



News For Immediate Release:
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International Association of Jewish Vocational Services (IAJVS) Announces Partnership with The National Coalition for College Completion

PHILADELPHIA, PA, July 12, 2011 – Today, IAJVS announces a new partnership with the National Coalition for College Completion (NCCC), a diverse, nonpartisan group representing community-based business, civil rights, student, and youth advocacy organizations. The Coalition’s purpose is to be the voice of stakeholders outside the education sector and in support of federal and state programs, policies and funding to increase college completion. In addition, the Coalition urges support for promising practices of higher education institutes, of states and of communities that are transforming the post-secondary experience to better sustain today’s students.

Together, IAJVS and the NCCC will work towards a common goal of helping young people reach their full potential. “We are thrilled to join the NCCC,” said Genie Cohen, CEO of IAJVS. “Becoming a national partner with NCCC strengthens and demonstrates the commitment of IAJVS to provide individuals with tools for a successful education and sustainable future.”

As one of the largest non-profit employment and training networks in the country, many IAJVS member agencies across the United States are currently working to provide services to high school graduates throughout their local communities in their quest to further their education and be successful in joining America’s workforce.

“The NCCC’s policy focus on college affordability and workforce readiness makes IAJVS a perfect fit for this Coalition,” said Lorelle Espinosa, director of the National Coalition for College Completion. “The outstanding community-based work of IAJVS and their attention to ensuring the success of young people as a part of America’s workforce is a key part of moving communities, and thus the nation, ahead economically.”

Currently underway through IAJVS is a related two-year professional development training curriculum sponsored by the Bank of America Foundation. This training initiative explores the concept of what it means for young adults to be ready to transition to college and career. Several IAJVS affiliates already have established highly effective models of leveraging their existing

wraparound services to support low-income, low-skilled young adults leaving high school and getting into, and succeeding in two year post-secondary institutions or vocational training programs. These organizations have developed close working partnerships between their agency, community colleges, and vocational training institutions. The best practices from these models will help to guide the training and build the capacity of the rest of the national network to better serve youth and young adults at risk. With increased skills and the tools to build an intensive and supportive network of services, the IAJVS national network will be well positioned to help hundreds of at-risk young adults find their way to a successful future in the workforce.

About the National Coalition for College Completion

The National Coalition for College Completion (NCCC) is a diverse, nonpartisan group representing business, civil rights, community-based, student and youth advocacy organizations. The Coalition is the voice of stakeholders outside of education and in support of federal and state programs, policies and funding to increase college completion. We specifically urge support for promising practices within higher education institutions, states and communities that are transforming the postsecondary experience to better support today's students. NCCC believes that every student – of every race and every income level – needs quality education beyond high school.

About the International Association of Jewish Vocational Services

The International Association of Jewish Vocational Services (IAJVS) is a not-for-profit membership association linking 29 social service agencies in the United States, Canada and Israel providing a wide range of educational, vocational, and rehabilitation services. Through its member agencies, individuals seeking to improve their lives gain access to a vast array of services such as career management, skills training, rehabilitation programs, and health services. IAJVS acts as the collective voice for their members, representing their important work nationally and internationally. For more information about IAJVS, call 215-854-0233 or visit www.iajvs.org.

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