2015 BLU Washington Fly-In:
Strengthening Industry-Led Partnerships through Policy and Practice
January 14-15; Loews Madison; Washington, DC

Wednesday, January 14th

12:00 Lunch - Welcome and Introductions
  Michael Tamasi, President & CEO, AccuRounds; BLU Executive Committee
  • What does it mean to be a part of BLU?
  • Why we’re here today and why it matters
  • Self-introductions

1:00 Finishing the Job We Started
  Liza Smitherman, VP Professional Development, Jostin Construction Inc.; BLU Executive Committee

  Washington Update: What’s Happening Inside the Beltway
  Kermit Kaleba, Federal Policy Director, National Skills Coalition
  Angela Hanks, Senior Federal Policy Analyst, National Skills Coalition
  • Current DC environment
  • Administrative and congressional opportunities

Break

2:30 Interactive Discussion: Work-Based Learning for Adults and Youth
  Andy Van Kleunen, CEO, National Skills Coalition

Break

4:00 What We Want to Accomplish: Prepping for Tomorrow’s Meetings
  Andy Van Kleunen
  • Overview of meetings
  • Coordinating message
  • Reporting on Hill Visits (Knowlegis)
    Ashley Shaw, Field Coordinator, National Skills Coalition

5:00 What to Expect on the Hill
  Mike Mandina, President, Optimax Systems, Inc., BLU Executive Committee

Break
5:30 Reception

6:30 Working Dinner: What’s Ahead for BLU

Kerry Gumm, Director - Recruiting and Diversity, Principal Financial Group; BLU Exec Committee
- Effective Practices track at the June National Fund for Workforce Solutions (NFWS) conference
  Fred Dedrick, Executive Director, National Fund for Workforce Solutions
- BLU Outreach Efforts
  Scott Ellsworth, Director, Business Leaders United

8:00 Adjourn

Thursday, January 15th

7:30 Working Breakfast: Final Prep

Angel Pineiro, Senior Vice President, ASI System Integration, Inc.; BLU Exec Committee
- Review of schedule, logistics and meeting assignments

8:30 BLU Discussion with the White House & OCTAE on Upskilling Frontline Workers

Byron Auguste, Deputy Director, National Economic Council
Johan Uvin, Acting Assistant Secretary, Office of Career, Technical and Adult Education, Department of Education

10:00 Federal Sector Partnership Initiatives: How Can DOL and DOC Effectively Meet the Needs of Employers?

Thomas Guevara, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Regional Affairs, Economic Development Administration, Department of Commerce
Byron Zuidema, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Employment and Training Administration, Department of Labor

11:30 Depart for Capitol Hill

*Everyone is on their own for lunch and Hill meetings*

Lunch on Capitol Hill
- Senate: Dirksen Cafeteria (basement, Room SDB-R7)
- House: Longworth Cafeteria (basement, Room B-223)

Meetings with members of Congress
- Constituent meetings with individual congressional offices

3:30 Debrief at Hotel (Postscript Bar); Departure