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CABHN FEVER

Day Laborer Wage Clinics Offered by CLS

Every morning, in Connecticut and around the country, documented and undocumented immigrant day laborers gather at pickup sites, desperately seeking work. Some find work for a day, others a week or a month-but many never receive their wages.



Under Connecticut and federal law, people must be paid for work they perform regardless of their immigration status. Connecticut Legal Services attorneys are teaming with community outreach workers to set up a network of volunteers who will help ensure that day laborers who have been denied their wages are paid.

Working within the community, the CLS attorneys will focus on educating day laborers about their employment rights, specifically their right to be paid for their work regardless of their immigration status.

The attorneys will assist day laborers in accessing any legal means available to enforce their employment rights.

Connecticut Legal Services is offering the Stamford Day Laborer Wage Clinic, a free legal clinic on employment matters for low income workers.

The Stamford Day Laborer Wage Clinics will begin on May 30th and will be offered at St. Mary's Parish Center, 540 Elm Street, Stamford, on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays each month. Hours are 6-8 P.M. and no appointment is necessary. For more information call (203) 348-9216 x111.

If you are bilingual and would like to volunteer as an interpreter or can assist clients by going to small claims court with them, please contact Connecticut Legal Services by calling (203) 348-9216 x 106.

Report: Child Poverty Rate by Town in CT

Connecticut Voices for Children has released "Child Well-Being Data by Town: 2007," a compilation of statistics regarding poverty levels, income, unemployment rates and preschool attendance among children in every town in the state. Overall in Connecticut, 10% of children under 18 live below the federal poverty level (FPL) and 11% of children under 5 live below the FPL. Hartford ranks worst with 41% of children under 18 living below poverty and 42% of children under 5 living below poverty. Other high ranking towns are Bridgeport, Meriden, Waterbury and New London. For the complete report, go to http://www.ctkidslink.org/pub_detail_354.html

Apply for Summer Camp CONNRI



It's that time of year again! Make an appointment today to register your child for Salvation Army Camp CONNRI located on a beautiful 268 acre site in Ashford, Connecticut. Camp CONNRI offers overnight camp for children ages 7-11 and registration is on a first come, first served basis. For information about dates, fees, and scholarship availability, please call (860) 543-8400.

Camp CONNRI also has many opportunities for summer employment for the upcoming camping season. If you would like to view a full listing of opportunities available, please search Southern New England Camp CONNRI on the web. Contact for job openings is Rich Rader at Rich.Rader@use.salvationarmy.org

Scholarship Available to Low Income Moms

In 2007, the Patsy Takemoto Mink Foundation will offer five Education Support Awards of up to \$2000 each to assist low-income women with children who are pursuing education or training. Applications will be accepted for Educational Support Awards after May 1, 2007 and must be postmarked by July 1, 2007. To print an application, go to ww.ptmfoundation.net.

Applicant Criteria:

- must be a mother, at least 17 years of age with minor children
- must be enrolled in a skills training, ESL, or GED program; or pursuing a technical/vocational degree, an associate's degree, a first bachelor's degree, or a professional/master's/doctoral degree.
- must be enrolled in an accredited program during the 2007-2008 academic year
- must be low-income (annual family income less than \$16,000 for a family of 2; \$20,000 for a family of 3; \$24,000 for a family of 4)

CL&P Time of Day Rate



If you can shift your heaviest electric use to "off-peak" hours— after 8 p.m. through 8 a.m. weekdays and any time on Saturday and Sunday, you could save up to 8% on your electric bill.

For more details about this program, call CL&P's Customer Service Center at 1-800-286-2000 or 860-947-2000 in the Hartford or Meriden calling areas.

Norwich Housing Program Accepting Applications



Beginning Monday, June 4, 2007 the Norwich Housing Authority will accept application for its waiting list for the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program.

Applications are available at the business office of the authority, 10 Westwood Park, Norwich, CT 06360 during normal hours (8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Mon-Fri) beginning Monday May 7, 2007, but will not be accepted until Monday June 4, 2007.

There are income qualifications and preference is given to those who live and work in the Norwich area, and those who lease housing authority's state moderate, state affordable, or state elderly housing. All applicants will be required to live in the city of Norwich for a period of one (1) year once a voucher is issued.

Only one (1) application per household will be accepted and all duplicate or incomplete applications will be rejected. Applications must be totally complete and hand delivered or postmarked by Friday June 22, 2007. Completed applications must be mailed or delivered to:

**The Norwich Housing Authority
Section 8 Program
10 Westwood Park
Norwich, CT 06360
Contact: phone: 860-889-2895
fax: 860-889-3139**

Feed Your Family Farm Fresh!

Get your share of fresh fruits and vegetable and support Connecticut local farmers by going to one of the many Farmers'



Markets located throughout Connecticut. For a full list of markets, go to <http://www.ct.gov/doag/cwp/view.asp?a=1368&q=259134> Many are EBT- Food Stamp Certified and WIC Certified.

More Spanish-Speaking Clinicians Needed for Quality Health Care of Latino Patients

Latinos are not getting the mental health care they need because of a shortage of Spanish speaking professionals. According to a surgeon general's report, only about 1 percent of licensed psychologists who are members of the American Psychological Association identify themselves as Latino; and there are only 20 Latino mental health professionals for every 100,000 Latinos in the United States.

The University of Connecticut School of Social Work is trying to turn those statistics around through an active recruitment program to attract historically underrepresented students. If you are interested in learning more about UCONN's School of Social Work, please contact the Director of Admission at (860) 570-9118.

Taken from Connecticut Health Foundation 1st Quarter Newsletter 2007.

Operation Hope

Operation Hope provides innovative solutions to homelessness in Fairfield and the surrounding community through housing development, advocacy, education and personalized support services for individuals and families. They help people to reach their potential in an environment where compassion inspires dignity and hope.

Jobs Wanted Wish List

Operation Hope Program Participants are in need of good jobs! To tell them of a job opportunity, please contact Lori Wilson at 254-2935 Ext: 204 or email her at LWilson@OperationHopeCT.org!



New Employment and Training Services Directory Available

The Partnership for Strong Communities has announced publication of the *2007 Connecticut Supportive Housing Employment and Training Services Directory*.

The directory lists over 100 training and employment programs and state agencies to serve as a tool to help supportive housing residents and individuals exiting homelessness enter or re-enter the workforce.

To order a printed copy (\$20.00):

Mail a check indicating the number of copies for your order. Include

your name, agency, full mailing address and phone.

Send to:

The Partnership for Strong Communities, 227 Lawrence Street, Hartford, CT 06106

Attn: Directory

or

Contact Kate Kelly at 860-244-0066 or kate@ctpartnershiphousing.com.

You can access the directory for free on the web at www.ctreachinghome.org (very large file).



If you or your organization would like to receive CABHN FEVER newsletter by email or would like to be added to our mailing list, please contact dbrown@larcc.org or call 860-278-5688.



Congress Passes FY 2008 Budget Resolution

The House and Senate agreed to a Budget Resolution on May 17 that included \$417.6 billion for all appropriations except defense and international affairs. That was only slightly less than the House budget proposal, and approximately \$7 billion more than the Senate's. The cost of maintaining current levels of services next year would be \$405.5 billion, so the Budget Resolution provides a modest increase beyond inflation for domestic programs. The President's budget had cut domestic spending below the amount needed to keep up with inflation.

The Budget Resolution is a statement of Congress' priorities, but it leaves most of the hard decisions for later. Now that total funding for appropriations has been set, it is the job of the House and Senate Appropriations Committees to distribute allocations to each of their subcommittees, which then set specific funding levels for all of the annually appropriated programs. The House and Senate Appropriations Committees work separately and then must come to an agreement. The Bush Administration has threatened to veto appropriations bills that exceed its budget levels.

The Budget Resolution also left unresolved the hard decisions about the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), Food Stamps and other reserve funds. These programs do not need annual appropriations, but must be reauthorized this year. The budget resolution provides a \$50 billion, 5-year reserve fund to pay for maintaining and improving SCHIP. The reserve funds in the House and Senate differed, and the conference committee did not resolve those differences.

Similarly, the Budget Resolution includes a \$20 billion reserve fund over 6 years for new funding in the farm bill. In addition to farm subsidies and other services, the bill funds

conservation, research, and nutrition programs including Food Stamps. The final Budget Resolution adopted the House's \$20 billion for the reserve fund, rather than the Senate's \$15 billion, but here too the House and Senate maintained their own language.

The final Budget Resolution included the Senate's \$5 billion reserve fund for increased child care expenditures (the House did not have this provision). There are a number of other reserve funds, for such services as Medicaid for HIV-positive patients, health improvements, and immigration reform. All of the reserve funds are deficit neutral; that is, the funds will not be spent unless Congress comes up with a way to pay the cost, either by finding more revenues or cutting other expenditures.

Both tax cuts and entitlement spending must be paid for. The Budget Resolution requires that all expansions are paid for as part of its commitment to "pay-as-you-go." The "PAYGO" rules insist that neither tax cuts nor non-discretionary spending increases deepen the deficit. The Budget Resolution retained Senate provisions allowing it to "pay for" tax cuts with a projected 2012 surplus. The House will not approve new or extended tax cuts unless it finds new revenue sources (or spending cuts) to replace the lost funding caused by the tax cuts.

The Budget Resolution passed the House 214 to 209, with no Republicans voting for the budget and 13 Democrats voting against it. The vote in the Senate was 52 to 40 in favor of the Resolution, with no Democrats opposed and two Republicans (Snowe and Collins of Maine) voting in favor.

Adapted from a report by the Coalition on Human Needs. The full report and more information are available at www.chn.org



Documentation Requirements Causing Delays

The Medicaid Managed Care Council and the Department of Social Services are monitoring the impact of the new federal requirement that Medicaid participants and applicants for Medicaid who are receiving or applying for Medicaid as citizens supply proof of citizenship. The provision was supposed to ensure that illegal aliens not receive health care through Medicaid. But the effect may be to bar Medicaid to citizens who do not successfully navigate the new rules.

DSS representatives have expressed concern that the new rules are slowing the processing of applications and of renewals. The Department is conducting a study to determine how to alleviate this problem. A report on this study will be made at the June Medicaid Managed Care Council on June 15.

But data on the delays in processing applications and renewals is disturbing. According to information reported at the May 11 Medicaid Managed Care Council,

- pending Medicaid applications have increased by 37% overall - from 5,674 in July of 2006 to 7,811 in April of 2007. The situation in the HUSKY A program is much worse, with pending applications rising 63% - from 2,920 in July of 2006 to 4,753 in April of 2007.

- pending Medicaid applications which have not been processed in a timely manner have increased by 124% - from 1,566 in June of 2006 to 3,500 in April of 2007.

- pending Medicaid renewals that have not been processed in a timely manner have risen even more dramatically - from 7,336 in June of 2006 to 19,723 in April of 2007 - a 169% increase. *Current Department policy is not to terminate a Medicaid participant applying for a renewal if necessary documentation is being pursued.

Young Artists and Poets Wanted!

If your child or a child you know is a budding artist or poet, the National Center for Youth Law (NCYL) may publish them in an issue of the Youth Law News.

Drawings and paintings must be suitable for reproduction in black and white (dark colors, black, and pen and pencil sketches work best.) Each artist will receive a \$10 check and three copies of the issue of Youth Law News in which the art or poem appears.

Please include the child's first and last name, age, address and phone number on the back of the artwork and send it to Tracy Schroth, Editor, Youth Law News, National Center for Youth Law, 405-14th St., 15th Fl., Oakland, CA 94611. After publication, artwork will be returned. The National Center for Youth Law works on behalf of low-income children.

Career Fair!

June 19, 2007

12:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Cromwell Crowne Plaza
100 Berlin Road, Cromwell, CT

posted on CTDOL website



New CT Women's Health Resource

The Permanent Commission on the Status of Women (PCSW), a part of the Connecticut state legislature, has released their "Guide to Women's Health Rights in Connecticut." This easy-to-read and useful information resource covers the laws and your rights, as well as where to get information on topics related to women's health

The guide is available online on the PCSW website at www.cga.ct.gov/pcsw or you can call to request a free copy by calling (860) 240-8300.

CABHN Meetings

Upcoming Meeting

CABHN/FESN Meeting (tentative)

Friday, June 8th

Wrap-up of Legislative Session

9:30-11:30 am

(CRT)

555 Windsor St.
Hartford

The Connecticut Alliance for Basic Human Needs (CABHN) is a statewide network of individuals, community groups and organizations which supports and promotes advocacy on low-income issues. For more information, please call (860) 278-5688.

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Legal Assistance Resource Center of CT and
CABHN (Connecticut Alliance for Basic Human Needs)
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