

December 12, 2008

President-Elect Obama
Transition Team Office
451 6th Street NW
Washington DC 20004

Dear President-Elect Obama:

We, the undersigned, are writing to urge the creation of a White House Office on Children and Youth.

The Need

Far too few of our nation's young people are ready for college, work and life. Just 4 in 10 youth are in school or working, healthy, and connected to their community. Approximately 30 percent of high school students do not graduate on time. For African American and Hispanic students, on-time graduation is a 50-50 proposition. Employers report that 4 in 10 high school students lack the skills needed for work.

The Federal government runs hundreds of programs to serve children and youth ages 0-24, spread across 12 departments and agencies. The vast majority of these efforts are essential and effective; however, they are not part of an integrated, strategic plan to help at-risk populations achieve successful adulthood. Overall, the federal government's efforts for children and youth are scattershot and these fragmented efforts, contained within narrow silos, are failing America's young people. Further, few of the efforts designed to help young people have been designed with clear input from the young people the programs serve. America needs leadership which transcends silos, believes in youth voices, and provides a clear vision for success for all federal efforts supporting children and youth.

The Solution: A White House Office on Children and Youth

Establish a White House Office on Children and Youth to provide coordinated leadership and vision across departments and agencies; develop and oversee interagency implementation of a National Youth Strategy laying out the child and youth well-being results our nation must achieve and the reforms necessary to succeed; and provide young people a voice in the policies which impact them directly.

The White House Office on Children and Youth would strengthen the efficiency and effectiveness of youth policy through improved coordination of federal programs by:

- Creating and overseeing the implementation of a National Youth Strategy to improve outcomes for youth ages 0-24 by identifying gaps in youth services, establishing research-based goals and quantifiable performance measures, and crafting a plan for achieving benchmarks for child and youth well-being;
- Reviewing department and agency budget requests and providing recommendations to address priorities developed in the National Youth Strategy;
- Establishing a National Child and Youth Development Council composed of the heads of the executive branch departments, agencies and offices of the Federal government, youth, and public experts with knowledge of child and youth development to coordinate the implementation of the National Youth Strategy across agencies and sectors; and
- Establishing a National Youth Advisory Board of young people aged 14-24, and consulting with State Youth Advisory Boards, in order to insure that youth views and perspectives are heard.

Domestic and International Models

A White House Office on Children and Youth would build on the coordinating efforts already in place in nearly half of the States in the U.S., many localities, as well as in countries around the world.

Executive Offices for Children and Youth in States and Localities Across the United States

The State Children's Cabinets and Councils Network reports that 24 states have established cross-agency coordinating bodies that are systematically changing the fragmented and ineffective way policies and programs serve children and

youth by coordinating services, developing a common set of outcomes, and collaboratively deciding upon and implementing plans to foster the well-being of young people.

The Youth Councils Network reports that mayors, governors and legislatures in 12 states and more than 140 localities have created formal bodies of youth (typically ages 16-18) who advise high-level decision makers and elected officials.

Both coordinating bodies and mechanisms for youth voice have strong state and local support:

- The National Governors Association reports, “A strong and effective Children’s Cabinet can improve coordination and efficiency across state departments and local levels of government; mobilize resources around the governor’s priorities for children; facilitate a holistic approach to serving children; and strengthen partnerships with the non profit and private sectors.”
- The National League of Cities states, “without a shared vision or a collaborative structure to guide and assess local efforts, city and school leaders as well as their community partners risk wasting scarce resources or falling short of their goals by overlooking critical needs. The process of creating a youth master plan facilitates the development of sustained and coordinated strategies that yield large and lasting dividends and ensures that opportunities to improve outcomes for children and youth are not squandered,” and that local youth advisory boards are “a popular and effective way to get more youth involved in solving local problems and more actively engaged in the community.”

Executive Offices for Children and Youth around the World

In 2007, the United Kingdom created a Department for Children, Schools and Families to develop and implement a Children’s Plan. Many countries have followed, creating departments, offices, commissions, and councils to play the critical leadership and coordination roles outlined in the Commonwealth of Nations’ Youth Charter: (1) Form a national youth policy as a framework for all agencies and organizations; (2) Form a national action plan to achieve the policy; (3) Nominate a lead agency in government responsible for coordinating youth matters across government; (4) Create government machinery to achieve a coordinated and holistic government response (e.g., inter-Ministerial committee); (5) Establish consultative and participatory mechanisms with young men and women; (6) Establish a youth affairs collaborative mechanism among government, non-government organizations, communities and youth; (7) Create an annual gender disaggregated youth budget, including the total contribution of government toward youth across all ministries; (8) Develop capacity-building mechanisms within the fields of training, development, professional networking and research.

Federal Legislative Support

Federal efforts to coordinate youth policy have Congressional support. In 2005, the House of Representatives passed the Federal Youth Coordination Act (FYCA; H.R. 856) by an overwhelming bipartisan vote of 353 to 62, with no Democrats opposing. It was later incorporated into the reauthorization of the Older Americans Act (PL 109-365) as Title VIII. First time funding for its implementation was included in the House FY09 Labor-HHS-ED Appropriations bill. FYCA is up for reauthorization and has been introduced by Rep. John Yarmuth (D-KY) as H.R. 7004.

Fit with the Change Agenda

A White House Office on Children and Youth is an ideal opportunity for the Obama-Biden Administration to meet commitments made to children and youth, and to build a new, open government that includes youth voices.

- *Commitment to children and youth:* A White House Office on Children and Youth would provide leadership for replacing neglect and indifference with strategic action.
- *Commitment to a new type of government:* The National Youth Strategy would lay out the reforms and results our nation must make for children and youth.
- *Commitment to youth voices.* The National Youth Advisory Board would provide a venue for your administration to continue to hear from and mobilize youth voices.

We thank you for your public service and are ready and willing to assist you in the creation and implementation of a White House Office on Children and Youth.

This letter urging the creation of a White House Office on Children and Youth is signed by more than 90 national organizations, 300 state and local government agencies and organizations, and 1,000 individuals

National Organizations

Academy for Educational Development (AED)
Advocates for Youth
Afterschool Alliance
America's Promise Alliance
American Association of School Administrators
American Camp Association
American Humane Association
Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law
Big Brothers Big Sisters of America
Boy Scouts of America
Camp Fire USA
Career Dreams Educational Foundation
Center for Applied Research and Technical Assistance
Center for Community Leadership
Center for Neighborhood Enterprise
Center for Social Justice/Georgetown University
Center for Youth and Communities, Brandeis University
Child Advocacy 360 Foundation
Child Welfare League of America
Children's Dental Health Project
Citizen Schools
Coalition for Community Schools
Coalition for Juvenile Justice
Cohen Strategy Group
Communities in Schools
Community Alliances for Drug-Free Youth, Inc.
Cornerstones for Kids
Corporate Voices for Working Families
Council for Professional Recognition
DADS Unlimited
Development Without Limits
Docs For Tots
Dreams for Kids
Everyone Deserves A Roof, Inc. (EDAR)
Education Development Center, Inc./Center for Children
& Families
Every Child Matters Education Fund
First Focus
First Star
Fiscal Policy Studies Institute
Forum for Youth Investment
Foster Care Alumni of America
Generation Waking Up
Girl Scouts of the USA
Girls Inc.
Healthy Teen Network
Higher Achievement
Institute for Educational Leadership
Junior Achievement USA

Juvenile Law Center
LEAnet
Leadership & Renewal Outfitters
Love Our Children USA
MENTOR
Mobilize.org
Music National Service Initiative
National Association for Children's Behavioral Health
National Association of Child Care and Resource Referral
Agencies
National Association of Counsel for Children
National Association of School Psychologists
National Association of Secondary School Principals
National Black Child Development Institute
National Education Association
National Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health
National Forum to Accelerate-Middle Grade Reform
National Foster Care Coalition
National Foster Care Review Coalition
National Foundation for Teaching Entrepreneurship (NFTE)
National Human Services Assembly
National Independent Living Association
National Institute on Out-of-School Time
National Latino Children's Institute
National Low Income Housing Coalition
National Network for Youth
National PTA
nFocus Software
New Moon Girl Media
Perspectives On Growth And Development, Inc.
Pre-K Now
Results Leadership Group
Sar Levitan Center for Social Policy Studies
Search Institute
Stillwaters Consultation
Stop the Silence: Stop Child Sexual Abuse, Inc.
Summer Search
United Way of America
Voices for America's Children
Work, Achievement, Values & Education, Inc.
YMCA of the USA
Youth Advocate Programs, Inc.
Youth Communication
Youth Development Institute
Youth Development Strategies, Inc.
Youth M.O.V.E. National
Youth Service America
YouthBuild USA

Child and Youth Coordinating Bodies

State Children's Cabinets and Councils

Connecticut Commission on Children
Kentucky Youth Development Coordinating Council
Maine Governor's Children's Cabinet
Ohio Family and Children First Cabinet Council
Pennsylvania Governor's Commission for Children and Families

Ready by 21 Collaboratives

Marion County Commission On Youth, Inc., Indianapolis, Indiana
Northside School, Black Oak Mine Unified School District, Cool, California
Black Oak Mine Unified School District, Georgetown, California
Divide Ready By Five, Garden Valley, California
Georgetown Divide Ready by 21 Coalition, Georgetown, California
Kentucky Child Now, Frankfort, Kentucky
Oasis Center, Nashville, Tennessee
Partnership for Children, Kansas City, Missouri
Providence After School Alliance, Providence, Rhode Island
Rhode Island Afterschool Plus Alliance, Providence, Rhode Island
Rockland County Ready by 21, New City, New York
School's Out Washington, Seattle, Washington

Other Coordinating Bodies

Local Management Board of Allegany County, Inc., Cumberland, Maryland
New England Network for Child, Youth & Family Services, Inc, Brunswick, Maine
Children's Caucus, Bismarck, North Dakota
Mississippi Gulf Coast Youth Development Coalition, Long Beach, Mississippi
Mountain Plains Network for Youth, Bismarck, North Dakota
New Jersey Education Consortium (NJEC), Keyport, New Jersey
Queen Anne's County Council for Children & Youth, Centreville, Maryland
Southern Consortium for Children, Athens, Ohio
The Durham At-Risk Youth Collaborative, Durham, North Carolina
Vision Coalition of El Dorado Hills, El Dorado Hills, California
Wisconsin Council on Children and Families, Madison, Wisconsin

Youth Councils/Youth Advisory Boards

Maryland Youth Advisory Council Co-Chairs
Nebraska Youth Leadership Council
New Hampshire Legislative Youth Advisory Council
The Center For Teen Empowerment, Boston, Massachusetts
Hilo High School Key Club, Hilo, Hawaii
Michigan Community Foundations Youth Project, Lansing, Michigan
St. John Youth Committee, St. John, U.S. Virgin Islands

Local Governments

City of Mount Vernon, New York
San Francisco Department Of Children, Youth & Their Families, California
Southside Community School/ Tucson Youth Collective, inc, Arizona
Batavia Youth Bureau, New York
Broome County Youth Bureau, Binghamton, New York
Cambridge Housing Authority, Massachusetts
Carroll County Local Managment Board, Westminster, Maryland
Cattaraugus County (New York) Youth Bureau, Little Valley,, New York
Cheektowaga Youth & Recreational Services, New York
City of Lockport Youth & Recreation Department, New York
City of Riviera Beach Youth Empowerment Program, Florida
Elk Grove Unified School District, California
Genesee County Youth Bureau, Batavia, New York
Housing Authority of the City of Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Lake County Regional Office of Education, Grayslake, Illinois
Linn County Empowerment & Decat, Cedar Rapids, Iowa
Loudoun County Government, Leesburg, Virginia
Rockland County Youth Bureau, New City, New York
Salt Lake County Youth Services, Utah
Southampton Youth Bureau, New York
Town of Hamburg Youth Bureau, New York
Town of North Hampton, New Hampshire
West Seneca Youth Bureau, New York
Wyoming County Youth Bureau, Warsaw, New York

International organizations

Ship for World Youth Program, United States Alumni Association, Cary, Illinois
Achievement Center For Youth And Children In Liberia, Monrovia, International
Association for Childhood Education International, Olney, Maryland
Chess Without Borders, Barrington Hills, Illinois
Community Development Network Forum (CDNF), Larkana, Kin Initiative, Kampala, Uganda
Korea Youth Services Center, Seoul, Korea
The Rebozo Way Project, Santa Barbara, California
Youth Aid Organisation for Africa (YAOFA), FCT, Abuja

State and Local Government Agencies and Non-Governmental Organizations

Alabama

Kid One Transport, Birmingham

Arizona

Auxiliary of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Scottsdale, Scottsdale
Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Scottsdale, Scottsdale
Boys and Girls Clubs Greater Scottsdale, Arizona, Phoenix
C.A.S.T. Clean and Sober Theatre, Tucson
Florence Crittenton of Arizona, Phoenix
King Kong Enterprises, Tucson
Paulo Freire Freedom School, Tucson
Tucson Youth Collective, Tucson
Tucson Youth Collective/Skrappy's Youth Center, Tucson

Arkansas

Full Faith Christian Ministry, Pine Bluff
Huntsville High School North West Ar. Wib Youth Council And Arkansas
Youth Development Collaborative., Witter
North Little Rock Mayor's Youth Council, Sherwood

California

A World Fit For Kids!, Los Angeles
About Productions, Altadena
BIA Office in California, Sacramento
California Youth Connection, San Francisco
California YouthBuild Coalition, Fresno
Camp Fire USA Central Coast Council, Arroyo Grande
Center for Multicultural Cooperation, Fresno
Community Network for Youth Development, San Francisco
Diablo Behavioral Healthcare, Danville
EMQ Children and Family Services, Campbell
Escondido Education COMPACT, Escondido
Family Connections El Dorado, Placerville
Georgetown Divide Ready by 21, Inc., Cool
Mariposa's Art, Santa Cruz
Nevada Emergency Medical Association, Clovis
Orangewood Children's Foundation, Santa Ana
Partnership for Children, Youth and Families, Pasadena
Petaluma Phoenix Center, Petaluma
PreventionWORKS, Camino
Project Yes (Youth Employment Services), Ceres
Rec Connect Initiative, San Francisco
River Oak Center for Children, Carmichael
Safe Schools/Healthy Students, Woodland Joint Unified School District,
Woodland
The Community Artist' Guild, Inc., Los Angeles
Watson Temple Apostolic Church, Richmond
Woodcraft Rangers, Los Angeles
YWCA Pasadena-Foothill Valley, Pasadena
YWCA of San Francisco & Marin, San Francisco
Youth Service California, Oakland
Youth for Christ Shasta Region, Redding
universal life church, felton

Colorado

Art From Ashes, Inc., Denver
Yess Institute, Denver

Connecticut

Connecticut Assets Network, Wethersfield
Our Piece Of The Pie, Hartford
Our Piece of the Pie (OPP), Hartford
Southington Drug Task Force, Manchester

District of Columbia

DC Action for Children, Washington
Dc Metropolitan Foster And Adoptive Parent Association, Washington
Foster & Adoptive Parent Advocacy Center, Washington

Florida

Boca Raton's Promise, Boca Raton
Educational Innovators, Stuart
Florida Mental Health Institute, Tampa
Goodwill-Suncoast, Tampa
Kids Hope United (Miami), Cutler Bay
LifePilots, Inc., Gonzalez
Oaks Indian Mission, St. Augustine
R.E.S.P.E.C.T. - Respect Every Single Person Especially Children & Teens,
Saint Petersburg
Subliminal Pixels Lab, Miami
Youth Village, Inc., Niceville
YouthBuild, St. Petersburg

Georgia

Boy With A Ball, Lawrenceville
Girls Incorporated Of Greater Atlanta, Atlanta
Special Tees, Decatur

Hawaii

God's Country Waimanalo, Waimanalo
Mccfdia, paia

Idaho

Foster Youth / Alumni of Idaho, Pocatello

Illinois

Affinity Community Services, Chicago
Alternatives, Inc., Chicago
Boys & Girls Club of Chicago, Chicago
Center for Community Arts Partnerships at Columbia College Chicago,
Chicago
ChildServ, Chicago
James Jordan Boys And Girls Club Of Chicago, Chicago
Lulac Council # 5260, Woodstock
Kids Off The Block, Inc., Chicago
Prevention First, Springfield
State of Illinois Social Services
Toni Rey, LCSW, Ltd., Lake Zurich
Workforce Management Group, Matteson

Indiana

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Indiana, Indianapolis
Youth Service Bureau Big Brothers, La Porte

Iowa

Garner Evangelical Free Church, Garner

Kansas

Kvc Behavioral Healthcare, Leawood
YWCA Early Learning Center, Topeka

Kentucky

Appalshop, Whitesburg
Kentucky Cabinet For Health & Family Services/Women's Health Div.,
Frankfort

Louisiana

Big Buddy Program, Baton Rouge
Lincneworleans, New Orleans
The Crossover House, Inc., Baton Rouge

Maine

Communities For Children And Youth, Augusta
Good Will-Hinckley, Hinckley

State and Local Government Agencies and Non-Governmental Organizations

Maryland

Community Partnerships, Centerville
East-West Psychological Association, Kensington,
Judy P.Hoyer Center, Takoma Park
Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Service, Baltimore
The CityWide Special Education Advocacy Project, Baltimore
Urban Educational Leadership Institute, Inc., Windsor Mill
Waterslanding Optimal Learning Center, Germantown
YouthMatch, Mitchellville

Massachusetts

Associated Early Care And Education, Boston
Central Mass.Communities Of Care, Worcester
Massachusetts Citizens for Children, Boston

Michigan

Camp Fire USA West Michigan Council
Camp Fire Usa Southeast Michigan Council, Southfield
Cass Technical High, Detroit
Claytor Head Start Program, Saginaw
Eastern Upper Peninsula Of Michigan Intermediate School District, Sault
Ste Marie
Walker Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnic Relations, Western
Michigan University, Kalamazoo
YouthVille Detroit/ Detroit Youth Foundation, Detroit

Minnesota

Center For Democracy And Citizenship, Humphrey Institute Of Public
Affairs, Minneapolis
Children's Law Center Of Minnesota (Non Profit), Saint Paul
Headstart in Parenting, Minneapolis
Minnesota Council of Child Caring Agencies, St. Paul
Minnesota Youth Intervention Programs Association, Mendota Heights
Prevent Child Abuse Minnesota, Saint Paul

Mississippi

DLT Consulting LLC, Gautier
Hope Haven Children's Services, Bay St. Louis

Missouri

Alternative Opportunities, Inc., springfield
Community Health-In-Partnership Services (Chips), St. Louis
Ozark Foothills Child Advocacy Center, Doniphan
Parenting Life Skills Center, Springfield

Nebraska

Boys & Girls Clubs of Lancaster County, Lincoln
Youth Emergency Services, Inc., Omaha

New Hampshire

Girl Scouts of Swift Water Council, Keene
Qed Foundation, Amherst
The Performer's Playground, Newport

New Jersey

Sankofa Institute For Youth Development, Union City
Sparks!... Igniting Innovative Strategies For Positive Social Change, Long
Branch

New Mexico

Assistan Dogs of the West, Santa Fe
Family Pride Foundation, Las Cruces
Youth Building Better Lives, Inc. (YouthBuild USA affiliate, Albuquerque,
NM, Albuquerque

New York

Association Of New York State Youth Bureaus, New City
Bienvenida Medical Care, P.C., Port Chester

CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) of Ulster County, Kingston
Compass House, Buffalo
Educational Video Center, New York
Family Voices Network of Erie County/Youth Empowerment Advocacy,
Buffalo

Konbit Kreyol, New York
Long Island Partnership For Afterschool Education, Baldwin
NAMI Queens/Nassau, Lake Success
Nubian Directions (NDI), Poughkeepsie
Partnership for Children Youth and Families, Albany
Pro Action of Steuben and Yates, Inc., Bath
SCO Family of Services, Brooklyn
Schoharie Creek Players, Lexington
Striking Viking Story Pirates, Brooklyn
Suffolk County Youth Bureau, Hauppauge
Westchester Chapter of Students for Barack Obama (signing as former
director), Irvington
Visiting Nurse Service of NY, Brooklyn
Voices UnBroken, Bronx
WNY AmeriCorps, West Seneca
Westchester County Youth Bureau, White Plains,
Niagara County Youth Bureau, Niagara Falls

North Carolina

Winners Plus lic., Charlotte

North Dakota

Charles Hall Youth Services, Bismarck

Ohio

Action Youth Outreach, Dayton
Action Youth Outreach - Dayton Ohio, Dayton
Alliance for Children & Families, Alliance
Garrison Global Academy for Legal Studies High School, Cincinnati
Native Village Publications, Toledo
Ohio Family Care Association, Columbus
Ohio State Youth Bar Association/CTC, Cincinnati
Ohio chapter of Foster Care Alumni of America, Westerville
The Arts and College Prep. Academy, Columbus
The Family and Community Resource Center, Salem
The Way Station, Columbiana, Ohio 44408
Walsh University, North Canton
YWCA of Salem, Ohio, Salem

Oklahoma

Camp Fire USA Green Country Council, Tulsa
Resonance, Tulsa

Oregon

Camp Fire USA Portland Metro Council
Community Information Center, Portland

Pennsylvania

Education Law Center, Philadelphia
Observatory Hill Early Learning Child Development Center, Pittsburgh
Woodland Academy Child Development Center, Philadelphia
Pennsylvania Partnerships for Children, [Harrisburg](#)

Rhode Island

Knowledge Exchange Center of Rhode Island, Johnston
Power4good, Providence

South Carolina

Foster Care Review Board 13C Greenville SC, Greenville
Foster Care Review Board/Berkeley County, Sc, Moncks Corner
Upstate Parents Network, Duncan

South Dakota

State and Local Government Agencies and Non-Governmental Organizations

Delta Dental Philanthropic Fund, Pierre

Tennessee

Boys And Girls Club Of Northwest Tennessee, unioncity
Greeneville Middle School, Greeneville
Knox County Schools - Birth to Kindergarten Parents as Teachers
Program, Knoxville
Oasis Center, Nashville
SHADES of Development, Inc., Knoxville
The Black Children's Institute of Tennessee, Nashville
Unitylearningcenter.com Sumner County Schools TN, Gallatin
Youth Life Foundation of Tennessee, Nashville

Texas

Texans Care For Children, Austin
Voices For Children Of San Antonio, San Antonio

Utah

Universal Heart Foundation, Ogden

Vermont

Sue's Family Child Care, Brattleboro

Virginia

Franklin County Youth Center Inc., Rocky Mount

Washington

Camp Fire Usa Central Puget Sound Council, Seattle
Candace Sullivan Consulting, Llc, Seattle
Rainer Vista Boys & Girls Club, Seattle
Treehouse, Seattle
the Ave Project, Seattle

West Virginia

Camp Fire USA Upper Appalachian Council, Weirton

Wisconsin

Expressions Of Blessings, Milwaukee

Wyoming

Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters, Laramie

Individuals

Alabama

Sara Bruce-Hall, Executive Director, Morgan County System of Services, Inc.
Gregory Chandler Jr., Owner, Imperial Home Restoracion and Repair
Kendra Key, , University of Alabama
Nancy Meadows, CEO, Camp Fire USA Central Alabama Council
Kelli Messina, Case Worker, Alabama Department of Human Resources
John Wade

Alaska

Candace Blackwood, Community Education Manager, Resource Center for Parents and Children
Amanda Block, Camp Togowoods Director, Girl Scouts
Randi Breager, Youth Development Specialist, Boys & Girls club of Southcentral Alaska
Kimberly Burke, Director, Play N Learn at Pearl Creek
Lenetta Colbert, Director, Open Arms Child Development Center, Fairbanks Alaska
Glenn Cravez, Board Member, Camp Fire USA
Yvonne Geisel, Children's Services Specialist II, Office of Children's Services
Shayle Hutchison, Ms, Ringstad Park Weed and Seed
Becky Judd, Youth Development Specialist, Division of Behavioral Health
Heather Larrabee, Site Director, Camp Fire USA
Andre' Layral, Community Engagement Educator, Association of Alaska School Boards
Kari Lyon, Kawerak Child Care Services Program Director, Kawerak, Inc.
Melodee Monson, Program Manager, Human Services Department, University of Alaska Anchorage
Donna Shock, Youth Services Coordinator, Anchorage's Promise
Michael Sobocinski, Assistant Professor of Human Services, University of Alaska Anchorage
Vickie Tinker, FASD Program Coordinator, Frontier Communjnity Services

Arizona

David Barnhouse, Deputy Director, Arizona's Governor's Office for Children, Youth and Families
Judith Bliss, CEO, MindPlay
Janet Caldarelli, Board of Directors, Boys & Girls Club of Greater Scottsdale (AZ)
David Cohen, Vice Chairman, Greater Scottsdale Boys and Girls Club
Joe Dunnigan, Managing Partner, Balance Capital Partners
Anne Fisher, Retired Social Worker, Board member, Tucson Youth Colliation
Amy Frank, Program Director, Camp Fire USA, Council of Greater Arizona
Celeste Froehlich, LMSW, ASU
Shaundra Higgins, Youth Development Community Educator, United Way of Tucson and Southern Arizona
Cynthia Klein, Director of Community Relations, Compass Behavioral health Care
Steven Kreamer, Community Development Coordinator, Arizona Youth Partnership
Amanda Kucich, Director of Youth Development, United Way of Tucson and Southern Arizona
Julie Kudrna, individual, individual
Eva Lester, Early Childhood Policy Advisor, Office of Governor Janet Napolitano
Lianda Ludwig, Counselor, Fruchthendler Elementary School
Beverly Mertz, Executive Assistant, Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Scottsdale
James Molina
Julie Moran, Owner, Delegate The Details
Sean Philips, Supporter, Boys and Girls Club of Scottsdale
Marie Raymond, Early Literacy Specialist, Scottsdale Public Library
Rachel Rodriguez, Prevention Specialist, SEABHS
Erica Schwartzmann, Neighborhood Program Coordinator, Camp Fire USA the Greater Arizona Council
Janet Shalwitz, Senior Advisor, Adolescent Health Working Group

Melanie Skievaski, Prevention Program Coordinator, Providence Service Corporation
M. Elizabeth Tuttle, Clinical Supervisor, Casey Family Programs
Susan Wortman, President, Zonta Foundation of Casa Grande Valley
Paul Zarchin, Owner, Hands of Health

Arkansas

Sarah Buford, Independent Education Consultant, YouthBuild USA
Marti Genge, Owner, Pages of Parenting Bookstore and Resources
Sylvia P. Richards, , Retired Educator/CASA Volunteer
Max Snowden, Executive Director, Arkansas Commission on Child Abuse, Rape and Dpmetic Violence
Susan Stewart, Parent Center Coordinator, Dumas School District

California

Claire Brindis, Dr. P.H., Professor of Pediatrics, University of California, San Francisco
Jeff Cravens, Jr., Student, GSHS
Michelle Abe, River City High School West Sacramento California
Adri-Ann Altizer, AmeriCorps Volunteer, Camp Fire USA Orange County Council
John H. Anderson
Jacquie Atchison, Board of Directors, Hands For Hope Youth - El Dorado Hills, CA 95762
Eva Baker, Doctor, UCLA/ CRESST
Robert Bakke, Education Programs Consultant, California Department of Education
Cesar Balbuena, Owner, For The Good Clothing Company
Jen Barker, Executive Assistant and After-School Program Facilitator, Mariposa's Art
Carolyn Barla, Youth Advocate, Georgetown Divide Ready by 21 Coalition
Dionne Barnes-Proby, Student, University of La Verne
Alice Beard, Child Advocate and social worker of over 30 years for abused/neglected children, PAANCI
Kiley Bednar, Special Initiatives Manager, Prevention First
Olga Beltsar, Mobilize.org
Kelly Bentley, Youth Advocate, Georgetown Divide Ready by 21 Coalition
Tim Blaylock, Chief Professional Officer, Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Oxnard and Port Hueneme
Naomi Bosch, El Molino High School
Katrina Brink, Program Associate, John W. Gardner Center for Youth and Their Communities - Stanford University
Sara Brissenden-Smith, Founder, Brown Lady Productions
Anika Brown, Academy of Art University
Elizabeth Bruno, Pediatric Psychologist, Lucile Packard Children's Hospital at Stanford
Robyn Cabrera, Finance & HR Director, Boys & Girls Clubs of Sonoma Valley
Sal Camarillo, Event Specialist,
Dudley Campbell
Candace Campbell
Gaile Carr, home
Robyn Class, Executive Director, Orange Children & Parents Together, Inc.
Della Clavere, Community Liaison, Vision Coalition of El Dorado Hills
Julia Conner, GEAR UP Grant Director, San Diego Unified School District
David Contto, Branch Manager, Travis Credit Union
Angelina Cooper, Director of Workforce Development, JVS
Cheryl Cooper, 3rd Grade Teacher, Lasselle Elementary School
Myllinda Criddell, Owner, Top Notch Merchandise Club
Sergio Cuellar, Sr. Program Manager, Central Valley, Youth In Focus
Haydee Cuza, Student, UCLA
Micah Daigle, Associate Director, Students for Sensible Drug Policy
Teresa Dane, Family Advocate, San Juan Unified School District- White House Counseling Centers
Rafal Dobrowolski, Organizer, Service Employees International Union, Local 99
Virginia Duplessis, Adolescent Health Analyst, California Adolescent Health Collaborative

Individuals

Glenn Eagleson, Director of Policy & Planning, San Francisco Office of Economic & Workforce Development
Carmina Eliason, Art Teach Facilitator, Mariposa's Art
Jane Engelsiepen
Josie Enriquez, Case management Program Coordinator, Yolo Family Resource Center
Nancy Erbstein, Research and Policy Specialist, UC Davis
Laura Espinoza, Social Worker, San Antonio Community Hospital
Michelle Fadelli, Communications Manager, First 5 Marin Children and Families Commission
Nancy Fastenau, Consultant, Fastenau & Associates
Carmen Flores, Family Advocate, Healthy Start
Frederick H. Forschler
Hannah Freed, Executive Assistant, USC
Tammy Gabel, Superintendent, Black Oak Mine Unified School District
Libia Gil, Senior Fellow, American Institutes for Research
Stephanie Fuerstner Gillis, COO and Senior Analyst, Blueprint Research & Design, Inc.
Paula Goodman, Director, K-12 Programs, Art Center College of Design
Karen Gravereaux, Radiologic Technologist, Children's Hospital Oakland
Judith Green, Professor, University of California, Santa Barbara
Melissa Groves, Associate Professor, California State University, Chico
Esther Guardado, Children's Library Asst., Woodland Public Library
Karen Harris, President, Parent Leadership Group (PSO - Parent Student Organization)
Angel B. Hayes, Social Worker, Casey Family Programs
Tracey Hessel, Pediatrician, Marin Community Clinics
Elaine Hildebrand, Teacher in Alternative Education, Ceres Community School
Katharyn Hildebrand, John H. Pitman High School
Charles Hochberg, A.V.School District B.O.D., ret.
Jessica Hollman, Pediatrician, Marin Community Clinic
Samantha B Honowitz
Raven Hoopes, Case Manager, Harm Reduction Services
Kathryn Hopkins, Student, UCSC
Victoria Jackson, Asst. Professor of Social Work, Loma Linda University
LaWana John
Victoria Kay, Mom of 23 yrs.
Stephen Keese
Maurice Kemp
George King, Principal Consultant, California State Assembly
Donna Kinzie, Special Education teacher, Palm Springs Unified
Judy Knapp, Director of Education and Training, The Center for Violence-free Relationships
Ellen Koivisto, Public School Teacher, San Francisco High School of the Arts
Philip Krause, , DeVry University
Janny Kum, Director of Operations, Western Justice Center
Leila Kumar
Tanya Lampkin, Hanna Ranch Elementary School
Dennis Landi, Tax Examining Technician, Internal Revenue Service
Chandra Larsen, Youth Advocate, School Coach, and Graduate Student, Sonoma State University
Peter Laugharn, Executive Director, Firelight Foundation
Zach Lawrence, Education and Career Specialist, Social Advocates for Youth
Dennis Ledden, President/Owner, LCS
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Linda Haymond, teacher, Olympus Junior High School
Kevin Nelson, Technician, University of Utah

Vermont

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Maryann Morris, Programs Coordinator, The Collaborative
Richard Musty, Professor Emeritus, University of Vermont

Virginia

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Trent Armitage, Vice-President of Membership, Virginia Young Democrats
shelby beck, volunteer services specialist, rappahannock united way
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Charisse Brown, Training and Development, MBC
Jacqueline Coachman, Youth Program Specialist, City of Alexandria, Virginia
Christy Compton, Program Development Coordinator, Central Virginia Community Services
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Lathan Dennis, GIS Spatial Analyst , Fairfax County Department of Systems Management - Human Services
Debra M Duke, Citizen, USA
Elizabeth Gaskins
Marisha Griffith, Social Worker II, Virginia Beach Court Services Unit
Tina Hawley, VAYD Outreach chair/LUYD VP, Virginia Young Democrats/Longwood University
Mary Anne Hesch, , Teacher - St. Aidan's Day School
Charlene Johnson, Chief Professional Officer, Boys & girls Clubs of Loudoun
Lorraine Lange, Superintendent, Roanoke County Schools
Maria Lewan, primary teacher, St Aidana Day School
Phillip Lovell, Vice President, Education Policy, First Focus
Cynthia Lucero-Chavez, Community Involvement Specialist, Stafford County Public Schools
Mimi McClure, Assistant Program Director, NSF
Vince Meldrum, Partner, Crecer Strategies
Kirsta Millar
Thomas Moore, Communications Assistant, Children's Defense Fund
Lindsay Mottley, assistant principal, Hanover County Public Schools
Margaret Musser, Middle School Nurse/RN, Rural Retreat Middle School
Silvana Oderisi, , George Mason University
A. Kathryn Parker, , Students for Sensible Drug Policy
Amy Paulson, Director, Consortium for Infant & Child Health (CINCH) at Eastern Virginia Medical School
Saundra Polk, Youth Advocate, City of Newport News
Natasha Quiroga, Executive Director, Escuela Bolivia
Tina Raheem, Scholarship Director, Orphan Foundation of America
Yolma Torres, Guidance Counselor, Holmes Middle School
Judy Trent, Licensed School Counselor, Bent Mountain Elementary
Chuck Wattles, Youth Development Consultant, Consultant
Bonita Williams, Assistant Professor, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
Fawn Wingfield, CEO, A New You Transitional Living

Washington

Mariellen Anderson, Guardian Ad Litem, private practice
Kate Berry, Student & Former Chair of Washington St. Legislative Youth Advisory Council, Amherst College
Robert Brader, AmeriCorps Coordinator, Washington Service Corps
Evan Brazitis, AmeriCorps Youth Employment Specialist, WorkSource
Dan Carpita, counselor, Muckleshoot Tribal School
Angela Davis, Training Program Assistant, School's Out Washington
Suzanne Day, Mentor/Coach, Parents As Teachers
Deborah Edison, Chief Development Officer, National CASA
Nickole Evans, Western Washington Unniversity
Deborah Fisher, Writer/Community Instigator, Fisher/Nyberg & Asscs.
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Individuals

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Chrissy James, Social Worker, Social Services
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Millo Kramer, Citizen
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Kari McDonald, Family Advocate +, Angel Network
Shelley Morgan
Kay Mullen, teacher, retired
Gretchen Mueller, Interior Designer
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Krystal White, PhD, Madigan Army Medical Center
Zachary Wilson, Educational Services Director, School's Out Washington
Nicole Yohalem, Program Director, Forum for Youth Investment
Lisa Yohalem, Director of Planning and Development, HealthPoint
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West Virginia

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Wisconsin

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Carol Berlin, Volunteer, CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate)
Ron Biendseil
K Byer, University staff, University of Wisconsin-Madison
Chelsey Carmody, Lead Teacher, Head Start
Mark Cogdill, Case Manager / Group Facilitator, Family Service
Lori Decker, Therapist, Impact Counseling Services
Nancy File, Associate Professor, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
Mariah Flynn, Project Assistant, Schools of Hope
Dan Ginsburg
Zach Komes
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Bruce Mataczynski
Jeanne Nutter, Supervisor, Adoption Services
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Mary Ryan, Youth Program Coordinator, YWCA Greater Milwaukee
Eric Schultz, UW-Oshkosh
Michael Serpe, County Administrator, Door County, Wisconsin
Richard Strauss, M.D.,
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Wyoming

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International

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Ann Kirson Swersky, Doctor, Sia'h vaSig: The Israel Debating Society, Ramat Hasharon, Israel
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