NYATEP Testifies Before the NY State Legislature

On Thursday August 13th, at the invitation of the NYS Legislature, NYATEP Executive Director Melinda Mack testified at the joint public hearing on The Impact of COVID-19 on the Workforce. Melinda used this as an opportunity to highlight several key issues confronting the workforce system:

- Prior to COVID-19, New York was already facing serious structural issues within our labor market that raised early red flags. This includes the growth in low wage work over the last decade and the fact that individuals with a high school diploma or less did not fully recover during the last recession. In New York, 42% of people (5.65 million) have a high school diploma or less, and of those who completed less than high school, nearly half never made it past 9th grade.

- People of color, low wage workers and young adults are severely impacted by the economic downturn.

- We have a real opportunity to shape policy and practice for a better outcome for New Yorkers.

Melinda pointed to the creation of the Invest in Skills NYS Workforce Strategy Group that is in the process of developing recommendations that will be provided to the Governor’s office and State Legislature in early September. The NYS Workforce Strategy Group’s early recommendations are focusing on several key areas including: funding for workforce development; eliminating policy barriers that prohibit innovation or limit career pathway development; investment in low wage workers and those left out of the labor market; and economic development incentives.
We Killed the Middle Class. Here’s How We Can Revive It.
By helping one another reach our full potential, we’ll help the whole country get its swagger back.

AUGUST 16, 2020 | Jim Tankersley
Economics reporter for The New York Times

America is once again engaged in the process of rebuilding its economy from a devastating recession. The United States cannot afford another feeble and prolonged rebound, in which the gilded chambers of the economy recover faster than all the others, and it need not have one. But it may be slipping into that trap again, because our leaders have not learned the lessons of the nation’s great postwar boom, the last time America delivered lasting prosperity and security for the middle class. They have not learned that the way to create another middle-class boom is by investing in workers.

I’ve spent two decades writing and reporting about politics and economics, in Washington and around the country. For much of that time, I have been consumed by a question: Where did the good jobs go for the American middle class after the great postwar boom faded 40 years ago, and where will we find new ones to replace them? I have interviewed laid-off factory workers in Ohio, home health aides in Virginia, an aspiring lawyer who watched her mother lose her childhood home in Chicago, a relentlessly upbeat airport valet who earned poverty wages for wheeling elderly passengers through the terminal. I have watched more equation-stuffed slide decks at economics conferences than I would deem medically advisable. From the people and the cutting-edge research, I have built an understanding of what actually made the middle class boom after World War II, and what it will take to rebuild it from our pandemic crisis now.

My reporting taught me that the United States economy enjoyed a golden era of shared prosperity in large part because, during the war effort and the civil-rights era, America made it easier for people who had been previously shut out of economic opportunity—women, minorities, immigrants—to enter the workforce and climb the economic ladder, to make better use of their talents and potential. Research from economists at the University of Chicago and Stanford attributes two-fifths of our per-worker growth since 1960 to that improved flow of talent. Reducing discrimination made our country faster-growing and more productive. It lifted everyone up, including white men, who have set the rules of the American economy since its founding.

And I’ve also learned what isn’t working. I’ve seen the government bail out airlines and flood the financial system with money to keep it functioning, while leaving individuals to slowly scrape up the pieces of their shattered careers and dreams. I’ve watched politicians harness the politics of fear to lash out at immigrants, ignoring the doctors who have manned ventilators during the pandemic and the farmworkers who have kept produce flowing to Amazon’s delivery trucks. I’ve seen the public turn a blind eye to the centuries of systemic oppression that have kept Black women who don nursing scrubs and ring up groceries from earning and saving enough to buy their own homes. And in the depths of a crisis, I’ve watched populists pit one struggling group of Americans, who happen to be white men, against struggling Black and Latino men, and against women of all races.

The barriers that block some workers from advancement, such as inadequate parental-leave policies, federal limits on imported brainpower, and overt racial discrimination, are holding us all back. Those barriers don’t just hurt women and men of color. They’re shrinking the middle class, and they’re hurting our democracy.

READ THE FULL ARTICLE HERE
2020 Fall Conference

WHY ATTEND THIS YEAR’S EVENT?

New York’s economy has been reshaped and the future ahead depends on our innovation. Join the New York Association of Training and Employment Professionals and NYS Economic Development Council for a virtual event, Forward Together: Fueling New York’s Economic Engine, aimed at informing, inspiring and connecting you to national best practices, regional shifts and local collaborators for economic and workforce solutions.

2020 VIRTUAL FALL CONFERENCE

FORWARD TOGETHER
FUELING NEW YORK’S ECONOMIC ENGINE

October 27, 2020 and October 28, 2020
12:30 PM - 4:30 PM and 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

AN INTERACTIVE VIRTUAL EVENT!

- Nationally recognized keynote speakers
- Workshop sessions on the latest in workforce & economic development
- Engaging networking with peers from across the State!

PRESENTED IN PARTNERSHIP

EARLY BIRD RATES APPLY THROUGH SEPTEMBER 25TH

REGISTER

SPONSOR
Employment and Training Administration Announcements
Updated through August 12

GUIDANCE

• ETA to Present “Data Integrity Technical Assistance Tool: Quarterly Report Analysis for WIOA Titles I and III” on August 18
• COVID-19 Information for State Unemployment Insurance Agencies: A list of guidance, policies, and resources to help states respond to the COVID-19 pandemic
• UIPL 27-20: - Presidential Memorandum on Authorizing the Other Needs Assistance Program for Major Disaster Declarations Related to Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)-Unemployment Insurance (UI)-Related Technical Assistance for States Administering Lost Wages Assistance (LWA)
• OMB Publishes Updated Guidance for Grants and Agreements

RESOURCES

• Recent Department of Labor Actions to Help American Workers and Employers during the COVID-19 Pandemic
• Evaluation Peer Learning Cohort Application Applications Due August 24
• Pathway to Recovery Resources:
  • Quick Start Action Planner
  • Service Delivery Resources: Job Seeker
  • Service Delivery Resources: Business Customer
  • Labor Market Information Resources
  • Partnerships & Planning Resources
  • System Infrastructure & Capacity Resources

FUNDING

• Rural Placemaking Innovation Challenge: USDA Announces Funding Opportunity

READ THE FULL REPORT HERE
Paycheck Protection Program Helps 72% of New York Small Businesses

Program Must Boost Aid to Underserved Communities

Nearly three-quarters of New York State small businesses received assistance in recent months through the federal government’s Paycheck Protection Program (PPP), according to Census Bureau survey data for the week ending June 27.

$38.2 billion in PPP loans were approved for New York applicants through July 24, 2020, according to data from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), which implements the program.

While the program has provided important support to many employers, a report by the SBA’s Inspector General found the agency did not adequately address the needs of traditionally underserved businesses: “Because SBA did not provide guidance to lenders about prioritizing borrowers in underserved and rural markets, those borrowers, including rural, minority and women-owned businesses, may not have received the loans as intended.” In addition, SBA has been criticized for publishing certain potentially inaccurate data on the program’s outcomes.

Leaders in Washington are considering extending the PPP as part of the next COVID-19 stimulus/relief legislation. The SBA must ensure that minority-owned and other underserved businesses have genuine access to federal funding through the PPP and other programs. Congress and the President should take every step possible to instill strong reporting and accountability mechanisms, as well.

The State Comptroller’s office is committed to keeping New Yorkers regularly updated on the state’s economy and finances.

Visit the State Comptroller’s web page for the latest updates on these other important topics:
Impact of Pandemic on SNAP, Medicaid & Cash Assistance
New York State’s Budget
NYS Department of Labor Weekly Unemployment Data

As of the week ending 8/8/20, there are 3,423,876 UI initial claims with 1,356,079 on Pandemic Unemployment Assistance. All statewide industries experienced an increase in initial claims for Unemployment Insurance over the past year. Learn more in the full report. 

LEARN MORE HERE

LevelUp

Register Today for the
Serving People With Highly Stigmatized Convictions webinar
August 19, 12:00pm - 1:00pm EST

Join Level Up and Center for Employment Opportunities for our 6-part webinar series, Criminal Justice and the Workforce System!

This unique and tailored session of the webinar series will provide:

- A review of potential bias from community members and staff
- Understanding the Sex Offender registry and basic vocabulary around this population
- Guidance on engaging employers and developing job opportunities.

This webinar is ideal for frontline staff, case workers and community organizations looking to train and hire individuals with a justice involved history. There will be an opportunity for Q&A with the experts to support the learning.

LEARN MORE HERE
Level Up Summer Training Calendar

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND THE WORKFORCE SYSTEM PRESENTED BY CENTER FOR EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES:

- **Part 4:** Serving People With Highly Stigmatized Convictions [webinar]
  August 19, 12:00pm - 1:00pm EST
  Cost $100

- **Part 5:** Partnering with Probation and Parole [webinar]
  September 16, 12:00pm - 1:00pm EST
  Cost $100

- **Part 6:** Understanding Ban the Box and other New York regulations - A webinar presented by CEO [webinar]
  October 14, 12:00pm - 1:00pm EST
  Cost $100

NYATEP PRESENTS:

- **Zoom 101 [webinar]**
  August 18, 12:00pm - 1:00pm EST
  Cost: FREE TO NYATEP MEMBERS

VISIT WWW.LEVELUP-NY.COM TO LEARN MORE

Upcoming Member Information, Events & Funding Opportunities

**JOB OPPORTUNITY**

**DIRECTOR, DEVELOPMENT - NY & NJ**

The role will specialize in revenue-raising for large institutional investments for our Per Scholas sites located in New York and New Jersey and support sponsorships and donor cultivation for events.

**CHIEF DEVELOPMENT OFFICER**

The ideal candidate will be excited to partner on a local and national scale, building and strengthening relationships with key current and prospective stakeholders, including Board members, corporate partners, regional and national funders, policymakers, elected officials, and other influential individuals across broad sectors.

CLICK TO LEARN MORE
Upcoming Member Information, Events & Funding Opportunities

JOB OPPORTUNITY

CAREER CENTER COORDINATOR

L.E.A.P is a Non-Profit agency based in Fort Edward, NY that offers its employees generous employee benefits from day one, a professional work environment and a staff dedicated to the agency’s mission. Typical work activities will include: planning development and implementation of the local workforce plan in Washington County in cooperation with the Workforce Development Board and other counties in the local workforce area; planning development and operation of the Career Center in cooperation with other partner agencies and under the policies of the local WDB and NYSDOL.

CLICK TO LEARN MORE

JOB OPPORTUNITY

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CATSKILL HUDSON AHEC

Catskill Hudson Area Health Education Center (AHEC) is a non-profit organization serving 11 counties with headquarters in Highland, New York, as well as with remote operations, reaching students and professionals in the richly diverse Hudson Valley and the Catskills areas.

The Executive Director is responsible for the overall programmatic, financial, and operational management, planning, development, budgeting, communication and evaluation of the organization and its activities. This includes personnel management, growth and strategic planning, program development, board relations, and coordinating activities.

CLICK TO LEARN MORE

2021 Mayoral Candidate Fireside Chats

The NYC Employment and Training Coalition is hosting a series of 2021 Mayoral Candidate Fireside Chats with candidates for the office of NYC Mayor.

Thursday, August 20 - Dianne Morales
Thursday, September 10 - Eric Adams
Thursday, October 15 - Scott Stringer
Thursday, November 5 - Loree Sutton

RSVP HERE