



NATIONAL SKILLS COALITION
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January 31, 2014

Yesterday, [I emailed to let you know](#) that I would be heading to the White House today with NSC members and allies to discuss what we can do to help our nation's 4 million long-term unemployed. Just now, President Obama told us that he is dedicating \$150 million in new support from the U.S. Department of



Labor (USDOL) for "job-driven training partnerships," also known as sector partnerships, to help the long-term unemployed get back to work.



This is good news! It comes on the heels of President Obama's State of the Union speech when he shared his vision with Congress and the American people: "Train Americans with the skills employers need, and match them to good jobs that need to be filled right now." In the last two days, the President and Vice President Joe Biden visited successful job-driven sector partnerships in Waukesha, WI and Rochester, NY.

Prior to today's announcement, the President hosted a CEO roundtable to discuss how employers can help the long-term unemployed get back to work. Participants included two leaders of Business Leaders United for Workforce Partnerships (BLU): Michael Mandina of Optimax, Inc. and Michael Tamasi of Accurounds, both smaller manufacturers. Also participating was Larry Zimpleman, CEO of Prudential Financial Group, a Fortune 500 company that participates in a local sector partnership organized by Central Iowa Works.

Later today, I'll join NSC Leadership Council members along with leaders from the federal workforce system for a meeting with Vice President Joe Biden. President Obama has charged the Vice President with overseeing a cross-agency review of federal workforce programs to ensure they align with employer needs. We'll continue to carry the message that sector partnerships are an effective, proven strategy.

Today, the [White House also released a report](#) focused on the long-term unemployed. It includes examples of sector partnerships serving the long-term unemployed and others who need new skills for a good-paying job. A number of NSC Leadership Council members and partners are featured.

I want to congratulate all of NSC's members, funders and allies who participated in today's event. The list below is just a partial accounting. Now the real work starts! Over the coming weeks, watch for continued analysis from NSC about the rollout of the USDOL long-term unemployed grants, and of the Vice President's government-wide review of workforce training programs. We'll need your input!

Sincerely,

Andy Van Kleunen
Executive Director

Stay informed.)))

Forward this.)))

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to NSC today!



PHILANTHROPEDIA

Thank you to all NSC members and allies who attended today's White House event!
They included:

NSC Members

Abby Snay, Executive Director of Jewish Vocational Services – San Francisco and NSC Board Chair

Plinio Ayala, CEO, Per Scholas

Earl Buford, Executive Director, Wisconsin Regional Training Partnership

Harry Holzer, Professor of Public Policy, Georgetown Public Policy Institute and NSC Board member

Guy Loudon, Executive Director, Jane Addams Resource Corporation

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

Sherry Marshall, CEO, Southwest Ohio Region Workforce Investment Board

Bill Rayl, Executive Director, Jackson Area Manufacturers Association

Business Leaders United for Workforce Partnerships

Rebecca Aguilera-Gardiner, Vice President, Sales/Marketing, Diego and Sons

Erick Ajax, Vice President and co-owner, E.J. Ajax and Sons

Liza Alvarez, Human Resources Manager, Vi-Chem Corporation

Armando Chapelliquen, Director of Operations, Jos. H. Lowenstein & Sons, Inc.

Scott Ellsworth, Vice President-US operations, Tipco Punch, Inc

Kerry Gumm, Human Resources Manager, Principal Financial Group

Paul Hoffman, President, New Haven Manufacturers Association

Rick Jordan, Vice President, LSI Industries, Inc.

Michael Kenig, Vice Chairman, Holder Construction Company

Mike Mandina, President, Optimax Systems, Inc.

Sandra Myler, Educator, Dignity Health

Jeanette Nigro, Vice President, Public Programs and Development, Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce

Lynn Pecora, Director-Training & Development, Inglis

Angel Pineiro, Senior Vice President, ASI System Integration, Inc.

Alma Salazar, Vice President of Education and Workforce Development, Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce

Anette Smith-Dohring, Workforce Development Manager, Sutter Health Sacramento Sierra Region

Liza Smitherman, Vice President Professional Development, Jostin Construction

Susan Swanton, Executive Director, Maine Marine Trades Association

Michael Tamasi, President and CEO, AccuRounds