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### TEEN SUICIDE PREVENTION: "ETERNAL HIGH"

A 30-minute educational DVD, "Eternal High" is produced by a student who captured his true-life battle with depression and suicide. It includes a short film made while unaware he was clinically depressed followed by a speech to his school after receiving treatment. The speech discusses his experience with depression, suicidal thoughts, anxiety, self-injury, self-medicating substance abuse, and his treatment.

Members of the HCH Clinicians' Network Pediatric Work Group previewed the DVD in June 2007. They found it powerful, with a few shortcomings, but overall worthwhile. Our clinicians thought that many homeless teens may not identify with the middle-class white teen and his problems shown in the first part of the film, but they agree that the second

part will resonate with homeless youth. Aquarius Health Care Media distributes "Eternal High" (phone: 888 440-2963). To preview a film clip, go to <http://aquariusproductions.com>.

#### **Review Comments...**

- "It is strongly recommend this film be viewed by parents, teenagers, educators and school counselors."—Educational Media Reviews Online
- "Counselors can use this resource with small groups or individual students. Psychology and family living classes will benefit from this informative, well-made film, as will parents and teachers."—School Library Journal
- "You have in your hands the ability to save many, many lives. It is crucial to spread this message."—Kathryn W. (International Foundation for Research & Education on Depression)
- "A very useful learning resource for those in education, health and social care."—Rostrum (British Association of Social Workers, Scotland Quarterly Bulletin)
- "A wonderful prevention film, 'Eternal High' powerfully depicts how depressive illness is experienced internally; it has helped my clients and their family members identify depression as well as suicidal intent and seek therapeutic intervention."—Mary P., LMSW ACSW
- "An inspiring story and film; his riveting story should help remove the stigma of depression."—Youth Today

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#### **QUICK REFERENCE CARDS AVAILABLE FROM ACU**

The Association of Clinicians for the Underserved (ACU) has a series of Quick Reference Cards for clinicians, including several on pediatric issues:

- Perinatal Risk Reduction & Bereavement Support for Loss of Infant (new as of 2/2006)
- Pediatric Asthma Trigger Management
- Anticipatory Guidance for Oral Health Card
- Infant Oral Health Care #1 - Oral Health Assessment
- Infant Oral Health Care #2 - Anticipatory Guidance

You may purchase individual cards or a set from ACU's online Publications page at [www.clinicians.org/programsandservices/publications/publications.html](http://www.clinicians.org/programsandservices/publications/publications.html).

The **Pediatric Asthma & Indoor Environmental Trigger Management** card is part of ACU's curriculum for primary care providers working to improve the comprehensive asthma care plans of their pediatric patients. To learn more about the Pediatric Asthma Indoor Air Quality Improvement Project and the curriculum targeted for primary care providers serving low-income, underserved populations visit [www.clinicians.org/programsandservices/asthma/asthma\\_introduction.html](http://www.clinicians.org/programsandservices/asthma/asthma_introduction.html). The curriculum focuses on practical and realistic measures providers can offer to their patients for better control of environmental triggers of asthma, while remaining sensitive to cultural

and linguistic issues. If you are interested in hosting this training, contact ACU staff member Lois Wessel, FNP, RN, Project Manager, at [Lwessel@clinicians.org](mailto:Lwessel@clinicians.org) for more information.

Caring for those who lose an infant challenges even the most accomplished health care provider. ACU collaborated with Project IMPACT to provide the latest in evidence-based protocols for bereavement support and risk reduction. The Quick Reference Cards, **Bereavement Support for the Family Suffering the Death of an Infant and Infant Death Risk Reduction**, offer a ready reference for best practices. Clinicians may adapt them (with an adhesive address/phone label placed in the space under Resources) to include contact information for your local SIDS and Infant Death program. (If you need assistance to identify resources in your state, go to [www.sidsprojectimpact.com](http://www.sidsprojectimpact.com).)

**SOURCE:** The Association of Clinicians for the Underserved | [www.clinicians.org](http://www.clinicians.org)

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#### **TREATING ADOLESCENTS WITH HIV: ONLINE TRAINING NOW AVAILABLE**

A free training series for health care providers, **Treating Adolescents with HIV: Tools for Building Skills in Cultural Competence, Clinical Care and Support**, is now available online. This series is designed for MDs, NPs, PAs, RNs, psychologists, social workers, case managers, and other health professionals who are actively involved or interested in adolescent HIV care. For more information, visit [www.hivcareforyouth.org](http://www.hivcareforyouth.org); continuing education credits are available for participants. A brochure in PDF format about this training opportunity is included with this e-mail message.

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#### **BREAKING THE SILENCE: WHAT HOMELESS 18- TO 24-YEAR-OLDS SAY ABOUT HIV VACCINE TRIALS** | Koniak, D, Nyamathi, A, Tallen, L, et al.

Development of a global HIV vaccine will require enrollment of a large number of adults and adolescents in clinical trials. Involvement of homeless young adults in these trials will be particularly important because they often practice high-risk behaviors and are disproportionately infected by HIV. This qualitative study explores factors that might affect future participation of homeless 18- to 24-year-olds of diverse racial/ethnic backgrounds in HIV vaccine trials. Twenty males and females attended focus groups. Participants expressed concern about seroconversion, the trustworthiness of the researchers and/or government agencies conducting trials, vaccine side effects, and possible negative behavior change as a result of being vaccinated.

**SOURCE:** Journal of Health Care for the Poor & Underserved | Vol. 18, No. 3 | August 2007 | pp. 687-698 | Johns Hopkins University Press

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#### **HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION & LABOR HOLDS HEARING ON RUNAWAY, HOMELESS, AND MISSING CHILDREN AND YOUTH**

On July 24, the House of Representatives' Committee on Education & Labor (Healthy Families and Communities Subcommittee) held "[Runaway, Homeless and Missing Children: Perspectives on Helping the Nation's Vulnerable Youth](#)," a hearing as a precursor to

reauthorization of the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act in 2008. Steve Berg, Vice President for Programs & Policy at the National Alliance to End Homelessness, testified on the research surrounding runaway and homeless youth. Mr. Berg's testimony primarily reviewed the current demographics of homeless youth, and interventions and services that research has shown to have positive outcomes in ending youth homelessness. A former homeless youth, a homeless youth and shelter director, and advocates for missing children and youth also provided testimony. (Visit the Committee on Education & Labor website at <http://edlabor.house.gov/hearings/hfc072407.shtml> to watch webcasts of archived hearings.)

**SOURCE:** Alliance Online News | July 31, 2007 | National Alliance to End Homelessness | [www.endhomelessness.org](http://www.endhomelessness.org)

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### 2007 KIDS COUNT

On July 25, the Annie E. Casey Foundation marked the release of the 2007 KIDS COUNT Data Book and "Lifelong Family Connections: Securing Permanence for Children in Foster Care," an essay that challenges policymakers to improve foster care prevention, family crisis interventions, and introduce legislation that helps to build the family relationships young people need to thrive in adulthood. According to the 18th annual KIDS COUNT Data Book, since 2000, six out of 10 indicators of well-being improvements for children in foster care improved, although two of those indicators were only marginally better. In addition, the report examines the 726,000 children in the U.S. who spend time in foster care each year and what can be done to build and strengthen the family relationships that children need.

Data from the Annie E. Casey Foundation's 2007 KIDS COUNT Data Book are available in an easy-to-use, powerful online database, "State Level Data Online," which allows the user to generate custom graphs, maps, ranked lists, and state-by-state profiles or download the entire data set as delimited text files. You may read the book online or view the book in PDF format.

**SOURCES:** Alliance Online News | July 31, 2007 | National Alliance to End Homelessness | [www.endhomelessness.org](http://www.endhomelessness.org) and [www.kidscount.org/sld/databook.jsp](http://www.kidscount.org/sld/databook.jsp)

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### Other resources from Annie E. Casey Foundation:

"Low-Income Fathers and Child Support: Starting off on the Right Track" (2003)

This report examines the treatment of low-income fathers in the child support system in the U.S. and how the system could be improved. It includes recommendations for child support programs, state legislative action, and federal action.

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### NATIONAL ALLIANCE TO END HOMELESSNESS ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The Alliance invites readers to experience the Annual Conference July 2007 online. The Alliance is posting presentations from workshops featured at the conference, including:

- Delivering for Families and Children: Community-Wide Housing First and
- Exploring Racism's Impact on Youth Homelessness in America.

The presentations are available in the Alliance's Online Library and on the Annual Conference July 2007 page. If you do not see the presentation you are looking for, be patient, presentations are being posted daily.

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### **PROMISING STRATEGIES TO END YOUTH HOMELESSNESS**

On June 27, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) released [Promising Strategies to End Youth Homelessness: Report to Congress](#), which outlines what is needed to prevent and end youth homelessness. The report, developed with the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness, describes the pathway to homelessness and the prevalence of the problem. Interventions that could prevent youth homelessness include parent education and home visiting to prevent abuse and neglect, functional family therapy, multisystemic therapy to reduce youth violence and risky behaviors, and efforts to offer adolescents life skills preparation, affordable housing, and trusting adults for youth exiting foster or correctional placements.

Additionally, the report reviews interventions to ameliorate homelessness once it occurs. Strategies include outreach services, drop-in centers, case management services, shelter with family reunification, and housing models for youth, all of which HHS currently funds under the Runaway & Homeless Youth Act.

The report calls for an array of services and housing and greater coordination of funding and services across systems. The report found that whether the strategies are for prevention or intervention, most methods share common themes: encouraging connection to trustworthy and nurturing adults, providing basic needs to create stability for growth, and planning for greater coordination between service systems and professionals.

**SOURCE:** Alliance Online News | July 24, 2007 | [National Alliance to End Homelessness](#) | [www.endhomelessness.org](http://www.endhomelessness.org)

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### **CONGRESS HOLDS HEARING ON YOUTH HOMELESSNESS**

On June 19, Representative Jim McDermott sponsored a Ways & Means Subcommittee hearing on "Disconnected and Disadvantaged Youth." At the hearing, the National Alliance to End Youth Homelessness, as a partner of the Re\*Generation National Homeless Youth Task Force, petitioned for increased funding dedicated for serving and supporting homeless youth. Together with three-time Grammy-nominee Jewel, Deborah Shore and DeCario Whitfield from Sasha Bruce Youth Services, a D.C. homeless youth services organization, testified before Congressional members to talk about their personal experiences and employment and educational services needed to support homeless youth. Representatives John Yarmuth (D-KY) and Michele Bachmann (R-MN) gave additional

testimony. The national homeless youth task force is also working to have November designated as National Homeless Youth Awareness Month.

**SOURCE:** Alliance Online News | June 26, 2007 | [www.endhomelessness.org](http://www.endhomelessness.org)

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## **LOVE HEALS**

In "The Boy Who Was Raised As a Dog and Other Stories from a Child Psychiatrist's Notebook: What Traumatized Children Can Teach Us About Loss, Love and Healing," child psychiatrist and trauma specialist Bruce D Perry, MD, PhD, and journalist Maia Szalavitz explain how stress can stunt the brain's development, and how affection, consistently offered in a safe environment, can strengthen underdeveloped neural tissue, enabling abused and neglected children to heal.

**SOURCE:** O The Oprah Magazine | January 2007 | page 142

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## **CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD WEBSITE**

The Campaign for U.S. Ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child's website has undergone a round of revisions and while the website looks the same, Campaign staff have revised all text and added new sections. The next step is to rebuild the site making it more user-friendly and interactive.

**SOURCE:** Elisabeth Lean, MSW, Campaign Coordinator

[elisabeth@childrightscampaign.com](mailto:elisabeth@childrightscampaign.com) | website: <http://childrightscampaign.org>

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## **FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**

### **Anna Lalor Burdick Program Supports Human Reproduction Education Projects**

**Deadline: November 15 and May 15, annually**

An initiative of the Lalor Foundation (<http://lalorfound.org>), the Anna Lalor Burdick Program seeks to educate young women about human reproduction in order to broaden and enhance their options in life. The program focuses particularly on young women who have inadequate access to information regarding reproductive health, including the subjects of contraception and pregnancy termination, and as such may be particularly lacking options in their lives.

The program emphasizes:

- support for one-time projects, ongoing projects, new projects, and initiatives that demonstrate realistic plans to achieve greater financial self-sufficiency;
- support for new or smaller organizations where funding will increase public visibility, improve standing with funders, facilitate overall organizational development, or, in the case of the well-defined projects of larger organizations, add a new dimension or capability to operations;
- support for collaborative efforts among nonprofit organizations;

- support for organizations that can demonstrate a proven ability to reach out to, include, and involve young women with inadequate access to information regarding reproductive health; and
- support for new ideas, initiatives, and demonstration projects, which, if proven effective, may be successfully replicated or provide multiple benefits.

The trustees award a small number of grants in the range of \$10,000 to \$50,000 each. Normally grants are awarded for one year only. Applicants from the U.S. must be tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organizations. Submit concept papers no earlier than eight weeks before a deadline. For the November deadline, submit concept papers between September 15 and November 15. Visit the Lalor Foundation website for complete program information: <http://fconline.foundationcenter.org/pnd/10008512/lalorfound>

**SOURCE:** RFP BULLETIN | Foundation Center | August 17, 2007 | Volume 8, Issue 33

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### **Outreach to the Underserved**

**Deadline: December 3, 2007**

The Association for Library Service to Children announces funds to support a library conducting exemplary outreach to underserved populations. Special population children may include those who have learning or physical differences, speak English as a second language, are in a non-traditional school environment or a non-traditional family setting (such as teen parents, foster children, children in the juvenile justice system, and children in gay and lesbian families), and those who need accommodation service to meet their needs. Eligibility: Nonprofit organizations | Funds: Awards up to \$5,000 | Information: [www.ala.org/ala/alsc/awardsscholarships/profawards/candlewicklighttheway/lighttheway.htm](http://www.ala.org/ala/alsc/awardsscholarships/profawards/candlewicklighttheway/lighttheway.htm) | GrantID: GD2314

**SOURCE:** Funding Alert | Office of Partnerships & Grants Development | Government of the District of Columbia | September 4, 2007 | <http://opgd.dc.gov>

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### **American Association of University Women Accepting Applications for Community Action Grants**

**Deadline: January 15, 2008**

The American Association of University Women (<http://aauw.org>) Community Action Grants provide seed money to individual women as well as local community-based nonprofit organizations for innovative programs or non-degree research projects that promote education and equity for women and girls. The program offers one-year grants (\$2,000 - 7,000 each over one year) to provide seed money for new projects. Topic areas are unrestricted but should include a clearly defined activity that promotes education and equity for women and girls.

The program also offers two-year grants (\$5,000 - 10,000 each over two years) to provide start-up funds for longer-term programs that address the particular needs of the community and develop girls' sense of efficacy through leadership or advocacy

opportunities. Topic areas are unrestricted but should include a clearly defined activity that promotes education and equity for women and girls. Visit the AAUW Web site for complete program information: <http://fconline.foundationcenter.org/pnd/10008518/aauw>  
**SOURCE:** RFP BULLETIN | Foundation Center | August 17, 2007 | Volume 8, Issue 33

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### UPCOMING EVENTS OF INTEREST

**November 3 - 4:** Second National Harm Reduction Therapy Conference | Philadelphia, PA  
| [www.harmreductioncounseling.com](http://www.harmreductioncounseling.com)

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**November 16:** Child Rights Campaign Briefing Day | <http://childrightscampaign.org>

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**December 3 - 7:** National Project Homeless Connect Week | United States Interagency Council on Homelessness | [www.usich.gov](http://www.usich.gov)

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**December 21:** National Homeless Persons' Memorial Day

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**June 11 - 14:** 2008 National Health Care for the Homeless Conference | Phoenix, AZ

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The Health Care for the Homeless Clinicians' Network brings you this Pediatrics Interest Group e-mail update. We invite you to share your opinion on issues of concern to the pediatrics community. In addition, we welcome your feedback. If you have comments or suggestions for improvements to the newsletter, please send them to the Pediatrics Interest Group newsletter editor, Brenda Proffitt, at [bproffitt@nhchc.org](mailto:bproffitt@nhchc.org). If you decide to cancel your subscription, please send a blank e-mail to [network@nhchc.org](mailto:network@nhchc.org), and put Leave Pediatric Interest Group in the Subject line of your message.

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