each state.

## **Paige Announces \$17 Million in Grants to Help States Develop Assessments under NCLB**

<http://www.ed.gov/news/pressreleases/2003/02/02122003a.html>

U.S. Secretary of Education Rod Paige announced \$17 million in new grants to fund projects that will help improve the quality of assessment instruments and systems used by states to measure the achievement of all students, especially students with disabilities and those with limited English proficiency, under the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001. The grants are funded from the U.S. Department of Education's Fiscal Year 2002 budget.

## **Paige Releases Principles for Reauthorizing Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)**

<http://usinfo.state.gov/usa/edu/pr022503.htm>

U.S. Secretary of Education Rod Paige unveiled a set of principles to guide the Education Department in its work toward seeking reauthorization of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, the landmark statute that provides for the education of America's 6.5 million students with disabilities.

## **Statement of Assistant Secretary Robert Pasternack on Vocational Rehabilitation State Grants**

<http://www.ed.gov/news/speeches/2003/03/03132003.html>

The Administration is requesting \$2.7 billion for Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) State Grants to assist State VR agencies to increase the participation of individuals with disabilities in meaningful, competitive, integrated employment. The request includes an increase in funding that satisfies the statutory requirement to increase funding by at least the percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index.

## **Calls to Participate**

### **Join the Keep Kids Learning Campaign**

<http://www.keepkidslearning.org/>

Millions of struggling students fail before getting the extra help they need to learn to read and succeed academically. According to a new poll by the National Center for Learning Disabilities, the majority of parents and teachers say it takes too long for students to be identified with learning problems. Keep Kids Learning is requesting those interested to ask lawmakers to make changes so that children can begin receiving early help to address learning problems.

### **No Limits Media: A Call for Personal Stories from People with Disabilities**

No Limits Media (NLM), a non-profit organization, was established to create television, print and Internet projects for the U.S. disability community. These projects are designed to help forge a sense of common identity and personal empowerment among people with disabilities. "The Gift" will be structured around a series of "short stories" describing the lives of people with disabilities. NLM invites the disability community to participate by providing personal

stories and the names of people to contact based on those personal experiences. Please send suggestions to Exceptional Parent Magazine via e-mail to [epedit@aol.com](mailto:epedit@aol.com) with the subject line: A Call for Stories. There is not a specified deadline for suggestions.

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## The Resource Zone

### NCSET Resources

#### **Access, Participation, and Progress in the General K-12 Curriculum** (July 2002)

*NCSET Institute Proceeding*

[http://www.ncset.org/institutes/proceedings/2002\\_07\\_10.asp](http://www.ncset.org/institutes/proceedings/2002_07_10.asp)

Proceedings of the capacity building institute (CBI) held July 10, 2002 in Arlington, VA. At this CBI, researchers, leaders, policy makers, and national experts were provided with an opportunity to engage in a dialogue on current views, build consensus on critical issues, and generate solutions and strategies related to access, participation, and progress in the general education K-12 curriculum. It was held in conjunction with the 2002 Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) Research Project Directors' Conference to facilitate the attendance of researchers working in areas related to accessing the general curriculum. Presenters included Tracey Hall, Ph.D.; Margaret McLaughlin, Ph.D.; Martha Minow, Ed.M., J.D.; and David Rose, Ed.D.

#### **Expanding the Circle: Respecting the Past, Preparing for the Future — A Summer Program and Curriculum to Support American Indian Students in Transition** (December 2002)

*NCSET Teleconference Transcript*

[http://www.ncset.org/teleconferences/transcripts/2002\\_12.asp](http://www.ncset.org/teleconferences/transcripts/2002_12.asp)

A teleconference call transcript in which presenters described "Future Bound," a three-year federally funded project, and two key components of the project model: a new curriculum, published in September 2002, entitled, "Expanding the Circle: Respecting the Past, Preparing for the Future," and an intense summer program model. Presenters discussed components of the curriculum and why this curriculum is unique to American Indian youth. Presented by Jean E. Ness, Ed.D., Project Director and Jennifer S. Huisken, MSW, Project Coordinator of Future Bound Project at the Institute on Community Integration, University of Minnesota.

#### **Improving Adult Outcomes for Youth with Disabilities: Mapping and Aligning Resources** (January 2003)

*NCSET Teleconference Transcript*

[http://www.ncset.org/teleconferences/transcripts/2003\\_01.asp](http://www.ncset.org/teleconferences/transcripts/2003_01.asp)

Transcript of the January 2003 teleconference call focusing on how various communities can engage in mapping strategies to better align services and supports for youth. Presented by Mary Mack, Associate Director of NCSET, University of Minnesota; Richard G. Luecking, President of TransCen, Inc.; and Kelli Crane, Program Manager of TransCen, Inc.

## **NCSET Offers Links to State Resources**

<http://www.ncset.org/stateresources/>

Are you looking for the phone or e-mail address of your state or regional contacts? Now you can find your Transition Contact, Regional Resource Center, Director of Special Education, Monitoring and State Improvement Planning Contact, Rehabilitation Services Administration Transition Contact, and Director of Vocational Rehabilitation at the NCSET Web site! You can also VIEW ALL contacts within one group across states and territories for a comprehensive listing. Contact information is updated regularly.

## **Student Learning Strategies** (2003)

*NCSET Web Topic*

<http://www.ncset.org/topics/learning/default.asp?topic=17>

This NCSET Web topic explores strategies students can learn to help them become more independent, successful learners. Like all NCSET Web topics, it includes an introduction, frequently asked questions, related research, emerging practices, Web sites, and additional resources.

## **Other National Resources**

### **Barriers and Promising Approaches to Workforce and Youth Development for Young Offenders** (2002)

*Toolkit*

<http://www.aecf.org/upload/PublicationFiles/barriers%20and%20promising.pdf>

This report, published by the Annie Casey Foundation, describes the 15 best performing job training and placement programs for juvenile offenders. Available in PDF format (63 pages).

### **Confined Teens' Troubles Run Deep** (October 2002)

*Article*

<http://www.post-gazette.com/healthscience/20021006mental3.asp>

Early findings from a system wide screening process at state youth camps indicate more than half of the teens entering Pennsylvania's maximum security lockups for juveniles have significant mental health problems, and about one in six may be suicidal. With data collected on more than 500 adolescents, a disturbing but not unexpected trend has emerged, showing that juvenile offenders are often a complicated package of bad behavior and fragile mental health.

### **Consumer Action Series** (2003)

*Reports*

[http://www.chcs.org/info-url\\_nocat3961/info-url\\_nocat\\_show.htm?doc\\_id=206314](http://www.chcs.org/info-url_nocat3961/info-url_nocat_show.htm?doc_id=206314)

The Supreme Court's Olmstead v. L.C. decision of 1999 had major implications for consumers, multiple state and federal agencies, and health care providers. The Center for Health Care Strategies has published a series of reports that explore key policy issues arising from the decision.

### **Fact Sheet on Summer Camps from the National Center on Physical Activity and Disability** (2002)

*Fact Sheet*

<http://www.ncpad.org/get/discover/index.html>

Published by the National Center on Physical Activity and Disability, this fact sheet includes information on a variety of camps, including camp directories, for children with disabilities.

**Facts for Families** (1997)

*Fact Sheet*

<http://www.aacap.org/page.ww?section=Facts+for+Families&name=Search>

The American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (AACAP) has developed Facts for Families to provide concise and up-to-date information on issues that affect children, teenagers, and their families. Facts for Families address a wide variety of topics including helping teenagers deal with stress, grandparents raising grandchildren, talking to kids about sex, parenting adolescents, and a range of disabilities. They are available in English, Spanish, German, French, Polish and Icelandic.

**Making Educational Software and Web Sites Accessible** (2003)

*Guidebook*

<http://ncam.wgbh.org/cdrom/guideline/>

These guidelines, published by the WGBH Radio Educational Foundation, provide a reference guide for educators, publishers, software programmers, and Web site developers. Guideline topics include educational issues for students with disabilities and access issues for selected development environments.

**Making it Easier to Go to Work** (January 2003)

*Article*

[http://www.onestops.info/article.php?article\\_id=177](http://www.onestops.info/article.php?article_id=177)

The Social Security Administration has a number of incentives to assist people with disabilities to enter the workforce. Among the changes with the advent of the new year are annual adjustments in earning limits and other amounts. This article provides a clear explanation of how recent changes impact people with disabilities who want to work.

**New Freedom Commission** (2003)

*Report*

[http://www.mentalhealthcommission.gov/reports/interim\\_toc.htm](http://www.mentalhealthcommission.gov/reports/interim_toc.htm)

This report, from the President's New Freedom Commission on Mental Health, addresses both children's and adult's mental health issues and highlights a variety of model programs.


**Our Documents Teacher Sourcebook** (2003)

*Guidebook*

[http://www.ourdocuments.gov/content.php?page=teachers\\_toolbox](http://www.ourdocuments.gov/content.php?page=teachers_toolbox)

This is a free resource created by National History Day, Inc. in cooperation with the National Archives that transports educators back in time to 100 critical moments in our nation's history. The sourcebook provides educators with lesson plans and activities that will help them incorporate 100 milestone documents from American history into classroom curriculum. A key resource for working documents in the classroom, the teacher sourcebook includes an annotated timeline, key themes, guidelines to primary sources, and detailed lesson plans. Educators can request free copies by e-mailing

info@nationalhistoryday.org or it can be downloaded.

**Planning for Life After High School: A Guide for Students, School Counselors, Teachers, Parents** (2003) 

*Guidebook*

<http://www.dpi.state.wi.us/dpi/dlsea/een/pdf/tranopndrs.pdf>

This handbook, developed by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, is a resource for students, parents, and teachers on preparing and planning for the postsecondary experience. It includes checklists and information on what to expect and how to prepare and plan for postsecondary education. Available in PDF (20 pages).

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## What's Happening

### NCSET Events

**Developing Cultural Competency: Improving Adult Outcomes for Youth with Disabilities**

*Teleconference Call*

*April 29, 2003*

*1:00 PM - 2:00 PM*

[http://www.ncset.org/teleconferences/transcripts/2003\\_04.asp](http://www.ncset.org/teleconferences/transcripts/2003_04.asp)

NCSET teleconference call held on April 29, 2003 to address cultural competency, our roles as advocates and allies, and specific issues related to disability, race, youth culture, and socio-economics. Examples of how to embed cultural sensitivity in program planning and implementation were provided. Presented by Rory Gilbert, Executive Director of the National Conference for Community and Justice. The transcript of this call is now available.

### Other National Events

**Sexual Violence Prevention: Building Leadership and Commitment to Underserved Communities**

*Web-based Event*

*April 3, 2003*

*12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (Eastern)*

<http://www.phppo.cdc.gov/PHTN/webcast/svprev/default.asp>

The purpose of this broadcast is to provide an opportunity for those interested in rape prevention and education to come together and learn about the public health approach to preventing sexual violence. The goal of the broadcast is to enable participants to identify strategies that can help prevent sexual violence in underserved communities.

**Bridges to the Future: National Conference on Autism**

*Conference*

*July 16, 2003 - July 20, 2003*

*Pittsburgh, PA*

<http://asa.convio.net/site/Calendar/94084205?view=Detail&id=1924>

This conference is an opportunity for companies or organizations related to autism to get exposure. The conference will also provide resources to families and professionals in the form of speakers and workshops. This event is sponsored by the Autism Society of America. [^ Top of Page ^](#)

## Get Wired!

### Web Sites

#### **AboutOurKids.org**

<http://www.aboutourkids.org/>

This Web site, operated by New York University's Child Study Center, connects parents and youth workers to critical information about child mental health and behavior.

#### **Computers for Youth**

<http://www.cfy.org/>

Funded by the U.S. Department of Education, foundations and corporations provide help to non-profit organizations that place computers and Internet access in the homes of low-income families.

#### **Independence Program on Employment and Disability**

<http://www.ilr.cornell.edu/edi/independence/default.htm>

Sponsored by Cornell University, this site is designed to help anyone who wants to understand disability employment policy. There is a policy tutorial regarding legislative acts, agencies and programs, tax policies, and current research projects that affect the employment of people with disabilities.

#### **Juvenile Justice Evaluation Center Online**

<http://www.irsa.org/jjec/>

The site is a tool designed to assist juvenile justice practitioners, policymakers, and state agency administrators with the assessment and evaluation of programs and initiatives. It provides resources such as statistical data and instruments designed to measure program effectiveness.

#### **Learning Disabilities Association of America**

<http://www.lidaamerica.org/>

The Learning Disabilities Association of America (LDA) is a non-profit grassroots organization whose members are individuals with learning disabilities, their families, and the professionals who work with them. LDA strives to advance the education and general welfare of children and adults with learning disabilities.

## Listservs

### Jobs for the Future Newswire

[http://www.jff.org/JFF\\_Pages.php?WhichLevel=2&lv1\\_id=2&lv2\\_id=23&lv3\\_id=0](http://www.jff.org/JFF_Pages.php?WhichLevel=2&lv1_id=2&lv2_id=23&lv3_id=0)

Jobs for the Future have developed a series of resources for engaging employers in workforce development. The goal is to improve employer engagement in the local workforce. Those interested can subscribe to their e-mail newsletter to receive monthly updates.

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## Funding Forecast

### Funding Resources

#### Seven Keys to Success in Planned Giving

<http://www.onphilanthropy.com/op2003-03-21b.html>

There's no denying the fact that planned giving is a hotter topic than ever and something of which your donors are increasingly aware. With talk in Washington about changes in estate taxes, many people are reconsidering their plans for the ultimate disposition of their assets. In addition, the slowing of the economy and the roller coaster pattern of the stock market has made the security offered by many charitable gift-planning arrangements extremely attractive to many Americans. Whether you have an established planned giving program or are just trying to get started, chances are you've thought about the potential opportunities the current planned gift environment offers to your organization. In the following link are seven "keys" to putting your charity in position to receive maximum benefit.

#### The Foundation Center

<http://foundationcenter.org/accessibility/>

The Foundation Center's mission is to strengthen the nonprofit sector by advancing knowledge about U.S. philanthropy. To achieve its mission, the Center: collects, organizes, and communicates information on U.S. philanthropy; conducts and facilitates research on trends in the field; provides education and training on the grantseeking process; and ensures public access to information and services through its Web site, print and electronic publications, library/learning centers, and national network of Cooperating Collections. Founded in 1956, the Center is the nation's leading authority on philanthropy and is dedicated to serving grantseekers, grantmakers, researchers, policymakers, the media, and the general public.

## Federal Grant Opportunities



## **Math and Science Partnership Program**

<http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2003/nsf03541/nsf03541.htm>

The Math and Science Partnership (MSP) program builds on the nation's dedication to improve mathematics and science education through support of partnerships that unite the efforts of local school districts with faculties of colleges and universities (especially disciplinary faculties in mathematics, science and engineering) and with other stakeholders. The MSP program seeks to improve student outcomes in mathematics and science for all students, at all K-12 levels. Application deadline: May 12, 2003.

## **Public Charter Schools Program - CFDA# 84.282A, 84.282B, 84.282C**

<http://www.ed.gov/GrantApps/#84.282>

The purpose of the PCSP is to increase national understanding of the charter school model and to expand the number of high-quality charter schools available to students across the Nation by providing financial assistance for the planning, program design, and initial implementation of charter schools and evaluating the effects of charter schools, including the effects on students, student academic achievement, staff, and parents. Applications Available: March 14, 2003. Application Deadline: April 28, 2003.

## **Recreational Program - CFDA# 84.128J**

<http://www.ed.gov/GrantApps/#84.128J>

The purpose of this program is to provide grants for recreational programs providing individuals with disabilities recreational activities and related experiences to aid in their employment, mobility, socialization, independence, and community integration. Applications Available: March 17, 2003. Application Deadline: May 1, 2003.

## **Rehabilitation Continuing Education Programs (RCEP) - CFDA# 84.264A**

<http://www.ed.gov/GrantApps/#84.264A>

The purpose of this program is to support training centers that serve either a Federal region or another geographical area and provide for a broad, integrated sequence of training activities that focus on meeting recurrent and common training needs of employed rehabilitation personnel throughout a multi-State geographical area. Applications Available: March 17, 2003. Application Deadline: April 16, 2003.

## **Smaller Learning Communities Program – CFDA# 84.215L**

<http://www.ed.gov/GrantApps/#84.215L>

The purpose of the Smaller Learning Communities Program is to support academic achievement through awarding competitive grants to LEAs applying on behalf of large public high schools for the planning and implementation or expansion of small, safe, and successful learning environments in large public high schools. Applications Available: March 20, 2003. Application Deadline: May 19, 2003.

## **Additional Funding and Award Opportunities**

## Jordan Fundamental Program to Support Public School Teachers

<http://www.nike.com/nikebiz/nikebiz.jhtml?page=26&item=jordan>

The Jordan Fundamental Grant Program recognizes outstanding teaching and instructional creativity in public secondary schools that serve economically disadvantaged students. Funds are awarded to teachers or paraprofessionals who work with students in grades six through twelve in the U.S. public school system. At least 40 percent of the student population at the applicant's school must be eligible for the free or reduced school lunch program. Application Deadline: June 15th, 2003.

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## End of Issue

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If you have information on new products, resources, funding opportunities, and conferences or training events and want to contribute these to a future E-News issue, please e-mail the information to [ncset@umn.edu](mailto:ncset@umn.edu) or see [Suggest an Item for E-News](#) for more information.

### Purpose of the Listserv

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**Please contact us with your questions, comments, or suggestions  
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**We will reply to you as soon as we can. Thank you for your interest!**

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