



Bulletin Update - Florida Mentoring

May 14, 2005

Congratulations!

State Agency Mentoring. The Leon County School Board has named Debra Westerman, Florida Department of Children and Families, as the Volunteer Mentor of the Year for Nims Middle School (one of about 500 mentors). In addition to this honor, she has also been selected as the Mentor Volunteer of the Year for Leon County Schools (one of 10,000 volunteers).

Grant Information - U.S. Department of Education

The U.S. Department of Education is transitioning to Grants.gov, a web site that allows individuals and organizations to find and apply for grants from all grant-making agencies electronically. If you are planning to apply for federal grants, please note the following:

- All potential applicants for grants should register early at Grants.gov. Do not wait until the grant opportunity you are interested in is posted.
- The Department has changed its policy and procedural requirements for permitting applicants, under certain circumstances, to submit paper applications for competitions that otherwise require the electronic submission of applications through Grants.gov or e-Application.
- The Department's Grants Forecast (<http://www.ed.gov/fund/grant/find/edlite-forecast.html>) indicates which competitions might decide to use Grants.gov this year; however, the application notice for each competition is always the final authority.
- In addition to the preceding information, potential applicants for grants should read the Federal Register notice published by the Department's Chief Financial Officer on February 10, 2005 (see <http://www.ed.gov/legislation/FedRegister/other/2005-1/021005d.html>).
- For information on Grants.gov, call the Grants.gov Help Desk at 1-800-518-GRANTS.

Target's Local Giving Program - Due May 31

Provides grants to 501(c)(3) tax-exempt nonprofit or a public agencies that (1) promote a love of reading or encourage children to read together with their families, (2) make art exhibitions, classes and performances more affordable and accessible for families, or (3) prevent family violence by funding parenting education, crisis nurseries, family counseling, after-school programs, support groups and abuse shelters. Target has a particularly focus on programs that inspire young readers (birth through third grade) or that bring arts to schools or schoolchildren to the arts. The average grant size is \$1,000-\$3,000.

For more information, visit: http://target.com/target_group/community_giving/local_giving.jhtml

Reading First Grant Recipients

Governor Jeb Bush and Education Commissioner John Winn announced the fourth round of Reading First grant recipients. Eighteen school districts were awarded \$27,323,335 to hire reading coaches, provide professional development, perform assessments and improve classroom libraries for grades K-3 in schools with low-performing students. Continuation grants, for districts currently implementing Reading First, were released in the amount of \$37,690,450. For information: http://www.fldoe.org/news/2005/2005_05_09.asp

Please forgive any cross-posting and advise us at FLAmentoring@aol.com if you would like names added or deleted from the Bulletin Update - Florida Mentoring. For prior issues, please visit the Florida Mentoring Partnership, under Monthly Mentoring Update at: <http://www.volunteerfloridafoundation.org>.

Be a Mentor!

Volunteer Florida Foundation
Florida Mentoring Partnership
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