



A CONVENING OF LEADERS IN PRACTICE AND POLICY
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SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Julian L. Alssid, Executive Director, Workforce Strategy Center

Julian L. Alssid is a nationally recognized expert in workforce development strategy and policy. He has over 15 years' experience bringing together employers, workforce agencies, community colleges, and clients to help move low-income people into high-wage jobs in key industries. Since founding Workforce Strategy Center in 1998, Mr. Alssid has advised over 20 states on workforce policy and has been a national leader in promoting effective, practical solutions for implementing Career Pathways initiatives and sectoral employment strategies.

Barry Gene Bostock, Counselor/HIV/AIDS Coordinator, Stanley Street Treatment and Resources

Barry Gene Bostock provides counseling services for substance abuse clients and crisis intervention and management. He also provides educational groups that provide life skills training, substance abuse education, and relapse prevention. Additionally, he is responsible for overseeing HIV risk assessment and access to counseling, testing, and education, as well as planned discharge of HIV positive clients. He runs a Driver's Alcohol Education group and provides clients with educational information about the consequences of drunk driving and the disease concept of alcoholism. Through *Jobs to Careers*, he has become a Certified Addiction Counselor and is working toward higher-level certifications.

Nick Brake, CEO and President, Greater Owensboro Economic Development Corporation

At GO-EDC, Dr. Nick Brake, a native of northern Kentucky, has led aggressive efforts to strategically reposition Kentucky's third largest city by developing infrastructure, nurturing a competitive workforce, and creating quality of place to help the region compete in the global economy. Prior to GO-EDC, Dr. Brake served as a vice president and dean at Owensboro Community & Technical College, where he was a founder of the nationally recognized Discover College program.

Rob Chamberlin, Director of Marketing, Home Care of Rochester

Rob Chamberlin is director of marketing for Home Care of Rochester, a certified home health agency serving the greater Rochester, NY area. He is responsible for the company's community outreach activities, online presence, and marketing analytics. Prior to joining HCR, Mr. Chamberlin served in a range of marketing management, product management, and product development roles in the software and telecommunications industries, including positions with BlueTie, Global Crossing, and Frontier Communications.

Scott L. Cheney, Staff Director, U.S. Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pension Subcommittee on Employment and Workplace Safety

Scott Cheney is staff director of the Senate Subcommittee on Employment and Workplace Safety, chaired by Senator Patty Murray of Washington State. Previously, Cheney was founder and principal of PAROS Group, a consulting firm in workforce development, learning and performance improvement, economic and community development, and career and technical education. Cheney has over 20 years of experience in the field of workforce development, including running adult literacy programs in San Diego and Orange County, conducting research at the National Alliance of Business, leading international benchmarking training and performance initiatives at the American Society for Training & Development, and overseeing national workforce development projects at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. As part of his consulting work, he served as interim executive director of the National Association of Workforce Boards in 2009.

John Colbert, Senior Counsel, JFF Workforce and Education Strategies Group

John Colbert serves as senior counsel and director of federal affairs for JFF's Workforce and Education Strategies Group, located in Washington, DC. Previously, Dr. Colbert was senior counsel to the National Center on Education and the Economy's Workforce Development Strategies Group, playing a central role in the group's mission to provide strategic planning and policy development to states and local areas working to align their workforce, education, and economic and community development activities to promote high-growth, high-wage, high-employment economies. He has an extensive background in workforce issues from service in the executive branch and working with Congress. He was chief of staff of the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration in the Clinton Administration. Before that, he was a legislative liaison for the Labor Department on ETA-related issues, including authorization of the Workforce Investment Act.

Brenda Dann-Messier, Assistant Secretary for Vocational and Adult Education, U.S. Department of Education

Dr. Brenda Dann-Messier became assistant secretary for Vocational and Adult Education this past year after a decade as president of Dorcas Place, a community-based adult education agency in Rhode Island. Since Dorcas Place opened in Providence nearly 30 years ago, it has expanded from helping four single mothers earn GEDs to serving more than 1,000 adults statewide. Over the years, it has created a number of innovative programs to meet the changing needs of the diverse community it serves. In 2008, it opened the Rhode Island Welcome Back Center, one of seven programs in the nation to help foreign-trained health professionals enter the health care workforce. Recognizing the need to provide intensive academic and personal support to help low-income adult learners succeed in college, Dorcas Place, in collaboration with the Community College of Rhode Island, recently opened the Developmental Education Institute for reading and math.

Steven Dawson, President, PHI (Paraprofessional Healthcare Institute)

As founding president, Steven Dawson has guided PHI for more than 15 years. Under his leadership, PHI has grown into an \$8.3 million organization, working to secure quality care through quality jobs for our nation's direct-care workforce. He serves on the board of Cooperative Home Care Associates, PHI's affiliated \$40 million home care agency, which employs more than 1,550 paraprofessionals in New York City and is the largest worker cooperative in the country.

Barbara Dyer, President and CEO, The Hitachi Foundation

Barbara Dyer became president and CEO of The Hitachi Foundation in 1998. The foundation, an independent philanthropy created in 1985 by Japanese technology giant Hitachi, Ltd., is an expression of the company's commitment to global corporate citizenship. Ms. Dyer has sharpened the foundation's focus on the role of business in society, with a particular emphasis on the complex challenges of retaining and advancing low-wage workers. Under her leadership, the foundation has played an increasingly pivotal role in Hitachi's corporate citizenship strategy throughout North America and globally, and has been an influential force in the corporate citizenship field.

Diane Factor, Director, Worker Education & Resource Center

Diane Factor is director of the Worker Education & Resource Center, a nonprofit that administers the Health Care Workforce Development Program, a partnership between the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services and the Service Employees International Union Local 721. HCWDP offers career path and skill enhancement educational programs to incumbent workers who work in the county's hospitals and clinics, serving the largest population of medically uninsured residents in the country.

Cheryl Feldman, Director, District 1199C Training & Upgrading Fund

Ms. Feldman has worked for the District 1199C Training & Upgrading Fund, a labor-management educational trust fund with 50 contributing employer partners, for 30 years. She currently directs the activities of the fund, an AFSCME affiliate that provides educational opportunities for the members of District 1199C (Philadelphia Hospital and Healthcare Employees) and community residents, with an emphasis on workforce and career ladder programs. Ms. Feldman has helped develop the fund's Learning Center into a comprehensive educational career center providing a wide range of literacy and skills training programs that serve 18,000 adults and youth annually in southeastern Pennsylvania and southern New Jersey.

Cindy Fiorella, Vice President, Workforce and Economic Development, Owensboro Community & Technical College

As vice president of workforce and economic development at Owensboro Community & Technical College, Cindy Fiorella oversees outreach activities, including career pathways initiatives and services for at-risk populations. Her division was named an Annie E. Casey Demonstration Site in 2004 for supporting career pathways activities in manufacturing. In 2005, it was awarded a *Breaking Through* grant to support efforts in transitioning low-skill adults to high-skill, high-wage jobs in manufacturing, health care, and business. In 2006, it became a *Jobs to Careers* grantee, developing an accelerated RN option for incumbent workers.

Maria Flynn, Vice President, Building Economic Opportunity, Jobs for the Future

As vice president of JFF's Building Economic Opportunity Group, Maria Flynn leads JFF's work to help low-skilled adults advance toward family-sustaining careers, while enabling employers to build and sustain a productive workforce. Ms. Flynn guides the activities of several key JFF partnerships, including the *National Fund for Workforce Solutions*, *Jobs to Careers*, and *Breaking Through*. Previously, as administrator of the Office of Policy Development and Research in the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration, she oversaw the assessment and development of employment and training policies, managed the design of the agency's research and evaluation strategy, and provided direct support to agency budget and appropriations activities.

Lee Foley, Managing Partner, Capitol Hill Partners

Lee Foley has been a Washington lobbyist for over 28 years. He is managing partner of Capitol Hill Partners and represents various interests before the U.S. Congress and the executive branch of the federal government in issue areas including education, employment and training, banking and financial services, community and economic development, asset building, job creation, rural and agricultural programs, small business development, appropriate technology, and employment security. Foley also has extensive business and lobbying experience in banking and financial services policy and has advised major foundations and financial institutions regarding their domestic charitable activities. Prior to his lobbying career, Foley served in a variety of positions in Washington, including as a White House domestic policy advisor, chief of staff at a federal agency, and staffer for two U.S. Senate committees.

Mary Gershwin, President, Business Champions, Inc.

Mary Gershwin is president of Business Champions, Inc., dedicated to mobilizing business leadership to help more people earn valuable credentials after high school. Business Champions, Inc. works with partners in business, philanthropy, education, and government. It partners with the President's Economic Recovery Advisory Board to plan and implement seven White House meetings designed to build an action agenda for public/private partnerships and advise the Administration on policy priorities. With more than 25 years of practical experience in workforce development, Ms. Gershwin is nationally and internationally recognized for her work around engaging employers as partners in strengthening the quality of the workforce.

Bob Giloth, Vice President, Center for Family Economic Success and Community Change, Annie E. Casey Foundation

Bob Giloth oversees the Center for Family Economic Success, which combines the Casey Foundation's economic opportunity and community change work. Prior to joining the foundation in 1993, Giloth managed community development corporations in Baltimore and Chicago and was deputy commissioner of economic development under Chicago Mayor Harold Washington.

Thomas P. Glynn, COO, Partners HealthCare

Thomas P. Glynn has been COO of Partners HealthCare, a network of hospitals and physicians, since 1996. Previously, he served in the Clinton Administration as deputy secretary of the U.S. Department of Labor, senior vice president for finance and administration at Brown University, general manager of the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority, and deputy commissioner of the Massachusetts Department of Public Welfare. In the Carter Administration, he served as executive director of the Vice President's Task Force on Youth Employment and as a member of the National Advisory Council on Vocational Education. Mr. Glynn is a Brandeis University trustee and a member of the Board of Overseers of the Heller School at Brandeis.

Ronald M. Hearn, Executive Director, Baltimore Alliance for Careers in Healthcare, Inc.

Ron Hearn brings more than 30 years of higher education experience to the Baltimore Alliance. BACH serves the city of Baltimore, functioning as a workforce intermediary that provides an array of services to member health care organizations as well as unemployed and underemployed city residents. He has served on numerous education and economic development committees across Maryland and is active in the *National Fund for Workforce Solutions*.

Alex Hoffinger, Director, Grants & Development, Jobs for the Future

Alex Hoffinger collaborates with JFF's senior and project staff to conceptualize and create initiatives, prepare associated funding proposals, and support ongoing program design, grant reporting, and stewardship of funders. Mr. Hoffinger has over 15 years of experience in program development, project management, and education and workforce development policy. Most recently, he was senior program manager at Commonwealth Corporation, where he helped design and develop Diploma Plus, a national model for alternative high schools.

**Michael A. Hoge, Senior Science and Policy Advisor,
The Annapolis Coalition**

Michael Hoge is a professor of psychology in the Psychiatry Department of the Yale University School of Medicine. As director of Yale Behavioral Health, he manages a broad array of mental health and addiction services for adolescents and adults, including an outpatient clinic, mobile crisis service, vocational rehabilitation program, therapeutic high school, and statewide juvenile detention behavioral health program. Dr. Hoge is a widely recognized expert on workforce development in behavioral health and a founding member of The Annapolis Coalition on the Behavioral Health Workforce, which initiated a national, inter-professional effort to improve the recruitment, retention, and training of individuals who provide prevention and treatment services for persons with mental illnesses and substance use disorders.

Richard Kazis, Senior Vice President, Jobs for the Future

Richard Kazis leads JFF's policy and advocacy efforts. Since joining JFF in the early 1990s, his areas of focus have included: school-to-career models and policies; improving outcomes for low-income community college students; promoting college and career readiness for struggling students; promoting low-wage worker advancement; and the emerging role of labor market intermediaries in workforce development. Mr. Kazis is a former teacher at an alternative high school for returning dropouts. He has also supervised a Neighborhood Youth Corps program, managed a cooperative urban food production wholesaler, and supported labor-environmental jobs coalitions. He serves on the boards of the Institute for College Access and Success and the Workforce Strategy Center.

Deborah King, Executive Director, 1199SEIU Training and Employment Funds

Deborah King is executive director of the 1199SEIU Training and Employment Funds, the largest industry-based workforce development program in the United States. The organization provides training, job placement, and quality improvement programs to more than 600 employers and 250,000 workers in New York, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Maryland, and Washington, DC. Ms. King is a national proponent for better jobs as a way for workers to achieve quality health care and increase the economic viability of health care institutions.

Congresswoman Doris O. Matsui (D-CA)

Congresswoman Doris O. Matsui, representing the Sacramento, California, area, is a resourceful and influential advocate for the people of the region. She is focused on applying federal resources to improve the lives of her constituents. The fourth-highest-ranked member on the House Rules Committee, she brings the Sacramento region's distinctive voice to Washington. She is a veteran of the Clinton Administration and was a key member of the 1992 Presidential Transition Board. She succeeded her late husband, Rep. Robert T. Matsui, in office, bringing a mixture of prominent experience with a true dedication to the issues that matter to the citizens of the Sacramento region. As a member of the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, she helps craft legislation to address the most critical challenges facing hard-working Americans today, ranging from health care coverage and clean energy, to commerce and consumer safety.

Tim Meade, Mental Health Technician, Episcopal Hospital of Temple University

Tim Meade has worked in the behavioral health field for ten years, including six years at Episcopal Hospital of Temple University Health System. He works with patients experiencing drug and alcohol, mental health, and dual diagnosis challenges and also coordinates the Chess Club for staff and patients at Episcopal. The hospital recognized him as Employee of the Year in 2008. For six years, he has served as the elected union delegate representing Episcopal Hospital mental health technicians through Philadelphia Hospital and Health Care Employees-District 1199C, and he is a member of the District 1199C Executive Board. Meade graduated from the *Jobs to Careers* Behavioral Health Program at Episcopal and has helped recruit co-workers into the program.

Marc S. Miller, Editorial Director, Jobs for the Future

Dr. Miller develops and implements strategies and systems that raise the impact, quality, and timeliness of JFF publications. He also writes *Newswire*, JFF's electronic newsletter. Dr. Miller is author or project director of a dozen books, including *Health Care Choices for Today's Consumer*, an award-winning series of national and city specific guides to getting high-quality health care.

Terrant Morrison Sr., Residential Coordinator, The Bridge, Public Health Management Corporation
Terrant Morrison is residential coordinator at the Therapeutic Center at Fox Chase aka the Bridge, an adolescent residential treatment facility for young men who suffer from substance abuse and mental health disorders. Morrison is directly responsible for supervising mental health technicians (direct care staff) and residential supervisors. He also assists the operations director with day-to-day activities, as well as the adjunct therapy groups that take place off grounds. Currently enrolled at Philadelphia University through the *Jobs to Careers* program at 1199C, his goal is to obtain his Associate's degree. He plans to then pursue a Bachelor's while at Philadelphia University and Master's degrees in the social work field and in business in preparation for running a facility such as the Bridge and to have more impact on policies and other life-changing decisions that are made for individuals receiving behavioral health care services.

Gloria Cross Mwase, Program Director, Jobs for the Future

Gloria Cross Mwase's work centers on helping low-skilled adults advance to family-sustaining careers, while enabling employers to build and sustain a productive workforce. Her projects include the *National Fund for Workforce Solutions*, which supports local funding collaboratives investing in workforce partnerships that recruit, train, place, retain, and advance new and incumbent workers in key industry sectors. Before coming to JFF, Dr. Mwase was a local representative for the Annie E. Casey Foundation, where she served on the Funders Group of SkillWorks, a workforce intermediary in Boston that is now part of the *National Fund for Workforce Solutions*.

Henry Nicholas, President, National Union of Hospital and Health Care Employees, AFSCME, AFL-CIO

Henry Nicholas began as a health care worker at Mount Sinai Hospital in Manhattan. In 1981, he became national president of the National Union of Hospital and Health Care Employees, the largest AFL-CIO union in the country with a black president. Under his leadership, the National Hospital Union amassed the best organizing record of any other union in the entire AFL-CIO. The National Union's Executive Board, elected with Nicholas, also was the most representative national leadership of any American labor union, including representative national leadership of any American labor union, including blacks, women, and Hispanics in top leadership positions. Over the years, Nicholas emerged as a national spokesman on the struggle for preserving quality patient care, opposing economic cutbacks in health care, and insensitive health care reimbursement policies and programs.

Jane Oates, Assistant Secretary of Employment and Training Administration, U.S. Department of Labor
Jane Oates was nominated by President Barack Obama to join Secretary of Labor Hilda L. Solis' leadership team at DOL in 2009. She now leads the Employment and Training Administration in its mission to design and deliver high-quality training and employment programs for our nation's workers. ETA strives to assist workers in gaining the skills and credentials needed to enter careers that pay family-supporting wages and offer opportunities for advancement. With a nationwide reach and a focus on good jobs in promising industries, ETA programs are designed to serve every American who aspires to career success.

La Verne Reid, Associate Dean, College of Behavioral and Social Sciences, North Carolina Central University

Dr. La Verne Reid is associate dean of the College of Behavioral and Social Sciences and former chair and professor in the Department of Public Health Education at North Carolina Central University. Previously, Dr. Reid served as a consultant with the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services in the Office of the State Health Director. She began her public health career as a health educator with the Wake County Health Department in Raleigh, North Carolina and later served as a health administrator and program planner for the Wake Area Health Education Center and Wake Medical Center. Dr. Reid was director for the Division of Injury Control for the City of New York and served as an executive staff assistant to the Commissioner of Health and Hospitals for the City of Boston. She currently serves as principal investigator for the North Carolina Health and Wellness Trust Fund's Health Disparities Initiative. She lectures nationwide on how to engage the African-American faith community in health-promoting activities.

Frederick Rocco, Dean, Behavioral and Social Sciences, Bristol Community College

Frederick Rocco is Bristol Community College's liaison for the *Jobs to Careers* project with Stanley Street Treatment and Resources. He serves as director for the college's newly formed Institute for Professional Development for Health and Mental Health and is the former director of academic advisement and counseling services at BCC. Dr. Rocco also serves as a board member for Bristol Elder Services.

Geronimo M. Rodriguez Jr., Vice President, Diversity and Community Outreach, Seton Family of Hospitals

Geronimo M. Rodriguez, Jr. joined the Seton Family in June 2006 to help expand efforts across its hospitals in the areas of diversity, inclusion, cultural competence, and workforce development. Mr. Rodriguez also co-chairs the Health Industry Steering Committee, a collaboration between health care and academia focused on the nursing/allied health pipeline and inspiring the next generation of health care professionals.

Marlene B. Seltzer, President & CEO, Jobs for the Future

With the goal of helping more Americans obtain the skills they need to succeed in today's economy, JFF has grown under Ms. Seltzer's leadership to become one of the nation's leading research and policy development organizations focused on education and workforce strategies. Her mission to improve American public education and the skills of our workforce is reflected in the ambitious goal she has set for JFF: by 2020, collaborating with its partners, JFF is committed to doubling the number of low-income youth and adults who earn postsecondary credentials or get training that helps them advance to family-sustaining careers.

Scott J. Sheely, Executive Director, Lancaster County Workforce Investment Board

Scott J. Sheely has been executive director of the Lancaster County WIB since 2000. He has worked as human resources director of a large mental health agency, operations manager of a nursing home chain, associate pastor of a church, and owner of a wholesale jewelry business. Under Sheely's leadership, the WIB created the first health care-based Industry Partnership in Pennsylvania. He serves on the steering committee of the Pennsylvania Center for Health Careers and recently served on the Workforce Cabinet of the American Association of Homes and Services for the Aging.

Robert G. Templin, Jr., President, Northern Virginia Community College

Robert Templin has been president of Northern Virginia Community College since 2002. NOVA is Virginia's largest institution of higher education and one of the nation's largest community colleges. It enrolls more than 60,000 students at its six campuses. Over the last four years, Templin has led an alliance of leaders in business, education, health care, technology, and the community toward creating a comprehensive strategy for doubling the region's output of Registered Nurses and allied health professionals by 2009.

Randall Wilson, Senior Project Manager, Jobs for the Future

Randall Wilson has more than 20 years' experience in research and program evaluation in the areas of workforce development and urban community development and has authored studies on labor market issues and career advancement strategies for lower-skilled adult workers. At JFF, he conducts research and provides technical assistance for *Jobs to Careers*, a national initiative dedicated to advancing the skills and careers of frontline health care workers through work-based learning. He also manages technical assistance to the Long-Term Care component of the U.S. Department of Labor's High Growth Job Training Initiative, which responds to critical needs for a more highly skilled labor force caring for America's aging population.

Ray Uhalde, Vice President, Workforce/Education Policy, Jobs for the Future

Ray Uhalde leads JFF's Washington-based Workforce and Education Policy Group, which plays an active role in developing and implementing national workforce development policy, high school reform, and higher education policy. Previously, he served with the U.S. Department of Labor for more than 25 years, most recently as senior advisor to the U.S. Secretary of Labor; he was responsible for leading DOL's implementation of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Mr. Uhalde briefly stepped out of DOL to head the Workforce Development Strategies Group at the National Center on Education and the Economy.

Laura Jean Washington, Counselor/Case Manager, Acute Treatment Services Inpatient Unit, Stanley Street Treatment and Services

Laura Jean Washington develops individual treatment and discharge plans with clients, provides individual counseling, group and family therapy, relapse prevention, and case management. She is also a Non-Violent Crisis Institute instructor at SSTAR. The *Jobs to Careers* program has allowed her to continue her education, and she received certification as an addictions drug and alcohol abuse counselor. She is now enrolled in college full time, working toward her B.A. degree.