

Event Schedule

Wed, Dec 12, 2018

7:00am

Registration Open

🕒 7:00am - 4:00pm, Dec 12

📍 Chicago Promenade

8:00am

Apprenticeship 101 - Advancing Inclusive Apprenticeship and Accessible Technology for Youth Career Pathways

🕒 8:00am - 12:00pm, Dec 12

📍 Erie

Pre Con

Advancing Inclusive Apprenticeship and Accessible Technology for Youth Career Pathways - Presented by US Department of Labor, Office of Disability Policy Inclusive apprenticeship is a youth-centered workforce development strategy that advances career development for all youth, including youth with disabilities (YWD). A 2017 Presidential Executive Order emphasizes expanding access to apprenticeship and pre-apprenticeship in emerging industries, such as cybersecurity, healthcare, and advanced manufacturing. This presentation educates workforce development professionals working with youth about the advantages of building inclusive apprenticeship/pre-apprenticeship pipelines in these and other industries and tapping resources to make implementation successful. CWDP Competencies: 1, 8

Hard to Deliver Elements in Youth Programs - Ultimate Entrepreneurship Curriculum for Youth Programs

🕒 8:00am - 12:00pm, Dec 12

📍 Huron

Pre Con

Ultimate Entrepreneurship Curriculum for Youth Programs - Presented by Danny Rubin. In a fun and dynamic workshop that will guide everyone through a wide range of entrepreneurial skills. The entrepreneurship curriculum features 50 classroom activities. The curriculum is used by various entrepreneurship academies within high schools like the Business and Entrepreneurship Academy at Kempsville High School in Virginia Beach. CDWP Competencies: 3, 8

Overcoming Youth's Barriers to Employment - Advanced Soft Skills Training

🕒 8:00am - 12:00pm, Dec 12

📍 Superior A & B

Pre Con

Advanced Soft Skills Training Presented by: MaryAnn Lawrence Business customers

overwhelmingly say SOFT SKILLS are needed by every applicant. This is especially true with youth job seekers. This seminar will provide a train-the-trainer overview and materials for soft skills related to WORK ATTITUDES AND VALUES. Included will be: Assessing Learning Styles, Demonstrating Ability to Take Initiative, Understands the Value of Work and Takes Pride in Their Work. In addition, attendees will receive train-the-trainer materials for Understanding Disability Awareness and Understanding Diversity. The materials will help Career Coaches/Case Managers work one-on-one with youth regarding soft skills and will also provide all the needed materials to teach these soft skills classes in a group setting. CWDP Competencies: 2, 4, 8

11:00am

Exhibit Hall Open

🕒 11:00am - 4:00pm, Dec 12

📍 Chicago VI

1:00pm

5 Powerful Tips for Motivating Youth

🕒 1:00pm - 2:30pm, Dec 12

📍 Chicago X

Opening General Session

Kirk Berry helps cultivate the lives of young people around the world and equips others with the tools to do the same. With ten years of mentoring experience, Kirk – author, speaker, former collegiate athlete and practitioner – has crafted a practical system to teaching today's adults how to foster the determination and, ultimately, the achievement of the adults of tomorrow. His simplistic approach shows how any caring, compassionate adult can make a difference. Kirk gives us "5 Powerful Tips for Motivating the Youth" we work with every day. Join us during the Opening Session as we learn how these tips prepare anyone who plays an active role in a young person's life – coaches, family members, teachers, counselors – develop the blueprint to encourage the fulfillment of the next generation. CWDP Competencies 2, 4, 7

2:30pm

Bingo and Snacks with the Exhibitors

🕒 2:30pm - 3:00pm, Dec 12

📍 Chicago VI

3:00pm

Write Well, Open Doors! Literacy Training for the Real World

🕒 3:00pm - 4:00pm, Dec 12

📍 Erie

Academic Training Initiatives

This workshop will examine how to achieve successful Literacy/Numeracy gains as it relates to the WIOA In Program Skills Gain measure. In addition, you will examine strategies for meeting

this measure and achieving desired outcomes. 1. Understand the basic elements of the In-Program Skills Gain. 2. Review the five options to achieve successful outcomes. 3. Examine how and when the In-Program Skills Gain is evaluated. CWDP Competencies: 8, 9

DIY: Because No One Wrote a Manual for This

🕒 3:00pm - 4:00pm, Dec 12

📍 Chicago X

Serving the Needs of Priority Populations

No one has written a one size fits all manual for successful youth engagement. Why is that? It's because each community is made up of different businesses and partners, every state is legislatively diverse, and the youth of our regions all face different barriers. The one thing all of us have in common though, is our need to build the talent pipeline. DIV (Do-It-Yourself) project began. Out of our Board's Strategic Plan came our Industry Roundtable Discussion Series where we consistently heard a common theme across all industries; How do we develop the workforce of the future? At these discussions, there was a lot of focus on the youth of the Region, so we decided to bring them to the table with our Youth Roundtables, which gave them the opportunity to express their views on the workforce and their potential place in it. From this experience, we noticed another missing link; The Parents. A Parent Advisory Committee was then formed with the sole purpose of engaging the parents of the youth in meaningful discussion regarding the workforce of the future. CWDP Competencies: 3, 7, 8

Building Talent Pipelines VIA Partnerships and Collaborations

🕒 3:00pm - 4:00pm, Dec 12

📍 Huron

Creating and Strengthening Career Pathways

New Millennium Institute's Life Skills Job Readiness Bootcamp is a nationally recognized workforce development program. New Millennium Institute (NMI) has strengthened the Peoria community by providing comprehensive educational and workforce strategies to residents, community leaders and professionals who provide life skill training, events and programs that reduce self-handicapping behaviors and promote diversity, self-sufficiency, employment, and educational training for at-risk youth and adults. Peoria has been identified as one of the worst cities in the country for Blacks to live. This alarming news sent a strong message across the country regarding Peoria's workforce and economic development efforts. New Millennium Institute believed it was time to act to break the cycle of poverty and hopelessness. This workshop is designed to share approaches that strengthen the Peoria community by providing comprehensive educational and workforce strategies, events and programs to residents, community leaders, businesses and professionals. These events and programs successfully enhanced workforce development opportunities by developing talent pipelines for employment and educational training for at-risk youth and adults. CWDP Competencies: 1, 5, 9

Job Solutions For Youth Experiencing Homelessness Through Employment First

🕒 3:00pm - 4:00pm, Dec 12

📍 Chicago VII

Improving Work Based Learning and Employer Engagement

Homelessness among youth often coexists with employment barriers, such as mental health, addiction and trauma. Friendship Place embraces a person-centered and empowering Employment First model to facilitate participant stability and effect job placements. Employment First assumes that every participant is employable and has valuable skills to offer employers now. We will discuss this model, which involves staff training and flexible, sometimes unorthodox thinking. Employment First also requires a reframing of perceived barriers, particularly during the engagement phase, soft-skills training and job interviews. The presenter will share best practices to create partnerships, identify potential employers, and testimonies from our program participants. We will explore the role of peers as allies and the need to listen to participant voices to develop effective approaches. Session attendees will practice reframing and learn how to best prepare young job-seekers to gain employment with the Employment First model. The model is highly relational and promotes staff responsiveness, therefore enhancing the customer service experience and the organization's capacity to effect job placements. We will discuss empowering techniques and explore how this approach energizes the job placement process by focusing on gains, building self-esteem and working on the participant's time frame.

Escape to School

🕒 3:00pm - 4:00pm, Dec 12

📍 Superior A & B

Leadership and Personal Development

Can you escape the school? You'll find out in this interactive career exploration and immersion Escape Room. Work together to reveal clues to the key's location by solving hands-on career focused activities such as human coding puzzles, life-sized games of Operation, and building sustainable bridges using everyday classroom and crafting supplies. Solve all of the clues to reveal the key to your future and Escape the School! From simulating mass casualty events to career-themed escape rooms, Opportunity Inc. of Hampton Roads has become known for its innovative signature career exploration events and workshops that both engage and inspire youth participants. Discover your inner youth through this live demonstration of immersive career programming. CWDP Competencies: 2, 3, 8

Thu, Dec 13, 2018

7:00am

Registration Open

🕒 7:00am - 4:00pm, Dec 13

📍 Chicago Promenade

8:00am

Continental Breakfast

🕒 8:00am - 9:00am, Dec 13

📍 Chicago VI

Exhibit Hall Open

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📍 Chicago VI

9:00am

How to Achieve Successful In-Program Skills Gain for Youth Programs

🕒 9:00am - 10:00am, Dec 13

📍 Superior A & B

Academic Training Initiatives

Wait, How Do I Write This Email? – Collection of 100+ templates for networking, the job search and LinkedIn Rubin will lead several activities that apply English grammar skills to the professional world (ex: job applications, networking). Below is a sample of activities we can cover: 1. How to Improve Everything You Write in 3 Minutes, 2. How to Use Proper Capitalization, 3. How to Create an Effective Email Signature, 4. How to Add "Layers" to Your Writing to Make It More Engaging. CWDP Competencies: 2, 3, 7

Influencing Program Engagement for At-Risk Youth Utilizing Motivational Interviewing Principles

🕒 9:00am - 10:00am, Dec 13

📍 Chicago X

Serving the Needs of Priority Populations

As recruitment and engagement of eligible out of school youth becomes more complex, strategies to engage this population must be examined to gain improved outcomes. The workshop will provide overview of best practices around youth engagement and follow up. Focus will be on utilization of evidenced based programming such as Motivational Interviewing. The principles of Motivational Interviewing are embedded in a philosophical style of coaching that uses specific techniques to move participants through the process of change. This change model is characterized as having six stages: Pre-Contemplation (not willing to change), Contemplation (thinking about change), Determination (deciding to change), Action (doing something about it), Maintenance (holding onto change) and Relapse (falling back into old behaviors). Case Managers utilize this blended approach to individualize discussions, interventions and activities in working with each participant to assist them in uncovering options and determining barriers that prevent their economic independence. In addition, the workshop will focus on utilization of effective assessments to address participant suitability. The training session will utilize role play, group feedback and self-analysis of how personal values motivate behavior. CWDP Competencies: 2, 8

Creating a Coordinated Career Pathway Ecosystem in your Community

🕒 9:00am - 10:00am, Dec 13

📍 Erie

Creating and Strengthening Career Pathways

In this session, the Philadelphia Youth Network (PYN) will discuss our newly released Career Development Pathway Ecosystem in your Framework. PYN has been engaged in a year-long process with cross-sector partners to outline what it means for a young person to be college and

career ready in today's evolving economy. We have focused on the development opportunities youth need access to, and the outcomes employers desire. The Framework supports efforts to ensure quality is coordinated across programs and strategies, can connect in a continuum of support, and provides clear linkages for all stakeholders in creating a quality career pathway system. We specifically address the need to build a common language among supporters from different sectors to create a coordinated system. We will share our goals, successes and challenges in creating a framework that supports practitioners, encourages engagement among employers, assists funders in aligning their investments and provides policymakers with research backed information. CWDP Competencies: 1, 2, 3, 9

Internship Academy: Creating Connections that Count

🕒 9:00am - 10:00am, Dec 13

📍 Huron

Improving Work Based Learning and Employer Engagement

Learn how the Kentucky Youth Career Center in Louisville, KY built an innovative model of a WIOA Youth Work-Based learning program. In 2015 we launched what would become our center's flagship program, Internship Academy. Since our pilot year, we have graduated 54 participants from the program throughout 11 cohorts, and partnered with 34 placement sites. Creating connections with fellow interns, employers, staff members, and the community are the four keys to success in the program. Hear from a former intern on their experience in the program and goals for the future. CWDP Competencies 2, 3, 8

Got Bias? We Do! Creating Success through Unconscious Bias

🕒 9:00am - 10:00am, Dec 13

📍 Chicago VII

Leadership and Personal Development

The reality is that our attitudes and behavior toward other people can be influenced as much by our instinctive feelings as by our rational thought process. This hidden drive effects everything from your next night out, getting hired, or even who is running the next meeting. Get inspired and use Customer Center Design techniques to identify unconscious bias. Discover how understanding unconscious bias can be beneficial in your leadership skills while improving your enrollments, retention, placements and workplace environment. This interactive session will help you understand how our subconscious guides our success; how to benefit when dealing with unconscious bias and diversity; techniques to motivate you to be your personal best; and, materials and web links to implement the strategies. CWDP Competencies: 3, 4, 5, 7

10:15am

Achieving Employment Outcomes: Alternative Assessments for Underserved Youth

🕒 10:15am - 11:15am, Dec 13

📍 Superior A & B

Academic Training Initiatives

All AJC work with youth who face barriers to employment. This interactive session will offer

strategies for engaging in Alternative Assessments for Discovery, Guided Group Discovery, and Self-guided Discovery with youth, as alternative assessment approaches that Underserved Youth guide youth and the people in their lives to identify their unique gifts and talents, discern vocational themes, and build Support networks to create pathways to employment and career exploration. Presenters from LEAD Center and partners From Oregon and Pennsylvania will discuss projects using these approaches, and their partnerships, resulting in Blueprints for Employment and employment outcomes for youth participant. Presenter will share curricula, tools and other resources (all free) and describe statewide and citywide pilots that participants can replicate. The Discovery process not only supports employment for job seekers with disabilities or other barriers to employment, but also facilitates the development of support networks, self-advocacy skills, family support, competitive and customized jobs with good salaries, and wrap-around services. The session also will highlight additional formal and informal supports/resources to promote employment outcomes for job seekers who encounter barriers to employment. CWDP Competencies 3, 5, 8

Improv, It's Not Just About Comedy: Addressing Significant Youth Barriers

🕒 10:15am - 11:15am, Dec 13

📍 Chicago VII

Serving the Needs of Priority Populations

Serving the Needs of Priority Populations, the curriculum for this session will be engaging, interactive, and backed by numerous research studies. Social anxiety has no boundaries. We will focus on the background and the peer-reviewed data surrounding social anxiety as a barrier to youth employment and upward mobility in the workplace. Public speaking is the number one form of social anxiety. The fear of public speaking as it relates to employment shows a ten percent negative impairment on wages, a ten percent negative impairment on college attainment, and a fifteen percent negative impairment on promotion to leadership and management positions. Improv is short for improvisation. It's defined as spontaneous invention and it has been proven to mitigate the negative effects of social anxiety. This workshop will showcase the actions taken by the Ozark Region Workforce Board to address social anxiety through improv techniques to improve the economic status of the youth we serve. We will tell the story of how improv has directly contributed to the success of participants in our youth pre-apprenticeship. Jeff Jenkins, an expert in improvisation and comedy, will provide firsthand experience and tangible takeaways on how to implement improvisation techniques with the youth served and motivate the staff that serves those clients. CWDP Competencies: 3, 7, 8

Career Exploration: If They Wanna' Do It, Do It Right!

🕒 10:15am - 11:15am, Dec 13

📍 Erie

Creating and Strengthening Career Pathways

How do you turn budding cowboys, rap stars, and ballerinas into veterinary technicians, audio engineers, or even... working artists? Youth service professionals need to understand and engage youth in the processes of career exploration and workplace preparation. This session will be an interactive dialogue about what works: connecting mentors, employers, and at-risk youth! Participants will hear success stories and strategies from a national multi-site career-focused initiative (The Ready to Achieve Mentoring Program aka RAMP), as well as share effective

approaches with others in the room. RAMP has improved attendance, social competence, and connections to high-tech careers at sites across the country. Participants will receive a free guide, interactive tools, and practical strategies. CWDP Competencies: 2, 5, 8

Effective Strategies for Preparing Job Ready Youth

🕒 10:15am - 11:15am, Dec 13

📍 Huron

Improving Work Based Learning and Employer Engagement

Learn how the Kentucky Youth Career Center in Louisville, KY built an innovative model of a WIOA Youth Work Based learning program. In 2015 we launched what would become our center's flagship program, Internship Academy. Since our pilot year, we have graduated 54 participants from the program throughout 11 cohorts and partnered with 34 placement sites. Creating connections with fellow interns, employers, staff members, and the community are the four keys to success in the program. Hear from a former intern on their experience in the program and goals for the future. CWDP Competencies: 2, 3, 8

Beyond the Open Door: Building A Comprehensive Approach to Contract Management

🕒 10:15am - 11:15am, Dec 13

📍 Chicago X

Leadership and Personal Development

The structure of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) requires Boards to receive federal funds and then disperse them to third party contracts. This creates the potential for Boards and contractors to become disconnected from each other, impacting the quality of service and performance outcomes. To address this challenge, Opportunity Inc. of Hampton Roads developed a comprehensive, high-touch approach to working with youth program contractors. The creation of a robust, dedicated follow-up program, quarterly in-person professional development training for contractors, the development of a Youth to Business Pipeline that connects the business community to the WIOA youth programs, and an intensive case management support program has resulted in the Board overwhelmingly exceeding performance goals for over 5 consecutive years and significantly increased their 4th quarter performance measures. This session will feature a candid discussion between a WIOA Youth Program Contractor and Board staff regarding this transformation of Opportunity Inc.'s supportive services for their contracted youth case management staff, as well as the youth being served. CWDP Competencies: 3, 8, 9

11:30am

Networking with Exhibitors

🕒 11:30am - 1:00pm, Dec 13

📍 Chicago VI

Box Lunch

1:00pm

Life Skills, Classroom & Job Readiness Bootcamp

🕒 1:00pm - 2:00pm, Dec 13

📍 Superior A & B

Academic Training Initiatives

Recently, there was a news announcement indicating that Peoria went from first to second worst city in the country for Blacks to live. A major element that contributed to Peoria's ratings was its high drop out and low high school graduation rates. To counter this trend, Peoria Public School District 150 developed a new innovative program called the Peoria Options Program. (POP) The program is an alternative way to earn a High School Diploma for students in jeopardy of not graduating. Additionally, to meeting graduation requirements all students had to participate and successfully complete a Capstone Wellness Recovery Action Plan (WRAP) competency to graduate. WRAP services included academic, behavioral, community/career/counseling support and activities. To graduate students had to demonstrate self-management, life and soft skills and develop an Individualized Educational and Career Action Plans to achieve their academic and employment goals. Students received a Job Readiness Certificate and were assisted with job/training opportunities. Come and join us to learn how a unique program no excuse cognitive behavior soft skill program helped participants to overcome their personal and employment self-handicapping behaviors to become good employees/trainees by developing life and soft-skills needed to be successful in the classroom and on the job. CWDP Competencies: 1, 2, 5

Formula for Success with Court-Involved Youth

🕒 1:00pm - 2:00pm, Dec 13

📍 Huron

Serving the Needs of Priority Populations

Reimage provides a second chance to youth and young adults who are involved in the court system by helping to navigate the court system, addressing barriers to getting a job or continuing school, responding to life, background, or family changes, and achieving educational goals such as GED, high school diploma, or enrolling in college or short-term training. Key elements of success for youth in the program include mentoring, restorative justice projects, earning a high school diploma or GED, obtaining industry-recognized credentials, and job placement. Significant program partnerships include judges, court-designated workers, detention center, Department of Juvenile Justice, and probation officers. Between September 2015 and June 2018, we have enrolled 484 participants, 41 have earned a high school diploma or GED, 64 have earned an industry recognized credential, and 239 have been placed into non-subsidized employment. Hear from a Reimage participant on their experience in the program and goals for the future. CWDP Competencies: 3, 5, 8

Individualized Learning Plans as a Customer-centered Career Development Strategy

🕒 1:00pm - 2:00pm, Dec 13

📍 Erie

Creating and Strengthening Career Pathways

Individualized learning plans (also known as career and academic plans) are a valuable strategy for conducting customer-centered career and postsecondary exploration and planning to ensure youth are selecting the right path based on who they are. Participants will learn about strategies and resources for facilitating an individualized career guidance process with youth based on state and local examples highlighted in the free online guide, "Promoting Quality Individualized Learning Plans throughout the Lifespan: A Revised and Updated ILP How to Guide 2.0." Developed by the National Collaborative on Workforce and Disability for Youth (NCWD/Youth) and partners at the Boston University School of Education, the guide offers a combination of practical career development resources and activities relevant for use with youth in secondary school, workforce development programs, postsecondary education, and other service agencies. The guide also features examples of how various states are implementing individualized learning plans focused on a quality career development process as a strategy to increase postsecondary and employment outcomes across education and workforce development systems. Tailoring approaches to the needs of young people with disabilities will also be addressed. Development of the guide has been supported by the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy. CWDP Competencies: 2, 8, 9

Seeking the Perfect Blend: Job Readiness Training and Work-Based Learning

🕒 1:00pm - 2:00pm, Dec 13

📍 Chicago X

Improving Work Based Learning and Employer Engagement

This workshop will explore how YWCA of Western Massachusetts Youth Build program (Springfield) improved both program design and staff capacity in an innovative response to local labor markets, employer expectations and participant needs. To create robust career pathway opportunities in construction and allied health for opportunity youth, YWCA of Western Massachusetts Youth Build partnered with Commonwealth Corporation to implement a strategic and coordinated blend of job readiness training to bolster vocational training and effective work-based learning. Workshop participants will have the opportunity to learn about and discuss integral levers for improvement in this effective career pathway program. The session will offer opportunities to explore effective outreach practices when developing a new pathway, strategies for successful integration of academics, job readiness training, and work experiences, and the importance of effective and responsive assessment practices. Additionally, we will experience and reflect on sample job readiness lessons drawn from Signal Success, a comprehensive career readiness curriculum, to illustrate meeting participants where they are and developing capacity in communication, collaboration, dependability and initiative – core skills as identified by employers across industries. Finally, we will offer participants the opportunity discusses and share which aspects of our narrative might find traction in their programs. CWDP Competencies: 2, 5, 8

Taking Ownership of the Leader Inside You

🕒 1:00pm - 2:00pm, Dec 13

📍 Chicago VII

Leadership and Personal Development

Vince Lombardi said "Leaders aren't born they are made. And they are made just like anything else, through hard work. And that's the price we'll have to pay to achieve that goal, or any goal."

This workshop will provide information on the different types of organizational leadership and help you discover your leadership style. Attendees will identify existing leadership strengths and shine a light on behaviors you need to modify the lead. CWDP Competencies: 3, 7

2:00pm

Bingo and Snacks with the Exhibitors

🕒 2:00pm - 2:30pm, Dec 13

📍 Chicago VI

2:30pm

Incorporating Financial Education into Youth Programs

🕒 2:30pm - 3:30pm, Dec 13

📍 Superior A & B

Academic Training Initiatives

Earning that first paycheck provides a unique opportunity to gain valuable lifelong skills, such as developing a budget, creating savings goals, and understanding credit. New wage earners can learn important personal finance concepts, but this they can also put this new knowledge into practice. One great way to put this new knowledge into practice is by getting a savings or a checking account at a bank or credit union. The Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and the National Credit Union Administration have free educational resources, which may support WIOA's financial literacy element, and strategies to help workforce providers incorporate financial education into their programs. We will also discuss what steps you can take to help your young people get access to accounts at banks and credit unions. CWDP Competencies: 1, 8

Perspectives of Youth With Disabilities on How to Successfully Engage Youth in Workforce Development

🕒 2:30pm - 3:30pm, Dec 13

📍 Erie

Serving the Needs of Priority Populations

While it is important to know what families and other professionals consider important as it pertains to service delivery, welcoming youth voice is vital to the success of youth-serving programs to ensure they are truly customer-centered. Join this session to hear directly from young adults with disabilities who have served as peer leaders with Colton-Redlands-Yucaipa Regional Occupational Program about strategies that work to engage youth and meet their needs when delivering employment and training services. The young adult presenters, along with staff from the National Collaborative on Workforce and Disability for Youth, will also share considerations regarding career development when working with young people with disabilities. CWDP Competencies: 2, 4, 5

Make it Personal: Individualized Career Development Planning for At-Risk Youth

🕒 2:30pm - 3:30pm, Dec 13

📍 Huron

Creating and Strengthening Career Pathways

Assisting disconnected youth, youth involved in the juvenile justice or foster care system, and youth with disabilities to successfully transition into postsecondary education and employment can seem like a daunting task. However, there are strategies that work! Come hear about personalized and career-focused strategies that two Right Turn Career-Focused Transition Initiative sites are using with success. Hear youth share their experience with Right Turn's three-phase career development process designed specifically for youth that are involved with the juvenile justice system. Presenters will share program examples, real-world challenges, and tools for individualized planning and career development from the Right Turn Program. Participants will have the opportunity to share their own challenges and lessons learned and leave with innovative strategies, a hands-on tool for individualized youth planning, and lots of free resources! CWDP Competencies: 2, 5, 8

Rapport for Retention: Soft Skill Innovations for Front-Line Workers & their Managers

🕒 2:30pm - 3:30pm, Dec 13

📍 Chicago X

Improving Work Based Learning and Employer Engagement

Research from Harvard Business Review tells us most young employees leave their job because they don't like their manager. We often cast this into the lot of inevitable problems that just "are." But what if these front-line manager/employee relationships could improve? What if new managers were taught to truly understand and inspire the young people they lead? What if young people could improve their skills to be more resilient, team oriented and positioned to succeed as new employees? What would this mean for businesses? And for young people? Those are the questions two youth-focused NGO's – the International Youth Foundation and Grads of Life – are seeking to tackle. This session focuses on both sides of the relationship at the heart of turnover: young, front-line employees who often lack critical soft skills, and motivated yet inadequately trained front-line managers. It features tools and approaches IYF and Grads of Life take to helping both groups build the soft skills needed to improve a range of outcomes, including: IYF's work engaging employers to build line-level workers' soft skills through its Passport to Success curriculum; and Grads of Life's 7-Second Resume campaign, as well as its soft skills e-learning course for front-line managers. The session will include lessons learned across multiple contexts, and ideas you can plug and play into your own workforce development programming. CWDP Competencies: 3, 5, 8

Transforming Who You Are: Personal Development

🕒 2:30pm - 3:30pm, Dec 13

📍 Chicago VII

Leadership and Personal Development

Personal development is a lifelong process. Workforce professionals get wrapped up in daily crises and "to do" lists. This seminar will help STOP FOR A MINUTES and create a personal development plan that reflects your values and sets goals for your career, education, relationships, and self-improvement. Come laugh, come reflect, come contemplate the person you want to be. CWDP Competencies: 2, 7

Fri, Dec 14, 2018

8:00am

Registration Open

🕒 8:00am - 12:00pm, Dec 14

📍 Chicago Promenade

Continental Breakfast

🕒 8:00am - 9:15am, Dec 14

📍 Chicago VI

8:30am

Exhibit Hall Open

🕒 8:30am - 11:00am, Dec 14

📍 Chicago VI

9:15am

Back on Track: Evidence Based Framework for WIOA Out-of-School Youth Programing

🕒 9:15am - 10:15am, Dec 14

📍 Erie

Academic Training Initiatives

JFF developed the Back on Track framework to drive growth and scale of pathways to credentials and careers for 16 to 24-year-old youth. It is being implemented by communities around the country in the Opportunity Youth Incentive Fund, the Annie E. Casey Foundation's LEAP initiative, and JFF's Opportunity Works initiative. We have learned that communities can adapt the framework for out-of-school youth without a high school credential and for youth who have graduated but have poor academic skills; that clear partnerships are required between youth-serving organizations and postsecondary programs/training providers; and that districts, community-based organizations, and colleges can operate Back on Track schools and programs and attain improved outcomes for young people. Communities are grappling with building pathways for out-of-school youth under WIOA. Back on Track has an evidence base and has begun to scale in communities across the country. Early results from research indicate that high numbers of formerly disconnected youth in Back on Track pathways enter some form of postsecondary education. For youth entering Back on Track postsecondary bridge programming after earning a diploma or GED, the numbers are even higher. Participants will learn about the model and how it can underpin WIOA programming for out-of-school youth in a community.

Financial Education to Financial Inclusion: Bridging the Gap between for People with Barriers to Employment

🕒 9:15am - 10:15am, Dec 14

📍 Huron

Serving the Needs of Priority Populations

Financial education is an important strategy for an individual to build financial stability. It provides the knowledge and skills individuals need to manage their money and enhance their economic status. Within workforce development programs, financial education enhances employment outcomes and leads to greater educational attainment, especially for youth with significant barriers to employment. Youth stay at their jobs longer when they have these additional skills to effectively manage their money and are more likely to succeed within career pathways programs. As workforce development professionals, it is helpful when we create a paradigm shift in realizing that employment is one goal, but not the only goal. The goal for the job seeker is financial stability. CWDP Competencies: 5, 8, 9

Defining In-Demand, Youth Focused Occupations

🕒 9:15am - 10:15am, Dec 14

📍 Superior A & B

Creating and Strengthening Career Pathways

This workshop will highlight San Diego's Youth Eligible Training Provider List (Y-ETPL), which defines occupations within regionally-based in-demand industry sectors. This list, updated annually, uses data from EMSI (Economic Modeling Specialists, International) to include occupations meeting local minimum wage standards and showing increased annual openings and annual growth. Mirrored off the Adult ETPL, the Y-ETPL mandates that Youth Service Providers use Y-ETPL approved trainings and courses for credential attainment and partner with businesses who hire in those in-demand occupations. Using this model allows us as a region to focus on meeting employers needs by adequately preparing the future workforce. It also promotes co-enrollments and referrals between the Adult system, while also leveraging new partners, training providers, and local businesses to provide valuable work-experiences and job placements.

Opportunity Works-Sector Focus, Employer Leadership, and Youth Success

🕒 9:15am - 10:15am, Dec 14

📍 Chicago VII

Improving Work Based Learning and Employer Engagement

Opportunity Works is a paid training and internship program developed for unemployed young adults and growing businesses in high demand sectors in Cook County. The program is a public-private partnership developed at the request of Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle. The goals of the program are to create career pathways for young adults, and develop talent pipelines for industries central to the regional economy. Opportunity Works braids numerous funding sources to foster flexibility and sustainability. In the first year of service delivery, Opportunity Works trained 401 youth, engaged 84 businesses in hosting 367 internships, and effectively connected 331 people to the next step on their career pathway. This workshop will showcase the insights of multiple partners in panel format. Panelists will include program graduates, leadership from partner businesses, strategic partners, and program staff. The discussion will focus on unique talent pipeline practices, individualized mentoring, and our process for developing high-quality work experiences. CWDP Competencies: 2, 8, 9

NAWDP Certification Program

🕒 9:15am - 10:15am, Dec 14

📍 Chicago X

Leadership and Personal Development

Learn how to complete the application to become a CWDP. Tips, hints, and more will provide you with the inside information you need to become certified.

10:30am

Confidence Under Pressure

🕒 10:30am - 12:00pm, Dec 14

📍 Chicago X

Closing General Session

Our surprise presenter will show us how to maintain confidence under pressure. Confidence is the ground of effective action, constructive dialogue, and innovative solutions when stressful circumstances arise. Attendees of this session will learn how to stay connected to clients and colleagues when conflict arises. Our surprise guest speaker has presented more than 2,500 times over the last 30 years to audiences that have included such dignitaries as Bill Gates, President Clinton, the Prime Minister of Canada and to hundreds of Fortune 500 companies. The speaker will address how to succeed in challenging circumstances and achieve best outcomes while navigating difficult conversations. He attributes his success to years of practice with challenging circumstances and his experience consulting with both non-profits and private sector corporations. I look forward to getting your answers and to participating in your event. Thanks so much for the part you've played to have me included. CWDP Competencies: 3, 7

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