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Announcements:

National Adoption Day is on November 21, 2020!

Catholic Charities USA would like to bring awareness to this month by highlighting it through our social media outlets. The Catholic Charities Network does outstanding work regarding adoptions. In the spirit of celebrating the month, we are asking for success stories from you. **If you are interested in submitting a success story, please click on the following link: [CCUSA Story Bank](#)**

Please review the links below for more resources celebrating National Adoption Month:

- Updated [resources](#) and [outreach tools](#) are now available to help you align your National Adoption Month plans with the Children's Bureau's national campaign! Visit the 2020 National Adoption Month [website](#). (Source: [Child Welfare Information Gateway](#))

SSA continues to provide help to you and others in your community

While their offices are not providing service to walk-in visitors due to COVID-19, SSA remains committed to providing ongoing benefits and vital services. SSA remain ready and able to help by phone with most Social Security matters. You can speak with a representative by calling your local Social Security office or their National 800 Number. They provide local office phone numbers conveniently online with their [Social Security Office Locator](#) and convenient [online services](#).

#ALLINforWaitingKids Initiative Launched

The Administration for Children and Families (ACF) is leading a national effort, championed by Assistant Secretary Lynn Johnson, to garner commitments and build strategic partnerships with the goal of finding loving, permanent homes for the nearly 122,000 children and youth who are currently waiting in the U.S. foster care system.

ACF has developed a [public engagement](#) section of the ALL IN Foster Adoption Challenge website to ask the public to engage in the ALL IN Challenge by committing to an activity that supports children/youth or their caregivers and then sharing a picture or video of themselves with the ALL IN sign on their social media to let others know they have committed to be ALL IN. ACF asks that people use the hashtag **#ALLINforWaitingKids** to show their support for the challenge as well as share the link to the public engagement page so that people can learn more. **For more information, visit the [ALL In Foster Adoption website](#).**

Two-Generation Approach to Leveraging TANF: DC as a Case Study for Policymakers

Two-generation (2Gen) approaches build family well-being by intentionally and simultaneously working with children and the adults in their lives together. Over the past 10 years, 2Gen or “whole family” approaches have emerged as a way for states and jurisdictions to better deploy public resources devoted to early learning, postsecondary education and training, employment, health and nutrition, housing, and income supplements. The overarching goal is to make the most of public resources by using them more strategically. Ascend at the Aspen Institute has seen powerful momentum build for 2Gen approaches to policy and practice in states across the country as communities seek new, innovative, and effective strategies for creating opportunities for families to thrive. (Source: Ascend at the Aspen Institute) [Click here](#) to review the case study.

Veterans services professional interest LISTSERV signup

CCUSA is currently looking to expand information and opportunities in the Veterans Services program area. If you're interested in joining this revamped professional interest section, be sure to sign up for the Veterans Services Listserv to stay up to date on upcoming trainings, webinars, funding opportunities and more! [Sign up for the Listserv here](#).

Opportunities for Service Providers:

State-level Data for Understanding Child Welfare in the United States from Child Trends

This comprehensive child welfare resource provides state and national data on child maltreatment, foster care, kinship caregiving, and adoption from foster care. The data are essential to help policymakers understand how many children and youth came in contact with the child welfare system, and why. States can use this information to ensure their child welfare systems support the safety, stability, and well-being of all families in their state. **View the resource [here](#).**

NACSW 70TH Annual Convention, Unity in the Face of Adversity: Building a World of Love & Justice

November 5th – 8th, 2020 (online and in-person)

The North American Association of Christians in Social Work is pleased to announce their annual convention, whose program includes an array of on-site and virtual sessions divided among 13 tracks selected from proposals received from all across North America following a competitive peer review process. Choose from more than 125 workshops and poster sessions, keynote speakers and pre-convention training institutes—all focusing on topics of special interest to Christians in social work. **Learn more about the convention and register [here](#).**

Pope Francis' Call for Innovative Educational Efforts

Last year Pope Francis launched a Global Compact on Education which is coming to fruition through the development of an event (scheduled for October 15th) and a website to highlight promising practices from around the world. The organizers are very interested in adding descriptions of both formal and informal educational efforts from North America. Any type of educational program might qualify for inclusion: virtual ESL summer school, facilitating virtual learning for refugee children, training for environmental justice, GED/Workforce Development programming, peace & justice education, etc. They are especially targeting projects that deal with one or more of the following: human dignity and rights; integral

ecology; peace and citizenship; or solidarity and development and that have a global dimension insofar as they are inter-religious, interethnic, intercultural, or intergenerational. **Submissions are welcome through the end of November. Learn more and submit [here](#) (English) and [here](#) (Spanish).**

Rural Health Clinic Technical Assistance Program

The purpose of this program is to identify key policy issues and knowledge gaps among RHCs about topics including regulatory and program compliance, billing and reimbursement, quality improvement, best practices around disease management and care coordination, and RHC policy priorities. Funding provided by the HHS Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). **Deadline is December 21. [Learn more and apply here.](#)**

Apply now for the Department of Education's 2021-22 School Ambassador Fellowship Program

This program enables outstanding teachers, principals, counselors, psychologists, social workers, and other school-based professionals interacting with students on a daily basis to bring their expertise to the Department and expand their knowledge of the national dialogue on education. In turn, fellows facilitate the learning and input of other educators and community members. As in previous years, applicants may choose to apply as Washington Fellows -- a full-time appointment, where fellows are based in residence at the agency's headquarters in Washington, D.C. -- or as Campus Fellows -- a part-time appointment, where fellows collaborate with the agency while maintaining their regular school responsibilities in their home communities. **The application closes January 11, 2021, at 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time. [Learn more and apply here.](#)**

Webinars for Service Providers:

Social Determinants of Health: Culturally Adapted for American Indians/Alaska Natives

Date: Nov 5, 12:00pm EST

The goal of this presentation is to provide information on Social Determinants of Health (SDOH). According to Healthy People 2020, SDOH refer to "the conditions in the places where people live, learn, work, and play that affect health risks and outcomes." This presentation will provide attendees with information on how to include culture in addressing overall SDOH and to enhance protective factors for American Indian and Alaska Native communities. Webinar presented by the HHS Indian Health Service (IHS). **Learn more and register [here.](#)**

CCUSA-New AmeriCorps Funding Opportunity Webinar and Request for Proposals

Date: Nov 5, 1:30pm EST

CCUSA is taking applications to potentially launch a national AmeriCorps program as a response to the COVID-19 pandemic and applications to fulfill/waitlist the Financial Education and Nutrition Education AmeriCorps Programs. Join this webinar to learn more about AmeriCorps and how these programs could help expand your existing programming through the power of national service. We will review sub-grantee expectations, estimated costs, and allowable activities in this webinar. Includes COVID Relief Program. Goal: Increase accessibility to services to support and meet clients' basic needs. Population: All populations. **Register [here.](#)**

CCUSA- Arriving Alone - Needs and Programming for Unaccompanied Migrant Children in Foster Care

Date: Nov 5, 2:00pm EST

Join CCUSA in exploring the challenges that unaccompanied migrant children face, the needs they present and the services that contribute to their ability to thrive in their new communities. This webinar will highlight how USCCB's model provides continuity of care for youth coming into the United States, including pursuit of legal relief, reunification with family and sponsors in the community and long-term foster care and independent living options for youth who are granted legal status. Come learn about the services youth rely on to succeed and how USCCB's network of foster care providers supports the long-term health, well-

being and integration of unaccompanied migrant children by placing them in a community setting. **PLEASE NOTE: This webinar offers 1.0 Continuing Education Credit. Register [here](#).**

National Head Start Association: A National Conversation on Race in Early Childhood Leadership

Date: Nov 12, 12:00pm EST

The goal of the conversation is to gain consensus among participating leaders and organizations on how to begin to address the problem of underrepresentation of Black and Brown women by identifying key areas that require additional research and evaluation, highlighting opportunities for policy changes across organizations and systems, and identifying key changes in practice that support the elevation of Black and Brown leaders in the field. **Learn more and register [here](#).**

Parents and Caregivers:

Updated Health Guidance from the NIH

The NIH has updated its [COVID-19 Treatment Guidelines](#) for the cocirculation of influenza and COVID-19. The CDC provides [Interim Guidance for Routine and Influenza Immunization Services During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#). The CDC has also released guidance on safety during upcoming fall [holidays](#) such as Día de los Muertos and Thanksgiving. (Source: National Institute on Minority Health)

The Department of Education has released the 2021-22 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®) form

Students and parents can easily complete the form via [fafsa.gov](#) on a desktop or mobile device. This year, enhanced help topics provide even more guidance through the form, and, as a result of user feedback, many financial help topics on [fafsa.gov](#) now feature images of the forms with relevant line numbers visually highlighted to help applicants navigate the FAFSA form. Some FAFSA resources include: [7 Things You Need Before You Fill Out the 2021–22 FAFSA® Form](#) and [8 Steps to Filling Out the FAFSA® Form](#).

5 Ways You Can Teach Children About the Importance of Voting

Politics can be a fraught topic, especially during an election year, but the right to vote is the foundation of democracy, and it can be a really positive thing to discuss with your child. Kids will be interested to know that they will one day be able to have a say in choosing both their local and national leaders. It's also worth telling them that it's not a right that everyone in the world has. [Here are five ways that you can teach your child about the importance of voting.](#) (Source: HarperCollins)

The 25 Best Podcasts for Kids from Common Sense Media

As screen time concerns are on the rise, many parents are turning to podcasts as a fun (and often educational) way to engage kids -- without the screen. But as children's audio content has flooded the airwaves, it can be a challenge to find the good stuff that's also appropriate. Luckily we've discovered some excellent kid-friendly podcasts that you and your family will love listening to. **Check out [these 25 awesome picks for kids](#) -- including perfect bedtime stories, science exploration, cool news, and more.**

If this message was shared with you, you can click [here](#) to request to be added to the Children, Youth, and Families Services Listserv.

[Catholic Charities USA](#)

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