

Your Quarterly News & Updates Vol.6 Issue 3/Summer 2021
From The Association of Child and Youth Care Practice



THE CYC ADVOCATE

"Real Expertise Comes From Those Closest To The Challenge"

Our Mission: ACYCP's mission is to engage practitioners in building the child and youth care profession. We build collaborative partnerships, promote innovative training and education, shape public policy, and inform developmental practice through research and scholarship.

Our Vision: We envision a society which recognizes, understands, and supports the essential role of child and youth care work in ensuring the well-being and success of children, youth and families. ACYCP aspires to excel as an influential and innovative organization advancing child and youth care practice throughout the profession.

ACYCP is on social media! Follow us on [Facebook](#) using [The-Association-for-Child-Youth-Care-Practice-Inc-186063394783003/](#) and [Twitter](#) using [@ACYCP](#) and on [Instagram](#) using [@ACYCP_Inc](#) . We look forward to hearing from you!



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ACYCP PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

By Jody Rhodes, CYC-P, MS
President, ACYCP



Dear ACYCP Members, CYC Colleagues and Friends,

As ACYCP ever evolves as an organization, we continue to look at partnerships and collaborations to help us grow in service to the field of child and youth work. Our newest collaboration is with FICE USA. We have now merged FICE USA with ACYCP and they will be working on global youth work initiatives. ACYCP has long history of working with FICE USA and this merger helps further the partnership. We couldn't be more proud to add them to the ACYCP family. Read below for all the details.

In another new exciting development, ACYCP has launched a national promotion on behalf of youth and child care workers. Entitled "Youth Workers: We Build The Future" this video was designed to snap us out of the COVID challenge and get us going again. This was an outgrowth of this year's Thank A Youth Worker Day and was a collaboration of Board delegates and supporting staff from several member agencies.

In a similar vein, ACYCP has produced a short promotional video to help CYC professionals, members, funders and the general public better understand the vision, scope, and mission of the ACYCP. Over a year in the making, this promotion fills a special place in our public relations efforts.

The two are described below and the link to nominate a youth worker for either one can be found at:

Youth Workers Build The Future

<https://www.acycp.org/awards/>

ACYCP Champions Youth Worker Professionals

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sA2EoZrVG14>

And a reminder to consider nominating a youth worker for one of our two national awards- due date is July 31st.

The first is the **Carol Kelly (Ph.D.) Newcomer Award:**

To honor the memory of an early founder of ACYCP and a pioneer in the field of Child and Youth Care work (CYC), ACYCP is offering an exciting opportunity for members to nominate a colleague for their early achievements and contributions to the profession. The award consists of an engraved plaque and a public announcement. You know your colleagues best, so we welcome your input and participation in both the awarding and in the evolution of this award.

The second is the **Lifetime Achievement Award:**

This award is considered to be very distinguished and important to the field and is not awarded on an annual basis. It was designed to call special attention to Child and Youth Care leaders who have been exceptional among their peers and have demonstrated a lifelong commitment to the field of Child and Youth Care.

This award is a salute and standing ovation for individuals, who have always been there for the Child and Youth Care profession. It consists of an attractive engraved plaque and a public announcement. You know your colleagues best, so we welcome your input and participation in the awarding and evolution of this award!

Happy reading and exploring!
Jody Rhodes, ACYCP President

Equity and Diversity-The ACYCP Position

The Association Child and Youth Care Practice (ACYCP) stands in solidarity with all who seek social justice and equality. We are grateful to be associated with Black Lives Matter and others, who demonstrate their commitment to these ideals and to a vision of a future that recognizes the value and worth of all human beings irrespective of their race, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, national origin, economic status, or religious beliefs. These are fundamental values upon which the child and youth care field is founded. It is the foundation upon which we humbly stand.

As an association, we strive to uphold these values but know that we, as a board and as a profession, have fallen short of living up to this vision. The recent tragic events connected to the killings of George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor and others, have brought to light just how big this gap is in our country as well as in our field. We promote diversity and inclusion, but racial disparity and exclusion are still prevalent. We proclaim justice and equality, but injustice and inequality are everywhere we turn.

As child and youth care practitioners, we meet our youth where they are at and accept them for who they are. We are the foundation of society, helping to raise the next generation of leaders. If we don't take this seriously, who will?

We can start making changes to better the world we live and work in – for the youth, children and families we serve, as well as our own. It won't happen overnight, but if we do this together, it will happen. ◇

Now Happening

CYCCB IMPLEMENTS VIRTUAL TESTING IN HISTORIC LANDMARK ACHIEVEMENT!



[Editor's Note: In a major accomplishment for ACYCP and the CYCCB, testing for certification will now be expanded from proctored on-site testing, with the addition of on-line virtual examinations. This is a monumental achievement for CYCCB and a historic landmark for ACYCP!]

In June CYCCB (Child And Youth Care Certification Board) implemented virtually proctored online testing in Canada. Over the next two months CYCCB expects to have similar online testing available, at all certification levels, available in any location in the US and Canada. This will significantly improve CYC practitioner access to testing and certification.

The virtual testing program was co-developed by CYCCB working with their partner, Indiana University (IU). CYCCB Board member and Faculty at IU Bloomington, Dr. Deborah Getz, worked with a team of CYCCB staff and Board members for three months to design, implement, and test the program. The key question that had to be addressed was "how do you conduct testing without a live proctor while assuring that test takers are not taking unfair advantage or copying the exam contents?" The efficacy of the testing program is based on the idea that test takers are taking the exams fairly. In the past, no testing was conducted without a live proctor in the exam environment. This has worked well over the 13 years that CYCCB has been conducting certification testing in the US and Canada. With the onset of the Covid-19 Pandemic, it was clear that another solution was needed.

The virtual testing program uses the Respondus Lockdown Browser and video monitoring system. The test taker installs the software on their computer before testing. At the time of the exam, the Respondus system locks down the computer browser so it can only access the online testing system. It also creates a video record of the test session. Additional in-person video monitoring is conducted by the CYCCB office. The system has been used successfully by many universities and testing providers to expand testing access while limiting the ability to cheat or copy exam contents.

Many of the CYCCB Board members took the virtual test the last week of May to confirm system features and clarify instructions. Josée Massé, Assistant Director of Emerging Minds, in Ontario, Canada was the first person outside of CYCCB to test the new system. She took the exam June 4th and reported, "The new online format was simple to navigate, and ongoing support was available when I needed help!"



CYCCB is implementing the Canadian CYC-P testing program first and will implement testing in the US at the Entry, Associate, and Professional levels over the next 2 months. Many Canadian Provinces are still locked down due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. CYCCB estimates that there are over 100 CYC practitioners in Canada waiting for testing. Many completed their applications during the Pandemic and only need to complete testing to become fully certified.

The CYCCB certification program is a response by the international CYC professional community to promote high standards of practice and provide a widely recognized credential to help the public identify qualified practitioners. The CYCCB certification standards are the most rigorous standards in the industry. Research shows that certified practitioners are viewed by their supervisors as 2.5 times more likely to be high performing.

Stay tuned as the implementation process unfolds. If you need additional information, visit www.CYCCB.org for the latest update, or call the CYCCB Office at (979) 764-7306. ♦

NEWS FLASH!

CYCCB Board elections are coming in August. There are eight (8) positions up for election this year. Four (4) current Board Members are expected to run again for their positions.

Elected Board members are nominated by CYCCB certified practitioners using the attached nomination form. For more information on the election process and requirements, please download the attached Nomination Form.

The deadline for nominations is July 31, 2021.

If you have any questions, please call the office at (979) 764-7306 or email the CYCCB Office.

We look to CYCCB certified practitioners to help us find leaders to join us in our efforts to expand CYC professional recognition. We value a wide diversity of backgrounds including direct practitioners, managers, administrators, trainers, educators, and researchers.

Sincerely,
Cindy Carraway Wilson
CYCCB President
CYCcertification@youthworkacademy.org

Now Hear This

The ACYCP FICE USA Council is under the great leadership of founder, Dennis Felty and Chair, Charles Hooker, both from Keystone Human Services in Pittsburgh. The ACYCP FICE Council members include Rachel Murphy, Michael Griffith, Marita Van Aswegen, Madeleine DeHart, Janet Wakefield and Ruth E. Siegfried.



Dennis Felty Founder FICE USA

ACYCP FICE USA Council Membership

Members of ACYCP are encouraged to join in on the global efforts of ACYCP FICE USA Council, when you renew your annual ACYCP memberships:

Individuals:

<https://www.acycp.org/acycp-fice-usa-individual-membership-70-per-person-per-year>

Agencies:

<https://www.acycp.org/acycp-fice-usa-agency-membership-1000-per-person-per-year>

Currently the ACYCP FICE Council is working on lending support to countries, where youth migration into the USA has become so prolific. In addition, the Council is working with FICE International on promising approaches for young people in care and who are refugees.

Come join our global activities! ♦

Illustration: Mary Pahlke on Pixabay.com

Reflections from the JJ Side

SOLITARY CONFINEMENT?

<https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/brain-chemistry/201902/the-effects-solitary-confinement-the-brain>

OH CANADA!

By Susan Hunt, BA



Editor's Note: Oh Canada! will return in the Fall issue, hopefully after the heat wave has departed and wildfires in British Columbia have been vanquished.



Now Hear This!

THE FACILITY DOUBLED THE SALARY OF ITS 2010 RATES, AND SURPASSED ALL SIMILAR SALARIES IN THE INDUSTRY



[Editor's Note: Special thanks goes out to Janet Wakefield and Toby Stark for passing this along, plus the author and Not For Profit News. Additional thanks to Gene Cavaliere for his thoughtful critique.]
by Shari Finnell, writer/editor Not for Profit News

When Richard Lapinski took over as executive director/CEO of the Indiana United Methodist Children's Home (IUMCH), it quickly became apparent that he wouldn't be there to win over friends. The Lebanon-based facility was facing serious challenges, including a significant cut in referrals from the Indiana Department of Child Services (DCS) — the primary source of its youth resident placements. Difficult decisions had to be made.

IUMCH only had about 27 youth residents, down from an average of 75 to 80 — more than a 60 percent reduction, Lapinski recalled. However, the facility still had more than 110 employees on its payroll — functioning with an infrastructure that had become

outdated with the loss of residents. "And that number was rapidly decreasing for a number of reasons," Lapinski said.

With awareness increasing about best practices for caring for troubled youth, many of whom had been abused or neglected in their previous homes, IUMCH wasn't measuring up as a preferred placement facility. "Our organization didn't really have the structure or appropriate behavioral models in place to care for the kids properly," Lapinski said.

Illustration: Pixabay.com

[READ MORE](#)

A CYC Professional Responds:

[Editor's Note: The following commentary is that of the author, and does not necessarily reflect the views of the ACYCP Board, it's membership or organizational arms, nor the staff of the CYC Advocate.]

Great article indeed.

We need to review information like this to get those of us who are committed to youth worker salary increases focused and on track.

The article does leave out some critical information - with 110 employees still on payroll what were those 55 positions that were cut?

Non-essentials? Who picked up the slack? The live in house parents?

With 27 residents, down from 75-80 youth, that's well more than a 60% revenue reduction - how did they get financing to build those 6 wonderful family homes and that wonderful new state of the art school? With 75 - 80 youth for full capacity to get 500 referrals a year is an amazing feat. Need to know the average length of stay of residents to get a handle on this. Either a lot of rejected referrals or very short terms of stay (which could be a very good thing). And they had a healthy endowment - but depleting. What about those other live-in buildings - converted to another use? And just what happened to all those staff members that worked there for 20-30 years?

The IUMCH turn around seems fantastic - especially their revised treatment system. But we do need to dig in deeper.

Not every place can just do this and create hefty child and youth salary increases. But that is exactly what is number one on my wish list.

Hoping this article gets us to come up with some type of system wide approach to get there - and I am sure many of you have ideas already.

My perspective: most of residential facilities that I know about on the east coast employ child and youth workers on a shift basis - not as house parents.

Yet I was an ED of a group home that had live-in staff - so I am fully aware of how that works. In reality - one live in staff is really covering 3 shifts. There is a lot of financial math that I could get into - but let's skip that. To get what we want (in our life-time) we

may have to radically move in another direction that most human service agencies live with now.

Gene Cavaliere CYC - P
NE Training Associates
www.neassoc.com
(401) 568-6412

Note: Do you have information about working conditions in the CYC profession? Please forward your items to: Michael Mitchell, ACYCP Periodicals Editor, at propman46@gmail.com. Thanks for sharing!

What About Me?...Self-Care When You're Giving It Your All

REWIRE YOUR BRAIN FOR JOY

[Editor's Note: The following is reprinted with permission and gratitude to NPR (National Public Radio) Lifekit of July 2, 2021. To read this article with All its embedded links, [follow this link](#)]



Fireworks and barbecues, beach bags and curbside popsicles and the sound of your go-to summer song playing full blast at the picnic or the pool as you finally reunite with loved ones (or hopefully will soon)— [Summer is officially] here! And with it, a grab bag brimming with opportunities for joy.

What shape does joy take in your life?

Does it taste like strawberry shortcake or smell like fresh cut grass? Does it feel like a big hug from a friend, look like hiking to the top of a mountain or sound like your favorite Life Kit podcast? 😊

Science tells us that joy takes practice. And after almost a year-and-a-half of pandemic living, we're sure it's easy to relate — a recent report says signs of anxiety and depression in adults have grown nearly 300% since the pandemic began. And with so much to worry about in the world, from heat waves to new variants, it can feel hard, maybe even wrong, to focus on the light in your life.

But joy is good for the body and good for the mind, which makes it an asset in your day-to-day life. And the best news is you can train yourself to feel it! Recent research says it's possible to "rewire" your brain so you can more easily swap negative emotions with positive ones with just a little bit of effort each day.

Looking for a place to start? Here are some tips from our episode on how to have a good weekend.

READ MORE

Illustration: Kranich 17 on Pixabay.com

GET HELP HERE WITH YOUR CYC CERTIFICATION APPLICATION!



HELP IS HERE!

CYCCB offers monthly webinar-based Certification Help. If you need help completing your certification, application, references, documenting your training and experience, finishing your portfolio, or a host of other things, COME TO OUR HELP WEBINAR.

If you need immediate help, call the CYC Office (979) 764-7306. They can answer most questions and provide you with necessary forms.

If you need more, attend one of our webinars. The webinars will be focused on whatever issues are brought to the session relating to certification completion. If you need more help than can be offered during the hour session, a resource person will be assigned to you who can stay involved until you get your application filed.

Go to this [link](#) to sign up. You will receive an email confirming you are signed up. The day before and the day of the webinar we will contact you with instructions for how to join the webinar.

You will need a computer with high speed internet access. You can either use headphones at your computer or call-in using a phone. Certification staff will be available during the webinar to answer your questions.

If you have questions, please contact us at (979) 764-7306 or CYCoffice@YouthWorkAcademy.org. There is no charge for attending the webinar. Your phone company may charge for the phone call.

CYC Certified practitioners renew their certificates every two years. Beginning in 2019 a \$50 late fee is due for anyone not renewing before the deadline. The deadline is the month and day the certificate was issued on a two year cycle (if your certification was issued on July 1, 2018,

your renewal due date is before July 1, 2020). The renewal process is simple and can be accessed by visiting www.cycpcb.org and going to the RENEWAL tab.

Webinars are all scheduled at:

3:30 - 4:30 PM Newfoundland
3:00 - 4:00 PM Atlantic
2:00 - 3:00 PM Eastern
1:00 - 2:00 PM Central
12:00 - 1:00 PM Mountain
11:00 - 12:00 PM Pacific
10:00 - 11:00 PM Alaska

Webinars will be held once-a-month on the following Wednesdays in 2021:

August 11, 2021
September 8, 2021
October 13, 2021
November 10, 2021
December 8, 2021

See you there! ◇

The Other Half of the Job

5 STRATEGIES TO BUILD A RESILIENT WORKFORCE



[Editor's Note: This article is reprinted thanks to BetterUp, and was shared with the CYC Advocate by Andy Schneider-Munoz, Ph.D., past president and advisor to the ACYCP Board.]

Resilience is a powerful preventative strategy that will increase your organization's endurance through the uncertain times ahead of us. Beyond just surviving future disruption, companies that learn how to thrive through crisis will emerge as winners.

Research shows that individuals, teams and companies that are resilient have a clear competitive advantage, especially during times of change and uncertainty. Get the guide to empower your workforce today.

[Download today to get 5 clear steps to building resilience across your organization.](#)

Promote wellbeing at all levels:

√Foster a culture of resilience through your leaders.

√Model after the profile of high resilience.

√Make change personal.

√Take resilience out of the mystery box.

READ MORE

Illustration by Gerd Altmann on Pixabay.com

The Accidental Practitioner

NORTH AMERICAN CODE OF ETHICS: DO YOU KNOW AND USE IT?



By Dale Curry, Ph.D., LSW, CYC-P, Professor Emeritus-Kent State university

The importance of ethics training has increasingly become recognized by most human service fields including child and youth care (CYC). Ethical codes typically include general values and principles that can be applied across a variety of situations. However, specific examples of compliance and non-compliance

for each ethical standard are often not provided to help guide ethical practice. In addition, incidents sometimes involve more than one standard that may conflict with each other creating ethical dilemmas. While potential ethical situations can be complex and often influenced by the specific context, providing examples can help to provide clarity for better understanding and potential for interesting ethical discussions. Following is an abbreviated example of an activity that can help promote a better awareness of how the North American Code of Ethics applies to daily interactions in CYC. The full version of the activity can be retrieved from:

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/343384980_Ethical_Football.

Using a sports metaphor, this activity provides direct instruction on specific standards of the North American Code of Ethics. Create a separate index card for each example/scenario of compliance or non-compliance to each standard and/or five responsibilities of the North American Code. Place sheets of paper on the floor or taped to a wall that mark off the room as following: Ethical Hall of Fame, 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 40 30 20, 10, Hall of Shame. Divide the training group into three teams and ask each of the teams to select a representative to go out on to the ethical football field and stand on the 50-yard line.

Ask the remaining team members to come to the "sidelines" as a team to support their teammates. Ask a team member from the first group to randomly select one of the ethical scenario cards and read it to the larger group (in their best CYC voice). Have the representative from the team move forward or backward five yards based upon whether the statement is a positive or negative example of ethical practice. Ask the participants if they can identify which of the five major responsibility domains are relevant to the statement and attempt to elicit any other thoughts participants may have. Remember that

more than one of the responsibility areas may be indicated. Repeat the process with the other teams.

As the activity progresses, the representatives may find themselves on different part of the field. Some closer to the Hall of Fame and some closer to the Hall of Shame.

While the participants are still standing in their positions on the field, a number of questions could be asked such as: What steps can an organization take to move closer to the Ethical Hall of Fame? Did any of these examples remind you of situations that you or your organization has encountered? Each statement may elicit questions or comments from the group. You as the activity leader may also prompt discussion throughout by asking questions like "what have you done to protect young persons who have experienced trauma?" when a statement related to trauma is read out loud.

Following are a few sample scenarios of compliance and non-compliance for each of the five ethical responsibilities of the **North American Code of Ethics**. Additional scenarios are provided in the full version.

+ CYCW regularly conducts a self-learning/training needs assessment using the North American Competencies for Child and Youth Work. After identifying needed areas of growth, the CYCW constructs a plan with the supervisor to receive the appropriate training or other learning opportunity. (Responsibility for self)

CYW attends training on behavioral intervention strategies but fails to implement newly learned information from training with the youth. (Responsibility for self)

+When talking with youth about their families, the CYW is careful not to undercut or disempower parents unintentionally. The plan for most of the youth in out-of-home care is to return home. The CYW finds ways to keep families connected and empower parents and youth. (Responsibility to children, youth, and families)

Not being aware of previous trauma that a youth experienced, the CYW insists that all youth participate in an activity that involves walking blindfolded with another youth. (Responsibility to children, youth and families)

+ Although disagreeing with a colleague over how to intervene with a young person's misbehavior during a program activity, the CYW waits until s/he can meet with the colleague in the office in private to discuss possible alternative ways to intervene. The

CYW acknowledges the colleague's reasoning and positive intentions but also explores with the colleague other ways to intervene with the young person if a similar situation occurs again. (Responsibility to the employer and/or employing organization)

After disagreeing with a colleague over how to intervene with a young person's misbehavior during a program activity, the CYW ignores the colleague's proposed intervention and criticizes the colleague's competence in the presence of the program participants. (Responsibility to the employer and/or employing organization)

+ The CYW immediately intervenes and later reports his/her colleague to the supervisor after seeing the colleague inappropriately touch one of the program participants. (Responsibility to the profession)

After seeing a colleague physically “slam” a young person to the ground for being disrespectful, the CYW looks the other way and pretends to not have observed the incident. (Responsibility to the profession; also, children, youth and families and other standards)

+A CYW trainer provides youth development and care information at no cost to the general public at a local public library. (Responsibility to the community)

After promoting a two-hour youth development “training” session as a “no cost learning event” for community families, a CYW trainer focuses 90 of the 120 minutes marketing his expensive training materials and attaining individual contact information for further marketing and for-profit promotional events. (Responsibility to community). ◇

Illustration: Mary Pahlke on Pixabay.com

IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO INVEST IN ACYCP



Did you know that ACYCP is an all-volunteer 501(c) 6 (U.S. Tax Code) organization?

Every year those associated with ACYCP donate thousands of hours in service to the organization, to benefit the child and youth care professionals which it serves. Many also dig down into their own pockets to cover travel expenses, accommodations and other expenditures needed to complete strategic tasks, like the annual Board meeting, in service to our Vision and Mission Statements.

In addition, there are the scholarships, awards, and grants, which ACYCP bestows annually to deserving recipients within ACYCP and across the profession at large. In trying to return maximum value to our members, we try and keep dues as low as possible, while keeping membership value high.

We also need to contract with commercial services to help us with those technical and specialized skills, which we're unable to cover with our volunteer resources. Database management, website design and hosting, on-line publication distribution, and membership dues to allied organizations, are just a few of these many expenditures. This leaves little left over to cover daily operating costs or special projects.

That's where you can help us carry the financial load.

Please donate to ACYCP today!

You can give today or include ACYCP in your estate planning. You can make a donation on behalf of yourself, in honor of someone else, or on someone else's behalf (gift?)- your choice! Make your donation online (below) or send your check or money order to:

ACYCP
P.O. Box 510423
Milwaukee, WI 53203
OR

<https://www.acycp.org/donate>

Need yet another reason to invest in ACYCP? Just go to:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wOcC8BBhtAY>

Please feel free to share this information with other ACYCP and CYC friends.◇

Did You Know?

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE-SEPTEMBER 21, 2021



[Editor's Note: ACYCP has expanded its international outreach with its merger with FICE-USA.

By Michael Mitchell, MAT

In the United States there are several holidays, numerous observances, and festivals, which honor those who have served in the armed forces, especially in times of war and armed conflict; both the commencement and the cessation, permanent or temporary. Worldwide these events number in the hundreds.

However, when do we celebrate those who serve in the cause of peace, not through threat of force, but through diplomacy, negotiations, treaty making, multi-lateral conferences and culture-to-culture exchanges?

As has been so aptly stated, **"There is no road to peace, peace is the road."** Likewise, peace is not the absence of conflict.

As history has shown, over and over again, armed conflict always leads to more armed conflict. What is taken by force, must be secured by force, leading to a constant state of tension and a constant drain on both human and financial resources. At any given time, there are dozens of armed conflicts in contention around the globe. These result in thousands of killed and maimed combatants and civilians, including youth and children. Millions of dollars in destroyed property and natural resources, often leads to famine, inadequate and deplorable refugee camps, and displacement for millions. In the

worst cases, war results in genocide. The realized and unrealized costs, both tangible and intangible, can last for generations and destroy entire nations and cultures.

Hear composer Karl Jenkins "The Peacemakers" (You Tube):

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-uS04CyzUgM>

With all this in mind, let us all, collectively and individually, join in observing the upcoming **International Day of Peace, on September 21, 2021.**

For more information, go to:

<https://www.un.org/en/observances/international-day-peace>

"Let There Be Peace On Earth And Let It Begin With Me"-Jill Jackson, 1955

From Campus to Community?

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION LAUNCHES OUTREACH CAMPAIGN TO MILLIONS OF K-12 STUDENTS AND FEDERAL PELL GRANT RECIPIENTS NOW ELIGIBLE FOR MONTHLY DISCOUNTS ON BROADBAND INTERNET SERVICE

[Editor's Note This article is reprinted with thanks to the US Department of Education, and was first published May 12,, 2021.]

Contact: Press Office, (202) 401-1576,
press@ed.gov

This article is also available in Spanish.



The U.S. Department of Education today launched a major outreach campaign to millions of students who are now eligible for a monthly discount on broadband internet service under a temporary program administered by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). The campaign will inform millions of families with children participating in the free or reduced-price lunch or school breakfast program, and 6.5 million Pell Grant recipients that they are now eligible for the discount of up to \$50 per month. Eligible households on qualifying Tribal lands can receive a discount of up to \$75 per month.

"The COVID-19 pandemic has magnified issues of internet access and affordability for both K-12 students and college students, particularly students of color, students in rural or tribal communities, and students from low-income families," said U.S. Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona. "We know that the quality of home internet access has an impact on student success, and that students without robust internet access and reliable devices struggled more with the transition to remote learning this past year. This

campaign will not only keep more of America's students connected and learning, but will help address inequities exacerbated by COVID-19. As we recover from the pandemic, we have an opportunity to rebuild our education system back better than it was before, and providing reliable, affordable internet access to more students disproportionately impacted by the pandemic is one way we can make sure all students are set up for success."

Households with a child who has received approval for benefits under the under the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) or the School Breakfast Program (SBP), including a child that attends a school participating in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Community Eligibility Provision (CEP), during the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 school years are now eligible for the FCC's Emergency Broadband Benefit Program (EBB Program). Pell Grant recipients, who are usually undergraduates with exceptional financial need, also qualify for the FCC's EBB Program to help pursue postsecondary education if they received their grant during the 2020-2021 award year.

The temporary program provides a monthly discount of up to \$50 per month on broadband service and associated equipment (a modem, for example) for eligible households and up to \$75 per month for households on qualifying Tribal lands. Each participating household may also receive a one-time discount of up to \$100 for one connected device—a laptop, desktop, or tablet computer—where available from a participating broadband provider, as long as the household contributes between \$10 and \$50 towards the cost of the device.

Eligible families of K-12 students and eligible Pell Grant recipients can apply for the discount online, via mail, or through a participating service provider. Eligible households can find participating internet service providers in their area by entering their zip code into the Companies Near Me tool.

"It's more apparent than ever that broadband is no longer nice-to-have. It's need-to-have. For everyone, everywhere," said acting FCC Chairwoman Jessica Rosenworcel. "Seemingly overnight, the COVID-19 pandemic required millions of families and students to shift to remote learning. These students, their families, and their teachers worked hard to make remote learning a reality. But this crisis highlighted like never before that the virtual classroom was closed to millions of students without reliable internet access at home – with students of color and low-income families hit the hardest. And that's simply unacceptable. I'm proud to partner with Secretary Cardona and the Department of Education to help get the word out about the FCC's newest program to help families struggling with digital disconnection and provide them support."

The Education Department is reaching out directly to approximately 6.5 million Pell Grant recipients to inform them that they may be eligible for the discount. The Department is also reaching out to CEP schools and districts to inform them that they or their students may be eligible for the internet access program and share information on how to apply. Additionally, the Department is working with the FCC to develop materials to support schools, districts, and postsecondary schools in spreading the word about the program to eligible students and families. As trusted community members, schools, districts, and postsecondary schools are critical outreach partners. In addition to conducting EBB Program outreach to eligible students and families, schools can take steps to help eligible students and families navigate the sign-up process, including:

Using the outreach toolkit materials to inform eligible students and families about the Emergency Broadband Benefit. The toolkit and other consumer materials can be found at

fcc.gov/broadbandbenefit. Outreach resources for K-12 schools and districts can be found at <https://tech.ed.gov/broadband/ebb/>.

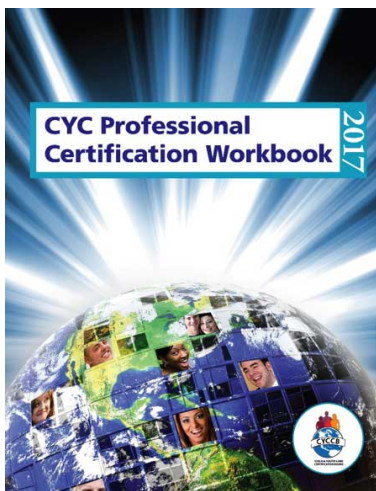
Creating an outreach team or partnering with a trusted community-based organization to spread the word and help eligible students and families navigate the sign-up process. Helping eligible students and families use the Companies Near Me tool to identify participating providers.

Organizing a provider fair so that students and families can compare and ask questions about the available internet service plans offered by participating local providers. For questions about the EBB Program please visit GetEmergencyBroadband.org, call 833-511-0311, or email EBBHelp@usac.org.

Today's announcement is part of the Biden-Harris Administration's broader commitment to providing support and resources to students and communities impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, expand access to broadband, and build back better. The American Rescue Plan provides resources states and schools districts can use to close the digital divide, for example by purchasing laptops and wi-fi hotspots. The Department has also provided direct support to students through the American Rescue Plan, including informing more students of expanded eligibility for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) during the pandemic. President Biden has also proposed historic investments in the American Jobs Plan to reach 100 coverage of high-speed, reliable, broadband internet, and he has proposed in the American Families Plan to increase the maximum Pell Grant award by about \$1,400. ◇

Illustration: Gerd Altman on Pixabay.com

CYC PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION WORKBOOK : GET IT NOW AND COMPLETE THAT CERTIFICATION TODAY!



CYCCB is pleased to announce that the long awaited *CYC Professional Certification Workbook* is now available. The workbook is designed to help child and youth work practitioners prepare and apply for professional certification (CYC-P) offered by the Child & Youth Care Certification Board.

It provides a wealth of information in an easy-to-use format. It includes information on the history of the CYC certification effort, characteristics of certified practitioners, the testing and application process, forms, costs, and sources for a wide variety of articles, publications, and professional development supports useful to CYC practitioners working in any setting. The sections on test preparation and the professional

portfolio offer sample exam questions and portfolio responses. Information about the Entry, Associate, and Professional level certifications is included.

The workbook is in response to the need for a one-stop source of information that addresses applicant questions and needs. Whether you are preparing for testing, completing an application, or simply exploring how to improve your CYC knowledge and skills, this workbook is designed for you. The workbook is constructed with tabbed sections to make it easy to find answers for whatever certification related questions you might have.

The workbook is available from CYCCB for \$30 (which includes shipping costs).
[Order a manual at this LINK](#)

Did You Know?

CYCCB HIGHLIGHTED IN MAJOR CALIFORNIA CYC REPORT

[Editor's Note: In yet another historic landmark achievement, ACYCP's affiliate, the Child and Youth Care Certification Board (CYCCB), has taken another giant step in being recognized internationally for outstanding role as a CYC training institution. For more information on CYCCB, go to: <https://www.cyccb.org/>]



By Andy Schneider-Munoz, Ph.D. and Dale Curry, Ph.D.

The California Alliance of Child and Family Services, about a decade ago, set itself aside from some of the other non-profits that were not providing high quality care. I recognize the names of all of the facilities and one thing that sets them apart is that they do provide training of some kind for their workers. Report co-chair Steve Elson, has been a long-time supporter of ACYCP Certification. However, the quick turn over of agency leaders in the US is part of the challenge before us now.

This February 2021 report entitled **STRTP Policy and Practice Recommendations: Recommendations to Improve a Critical Component of Care for Foster Youth**, is co-chaired by Steve Elson, Ph.D. and Kelsie Tatum, Psy.D. Among its many highlights, CYCCB is singled out in the following areas:

√ Page 7 mentions CYCCB and **certified workers being 2.7 times more likely to be high performers.**

√ Page 20 highlights the **CYCCB program, 5 domains and rigorous approach.**

√ Page 29 Recommendations that focuses on hiring and professionalization of staff suggesting **an approach that includes a certain percentage of certified workers.**

Step by step. I never thought I would see the day that we would be feature so prominently in a report like this. Mark Krueger [ACYCP founding member] is tossing all the free throws in heaven for us.

[READ THE ORIGINAL REPORT HERE](#)

Enjoy! ♦

Illustration: Gerd Altman on Pixabay.com

Resources in Review

TRAUMA-INFORMED ORGANIZATIONAL ASSESSMENT TOOL

[Editor's Note: The following is reprinted with thanks from a PACEs email bulletin, wherein members can exchange information and ideas on trauma-informed care. To join PACEs,



go [to:https://www.pacesconnection.com/blog/welcome-to-acesconnection-com](https://www.pacesconnection.com/blog/welcome-to-acesconnection-com)]

"Please fill out this Trauma-Informed Organizational Assessment Tool Survey form to help us continue building out a database of the various assessment tools available for organizations. Inspired by May's CTIPP CAN call, we know there are a number of tools that assess where an organization is on the journey to become trauma informed and healing responsive. In partnership with CTIPP, the Child and Family team at UMass Medical School are trying to gather a list of these organizational assessments. This PDF table includes the ones we currently are aware of and we are hoping to gather more. If you are aware of additional assessment tools, please enter the relevant information into the Google forms survey as soon as possible!" Jessie Maxwell Kohler-Member

READ MORE

Illustration: Nyriam Zillis on Pixabay.com

Thinking Like the Fox

AFTER THE STORM: ASSESSING THE TROOPS



By Lorraine E. Fox, Ph.D.-Staff Writer

When a storm impacts our lives the first task for a person or a family is to assess the damage. We don't know how to make a plan for repair until we carefully assess what has happened and what needs to be done. Summer is here and we are walking out the door of isolation and social distance, and completely revamped routines. While many scholars and casual observers are making

various predictions about what will be different for individuals and communities, most agree that we will have to “wait and see” how people have weathered the total disruption of previous ways of living. “Things” will not be as different as they were in the height of the pandemic; but they will not be as they were before either. Different folks have different abilities and comfort levels weathering disruptions and adapting to change. Time to assess your troops. Direct service workers, those are the clients; Supervisors and Managers, those are the staff.

Parents and professionals involved in creating safety and well-being for children and young people will now be asked to notice, adapt to, and accommodate differences both within each young person, and without in terms of differences in their environment. I found myself having petty complaints about changes in familiar restaurants once we could return to eating out again. If I was still working with children I would tell myself to keep this in mind as children find changes in previously familiar spaces unnerving, and to be kind about their complaints, even though – in the scheme of things – these will not seem like a “big deal”. They will be for some in your care, for a variety of “reasonable reasons”. (Time to review some case histories to make some reasonable guesses as to who will have more trouble and why.)

You remember what it was like when you left out part of a story during your bedtime reading, or forgot to “roar” when you said the word lion. Children like things to be the same. It’s why they prefer videos over being read to. Videos don’t change anything and are exactly the same every time they watch. No omissions or changes; no surprises.

Children and teens will differ in terms of their experiences, and they will differ in the “internal resources” they brought to the difficult year and now to new adjustments. Since my space here is limited I encourage you to do some reading and talking about differences in “resiliency”, and “differential vulnerability”.

We know that individuals of all ages (including babies) vary in terms of their ability to withstand adversity. Some people are born with what are called “innate” qualities that enable them to “stretch” or adapt more easily to difficult situations, or to endure difficulties with more “hardiness”, and to recover more easily from physical and emotional challenges than others. Some toddlers fall on the floor and immediately begin to cry; other toddlers fall on the floor and just get up and keep going. Some kids bump into furniture and cry because they “hurt themselves”, while others show up to the table with a bruise on their head that they don’t remember getting. Some kids cry when you scold them; others give you a look that says “who cares what you think?” Some kids receive kind and instructive parenting and are thus able to hold up well when battered about by circumstance. Other kids have already been battered about, and did not receive kindness and care. Some kids are born with strong, healthy bodies; other kids are born with the effects of neglect and drug and alcohol exposure. Resiliency – the ability to weather the storm better than others – is a combination of life experiences + innate internal strengths.

Kids are not like kids; they are like themselves. Research has revealed that differences in resiliency are more important to long term effects of crises and trauma than the actual event a child experiences. (This is also true for adults.) We have not all been through the same thing with our national health crisis, and it will require compassion and discipline for each adult to take the time and trouble to study each child/teen in their care and notice how they are faring. If we bunch them together we will lose the ability to be helpful to each in the particular ways they will need us as they work at readjusting once again. Examine your troops with your eyes and your heart, and be ready to vary your prescriptions for recuperation. ◇

From the Soapbox... Again!

IF NOT NOW, WHEN...IF NOT YOU, WHO?



By Karen Vander Ven, Ph.D., Professor Emerita, Department of Psychology in Education, University of Pittsburgh-Staff Writer at kvander@pitt.edu]

Carpe diem! Let us seize the day! The times are favorable for advancing and further building the child and youth care field!

For years I have importuned the child and youth care field to read beyond the professional literature (although of course they certainly need to read that). This was based on the premise that in child and youth work we need to take contexts into account as well as the developmental and caregiving needs of the children and youth.

What is going on in the world that affects children, youth, families, and those who work with them? Given of course that context plays a major role in shaping the process of development - how can we find out more about what these are and the role that they play? And then see how we can use our knowledge and skills to increase and refine them.

When I used to tell my childcare students that I expected them to read the New York Times they would give me some puzzled looks. What did this have to do with daily interactions and practices?

Well, the New York Times does have some news for us ! Good news! For some reason children and youth have become of big interest and almost every day there are articles about children and childcare – good news and bad. Of course, the plight of migrant children has received a lot of coverage, as has that of the many aspects of COVID's effect on children and youth. Increased resources for childcare in general are being sought. All of these, of course, get us thinking about how our special knowledge and practice can be brought to bear on these situations.

But even better there has been coverage of practice issues that we know well: what are good activities for children; why childcare settings and programs are important, and others. Children are even target audiences, especially on Sunday, with special activities proposed for them.

So what are the implications of this? It suggests to me that the 'times are right' now to build on this increased attention while providing even more.

The notion of marketing comes to mind. This is a concept that sometimes makes people ask, "What does that have to do with us?" Well, only everything. Marketing has been said to involve 4 factors: price, place, promotion, and product. If we think about it, these 4 factors can be configured to take advantage of increasing societal and journalistic interest in children and utilized to address the multiple systems that affect them and the services we develop and provide. There is wide availability of resources for learning about marketing that of course we're familiar with. Try 'googling' the word.

We have to look to ourselves sometimes, to be sure that we are not hindering our marketing efforts with what I once called the "Oh, Little Me" phenomenon, which is the enemy of trying something new. An opportunity is offered and the recipient responds "Oh – little me! I could never do that!" - whether it is to give a speech, conduct a workshop, or offer a new activity, to just give It a try!

The cumulative effect of these efforts will pay off in greater public awareness and ultimately increased resources and quality of services. Marketing can be more challenging if the 'product' isn't timely. But, child care is, if the New York Times is giving it ink .

So indeed. Carpe diem. Seize the day! There is a lot we can and need to do and the 'times' are ripe for it! ◇

Illustration: Gerd Altmann on Pixabay.com

Now Hear This!

ACYCP HAS GREAT VIRTUAL TRAINING FOR YOU AND YOUR STAFF



During the Covid-19 Pandemic many CYC practitioners and programs have had a hard time finding live professional development. This has consequences for individuals when renewing CYC Certification and for programs attempting to comply with licensing requirements.

ACYCP, its members, the CYC Certification Board, and other partners are collaborating to create low-cost high quality virtual training. Beginning in March, ACYCP is offering two or more virtual trainings each month through the end of 2021. Trainings will focus on helping practitioners explore best practices and emerging trends in the field. Most offerings are one to two hours in length. Longer courses are also included to promote deeper skill development.

[Follow this LINK](#) for a complete listing of current live trainings available. This page is updated when additional trainings become available. Make sure to bookmark it on your device.

ACYCP trainings are priced between \$25 and \$35, depending on length. Trainings offered through collaborating partners may be priced higher. ACYCP members receive \$10 discounts on all the trainings. Bulk pricing is available when purchasing 25 or more seats at the same time. Seats can be divided across multiple trainings.

Proceeds from the trainings go directly to support ACYCP and its partnering organizations. Your training dollars help ACYCP to move the CYC field forward. You can make a donation to ACYCP by purchasing a bulk package of trainings and making the seats available. ACYCP will distribute these seats to members and programs who are operating on reduced budgets due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. Donations are tax deductible for most individuals.

Remember that archived webinars are always available so you can pursue your professional development goals 24/7 at a convenient time of your choosing. [Follow this LINK](#) for a complete listing.

If you have training skills and relevant content, we are interested in content on subjects relevant to child and youth care practitioners, best, and emerging practices. Presentations are delivered using our Zoom platform, are recorded, and typically archived for future use by our members. Although many of our members donate training to support ACYCP and the CYC field, we have partners who offer virtual live and archived training on a fee-for-service basis.

For more information about submitting a training, [contact Laura Klemm.](#)

Now Hear This!

YOUR AGENCY NEEDS THIS ACYCP MEMBERSHIP BENEFIT NOW!



Yes, believe it or not, **CYC agencies SAVE a whopping 40% on individual staff ACYCP memberships**, when firms join as an Agency Member!

When your agency joins ACYCP, it received 20 Individual Memberships, among many other benefits. That represents a 40% savings over the cost of the same number of solo memberships. This, in turn, meets the individual CYC association membership requirement for Certification.

How great is that!?

NEWS BREAK!

But that's not all! Organizations with 41 or more employees for membership get a further discount as a Corporate Member. Just contact Michael at the information below for further details.

Want to know more? [Follow this link.](#)

Questions?

Just contact:
Michael Mitchell, MAT
ACYCP Membership Services Chair
propman46@gmail.com
(608)846-2860
[Madison, WI]

Join today and show your hard working staff that you're invested in their professional growth and development!

"THE WISDOM OF TRAUMA"



[Editor's Note; This message is a follow-up to those who have made the basic suggested donation (\$20) to view "The Wisdom of Trauma" during its previous initial screening. This can be done again July 28-Aug 1 (see below). This film is an incredibly powerful resource for everyone to see, as it is accessible to both layman and professionals alike, regardless of background or field of practice. It is truly revolutionary and will quickly become a landmark in CYC work.]

So many of you have asked to see the film again and to be able to share it with your family, community and friends. **We are delighted to let you know that we will rebroadcast the movie and all the Talks on Trauma July 28 – August 1, 2021.**

Thank you for your support and for being part of the global wave of people who viewed and shared the film. **Over 4 million human beings from 230 countries saw the film in just one week, and the wave is growing.**

The community sent so much appreciation and love back to us and poured it into our collective field! We have received over 4,000 letters sharing how the movie has changed your views of yourself and of life. Many viewers felt validated and not alone on their healing journey. May we continue together on this journey of learning, investigating, and healing trauma in our bodies, in our social structures and in our tender world.

We are delighted to extend your access to watch the movie and talk series and will send you links as we get closer to the event.

If you wish to upgrade to the All-Access Pass to get a full course by Dr. Maté, downloadable access to the Talks on Trauma series and many other materials to work with trauma at a special discount just for supporters, you can do so here:

→ [Upgrade to the All-Access Pass with special discount](#)

Let's work together to break the cycles of trauma and create a more compassionate society! With appreciation and love, The Wisdom of Trauma team ◇



Virtually Proctored Online Entry Level Testing Now Available in the US

July 1st CYCCB launched virtually proctored online ENTRY LEVEL testing in the US. CYCCB began offering virtually proctored testing in Canada in June. Based on the successful piloting of this program, testing is now available in the US!

Work continues to mount all CYCCB exams for virtual delivery. We expect to have all exams available by the end of July.

Online ENTRY LEVEL Testing is currently available when staff are available to monitor and support testing. Sign up for testing. The CYCCB Office will contact you to schedule a date and time.

For more information, contact Laura Klemm or call the CYCCB Office (979) 764-7306 or visit the CYCCB website: [CYCCB Online Testing](#)

Minority Colleges and Universities Grant Competition



NOW ACCEPTING PROPOSALS
SUBMISSION DEADLINE IS AUGUST 16, 2021

Minority Business Development Agency is pleased to share a new grant competition is NOW OPEN for Minority Colleges and Universities!

MBDA is actively seeking grant proposals for its Minority Colleges and Universities program. The new grant competition will award \$4.5 million in grants to open one of five programs at any HBCU, HSI, TCU, ANSI, and NHSI in any U.S. state or territory. To learn more about the grant competition, register for the pre-application conference on August 3, 2021, and to access additional resources, please visit MBDA Grants page.

The Purposeful Use of Daily Life Events



Fall 2021 Course

In collaboration with the Academy for Competent Youth Work and TransformAction, Training Grounds is gearing up for the Fall 2021 remote course on the Purposeful Use of Daily Life Events. The course helps adults recognize and use everyday moments to help promote growth and change for young people.

The course offers an hour of self-paced learning each week and an additional hour of live instruction and coaching via Zoom. It's a great blend of learning as one participant shared: "The discussion and group interaction during the live calls really helped me integrate what I've read and listened to in the weekly online modules."

"The Spring course was a great success", says James Freeman, who facilitates the live coaching and training portion of the course. "Over a dozen people joined in from various geographic regions and quite a diversity of practice settings." Participants included those working in residential care, youth development, afterschool, and juvenile justice settings.

Participants who complete the series will receive a 14-hour certificate in the Child and Youth Care competency domain of Developmental Practice Methods. Full details are available at www.training-grounds.net

Illustration: Darwin Guevar at FreeInages.com

Sign up today! ◇

Would you like to advertise a job opening, service or event? Contact Michael Mitchell at propman46@gmail.com. ACYCP members ads are free as a membership benefit!



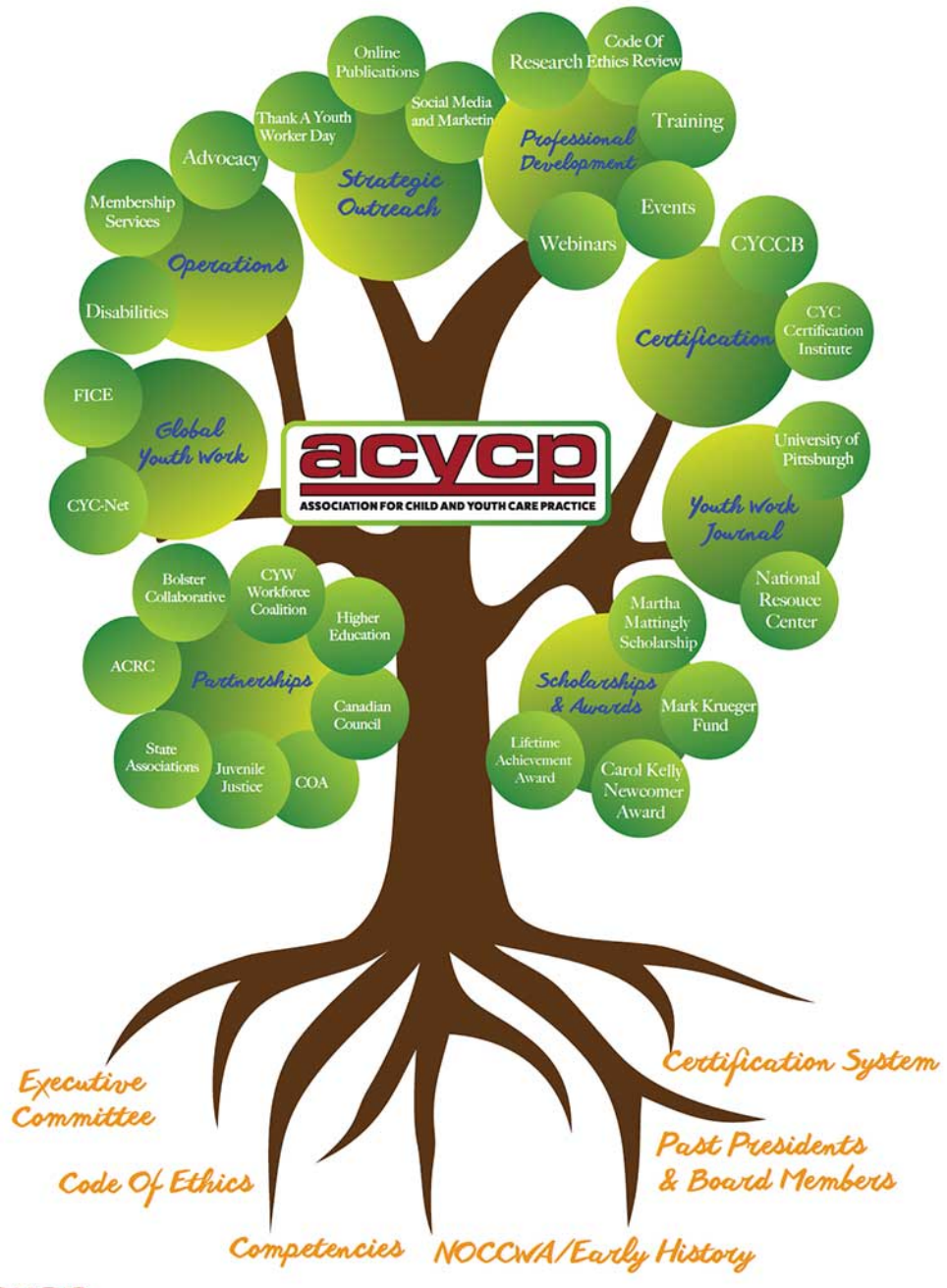
Member: White House COVID 19 Community Corps



Associate Partner



Associate Member



ACYCP organization tree update, v6.0
10/3/2019

MOVING? CHANGE OF JOB? GOT A PROMOTION?...

Well, we wish you all the best of success! But don't forget to take us along! Who knows, your ACYCP membership benefits and resources may come in real handy in your new situation. Or does your current email not permit personal or outside messages? Just get us your new email contact and any other membership data updates. So put us on your calendar or to-do list to make sure our contact remains unbroken. Just shoot off a quick easy email to acycp2011@yahoo.com with all your relevant changes, and we'll take care of the rest. We're soooo confident you'll be glad you did!

LINK WITH US!

CYC agencies and organizations may email the general email address at: acycp2011@yahoo.com and send their logo and web link, along with the name and contact information of a designated representative. Please put "Invitation To Link-ACYCP" in the subject line. We look forward to welcoming you to our communications and resource network!

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