
Event Agenda

NAWB: The Forum 2025. Together. Forward. Change.

Sat, Mar 29, 2025

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|--------------------|--|
| 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM | Skills-Based Hiring Community of Practice Convening (invitation only)
Location: Kalorama |
| 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM | SNAP E&T Institute
Location: Holmead |
| 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM | First Timers' Session
Location: Monroe |
| 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM | Executive Directors Session
Location: Georgetown East |
| 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM | Board Chairs Session
Location: Georgetown West |
| 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM | Welcome Reception
Location: NAWB Town (Columbia) |

Sun, Mar 30, 2025

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| 7:30 AM - 8:30 AM | Breakfast
Location: NAWB Town (Columbia) |
| 8:30 AM - 10:00 AM | Opening General Session: Together
Location: International Ballroom (Center)

Welcome Remarks
8:30 AM - 8:45 AM
Location: International Ballroom
Speaker: Lisanne McNew
Update from the CEO
8:45 AM - 9:00 AM
Location: International Ballroom
Speaker: Brad Turner-Little
Unleashing Passion, Purpose, and Performance in Younger Generations
9:00 AM - 9:30 AM
Location: International Ballroom
Speaker: Mark C. Perna |
| 10:00 AM - 10:30 AM | Networking Break
Location: NAWB Town (Columbia) |

10:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Concurrent Sessions

Turning Data into Action: Practical Tools for Workforce Boards

10:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Speakers: Evan Murphy, Todd Nielsen, Hannah Engle, Tara Martin

Achieve WIOA Performance Metrics Despite Tightening Budgets – With a New Approach to Workforce Collaborations

10:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Speakers: Tom Kavanagh, John Casella, Jennifer Thomas

AI in Action: Hands on Applications in Workforce Development

10:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Speakers: Solomon Abiola, PhD, PhD, Tamara Atkinson, Jesse McCree

Cultivating the Talent Pipeline from Corrections: The Oregon Example

10:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Speakers: Heather Ficht, Amy Bertrand, Jim Pfarrer

Advancing Equity: Reflections/Lessons from the Leadership Academy Pilot

10:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Speaker: Mala Thakur

Investing in Childcare: Leveraging Data to Drive Workforce Equity & Participation

10:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Speaker: Hunter Hill

Leveraging Apprenticeships to Build Your Talent Pipeline

10:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Launching Sector Strategies within the Framework of TEN 08-24: Turning Strategies into Implementation and Keeping Business Partners Engaged

10:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Speakers: Ana Lopez Shalla, Stan Odenthal

Employers and Education in Harmony: A Colorado and Indiana Workforce Story

10:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Speakers: Dan Rinn, Frank Cicio

How Design Thinking Helped a Small Workforce Board Do Big Things

10:30 AM - 10:30 AM

Speaker: Erick Serrato

Partnering for Performance and Pipelines: Industry Sector Partnerships – How Boards, Higher Ed, and Chambers can Take Workforce Development to the Next Level

10:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Speakers: Steven Bridges, Ben Magill, Elizabeth Caudill McClain

Scaling Inclusive Workforce Solutions for Immigrants through Partnerships and AI to Build Resilient Communities

10:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Speaker: Jina Krause-Vilmar

Scaling Impact through Collaboration with Workforce Systems: Equipping Professionals with Tools They Need to Support Mental Wellness for Youth & Young Adults Through Access to High Quality Training

10:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Speakers: Adene Karhan, Kimberly Osmani

Rural Innovation: Enhancing Workforce Outreach and Community Impact with Limited Resources in a Multi County Workforce Area

10:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Speakers: Miranda Swafford, Mandy Tripp, Tyler Lantz

Table Talk with Resultant (limited to 25 attendees) - Sponsored

10:30 AM - 11:30 AM

11:45 AM - 2:00 PM

Local Business Sunday sponsored by Eckerd Connects

Location: Offsite

2:30 PM - 3:30 PM

Concurrent Sessions

Redefining Success: Beyond Traditional Workforce Metrics

2:30 PM - 3:30 PM

Speakers: Chioke Mose-Telesford, Alex Breen, Chris Shannon, Advisory Council Member Advisory Council Member

Inclusive Economies: The Transformative Power of Employment Social Enterprises

2:30 PM - 3:30 PM

Speakers: Greg Ericksen, Maria Kim

Tech-Enabled Workforce Development: Bridging the Gap Between Technology and Human Experience

2:30 PM - 3:30 PM

Speaker: Jessica Pierce

Releasing Resentments to Grow in Your Profession

2:30 PM - 3:30 PM

Speaker: James LeBlanc

Unlocking Potential: The Power of Skills-Based Hiring

2:30 PM - 3:30 PM

Speakers: Sorby Grant, Tjwana Dixon, Alexis Hithe

SNAP E&T Evaluation: Promising Practices and Recommendations for the Future

2:30 PM - 3:30 PM

Speakers: Mala Thakur, Kristin Wolff, Madeleine Levin

Building the Future Workforce at America's Largest Employer

2:30 PM - 3:30 PM

Speaker: Shifra Goldenberg

Leading and Training a Neurodivergent Workforce

2:30 PM - 3:30 PM

Speakers: Christina Detiveaux, Sarita Scheufens

What Works in Workforce...And Can I Afford It?

2:30 PM - 3:30 PM

Speakers: Allan Porowski, Siri Warkentien, Amanda Danks, Lorrie Briggs

Job Quality Solutions Lab: Good Jobs, Better Lives

2:30 PM - 3:30 PM

Speakers: Benjamin Sommer, Kristin Wolff

The Role of Workforce Boards & Agencies in the Fair Chance Movement: Co-Designing for Impact with JFF's Fair Chance to Advance

2:30 PM - 3:30 PM

Speakers: Veronica Buckwalter, Hillary Lyle, Carrie Baylor

Empowering Youth to Discover Strong Career Pathways Through the Use of Immersive Technologies

2:30 PM - 3:30 PM

Speakers: Dan Risko, Delvin "Rocky" Rockhold, Charley Ayres, Michael Hayden

Supporting Apprenticeship Success at Every Stage of the Journey

2:30 PM - 3:30 PM

Speakers: Gina Wells, Elizabeth Rivard Weston, Susie Puskar

Model Programs in Workforce Development for Returning Citizens - Community Collaborations for Reentry Employment Success

2:30 PM - 3:30 PM

Speakers: Crystal Song, Andre Bethea, Prentice Mason, Patricia Gill

State Workforce Associations: Uniting Local Strength for National Progress

2:30 PM - 3:30 PM

Speakers: Ryan Hundt, Carrie Amann, Morgan Romeo

3:45 PM - 4:45 PM

Career Zone

Location: NAWB Town (Columbia)

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Hosted Receptions (invite-only)

Mon, Mar 31, 2025

7:00 AM - 8:00 AM

Breakfast

Location: NAWB Town (Columbia)

8:15 AM - 9:45 AM

General Session: Federal Policy Updates from The Hill

Location: International Ballroom (Center)

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Concurrent Sessions

Hero's Journey: Strengthening Leadership Through Shared Stories and Collaboration

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Speakers: Stephen Avila, Edgar Blunt

Strengthening Employment Policies, Empowering Youth

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Speakers: Jennifer Thomas, Kimberly Osmani

Beyond AI Basics: AI Workforce Development Tools for Maximum Impact

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Speaker: Richard Acosta

SCPa Works: Preparing for the Future Through Mission and Vision Alignment

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Speakers: Jesse McCree, Josh Copus

Next Level Now - Technical Assistance Collaboration

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Speakers: Laurie Larrea, Melissa Aguilar-Southard, Melissa Robinson

Unlocking Innovation: How Technology and Co-Investment Transform Workforce Outcomes

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Speakers: Michelle Foley, Jason Wang, Andrew Bercich

Rural Innovations: Community-First Education and Industry Partnerships

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Speakers: Rosalinda Linares-Gray, Alana Romans, Sarah Tober

AACC - EV Hub

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Speaker: Angela Hiller

Building Better Workforce Ecosystems: Leveraging Local and National Partnerships for Lasting Impact

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Speakers: Anne Landers, Elizabeth "E" Cole, Patricia Wallace, Katherine Adams

Board Members Insights: How Local Board Members Lead Industry Sector Partnerships in Anne Arundel County

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Speakers: Kirkland Murray, Troy Green, Kristen Pironis, Christopher Barber

Change Starts Here: Enhancing Diversity on Workforce Development Boards

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Speakers: Rebecca Evans, Laura Martinez

Workforce Employment Networks: A Natural Fit

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Speakers: Michael Anzick, Kirk Lew, Lauren Parker

Scaling Success: Apprenticeship Models for Strengthening Early Childhood Education

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Speakers: James Disbro, Janet Kahn, Diane Seavers

Embracing Skills-Based Hiring & Advancement (Placeholder)

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Speaker: Sarah Schade

Successful Workplaces of the Future Prioritize Workplace Mental Health

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Speakers: Vickie Choitz, Sean Egan, Michelle Walters

Regional Collaboration and Systems Change: Leveraging Workforce Boards for Sustainable Impact

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Speakers: Marla Rye, Laura Ward, Minzi Thomas, Amy Merritt Campbell

Apprenticeships 2.0 – Building Tomorrow's Talent Pipeline

10:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Speaker: Dina Igoe

11:00 AM - 12:15 PM

Lunch - Grab & Go

Location: NAWB Town (Columbia)

12:30 PM - 2:00 PM

Better Together: Responding to Disruption

Location: International Ballroom

2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Career Zone and Networking Break

Location: NAWB Town (Columbia)

3:15 PM - 4:15 PM

Concurrent Sessions

Location: NAWB Town (Columbia)

Igniting Economic Mobility for Non-Degree Job Seekers via Durable Skills

3:15 PM - 4:15 PM

Speakers: Faye Davis, Steve Lee, Laura Roberts, Amanda Welsh

Reentry at Entry: Training Academies Preparing Reentrants for the Workforce Prior to Release

3:15 PM - 4:15 PM

Speakers: Crystal Song, Andre Bethea, Tracie Hightower, Linda Simpson

Leveraging Technology to Bridge Benefits Cliffs: Innovations in Workforce Development

3:15 PM - 4:15 PM

Speakers: Joanna Staib, Ryan Harrington, Alexander Socarras

Mission Possible: Overcome Radical Barriers with Radical Hope

3:15 PM - 4:15 PM

Speaker: Hope Cross

Harnessing AI for Leadership: Empowering Workforce Development Boards for Tomorrow's Challenges

3:15 PM - 4:15 PM

Speaker: Ken Danos

Turning Research into Action: Community-Driven Change in Workforce Development

3:15 PM - 4:15 PM

Speakers: Veronica Buckwalter, Rudi Pangad

From Infrastructure to Impact: Transforming Workforce Development for Economic Success

3:15 PM - 4:15 PM

Speakers: Laura Huffman, Steven Pedigo

Leveraging Networks to Expand Opportunities

3:15 PM - 4:15 PM

Speakers: Cynthia Finley, Janell Hills-Thomas, PhD., Star Tbd, Delia Troy

From Classroom to Clinic: Building the Healthcare Workforce with Collaborative Training and Apprenticeships that Include Academic Degrees

3:15 PM - 4:15 PM

Speakers: Becky Kikkert, Seth Lentz, Dr. Mark Thomas, Dr. Bridgett Willey

The Role of Workforce Boards in Advancing and Scaling Learning and Employment Records for Stronger Economies

3:15 PM - 4:15 PM

Speakers: Madelyn Rahn, Jessica Maiorca, Kier Scott

Bridging Funding Gaps: The Role of Public-Private-Philanthropic Partnerships in Workforce Development

3:15 PM - 4:15 PM

Speakers: Crosby Brito, Alba Silvas, Crosby Brito, Nellie Reyes

The Empty Chair: Why The Voices of Those We Serve Matter & How We Can Amplify the Unheard Into Our Strategic Goals & Workplan

3:15 PM - 4:15 PM

Speaker: Emily Nicholson

Leveraging Apprenticeships to Build Your Talent Pipeline

3:15 PM - 4:15 PM

Speaker: Jan Bray

How Can Workforce Boards Support Youth and Young Adults with Intersecting Social Identities?

3:15 PM - 4:15 PM

Speakers: Abeer Sikder, Miranda Swafford

WEEE in Action: Building Collaborative Ecosystems in Workforce Development

3:15 PM - 4:15 PM

Speaker: Emma Bush

Is There Love Between Your Local and State Workforce Board? How Local Area Flexibility Meets State and National Workforce Needs and Guidance

3:15 PM - 3:15 PM

Speakers: Todd Nielsen, Lee Wheeler-Berliner, Traci Marques

4:30 PM - 6:00 PM

NAWB Town Open for Mingling

Location: NAWB Town (Columbia)

Tue, Apr 01, 2025

8:00 AM - 8:30 AM

Breakfast

Location: Concourse Foyer

8:30 AM - 9:30 AM

Regional Convenings and Breakfast

Region 1 (Northeast)

8:30 AM - 9:30 AM

Location: Georgetown East

Region 2 (Mid-Atlantic)

8:30 AM - 9:30 AM

Location: Georgetown West

Region 3 (Southeast)

8:30 AM - 9:30 AM

Location: Jefferson East

Region 4 (Mountain Plains)

8:30 AM - 9:30 AM

Location: Jefferson West

Region 5 (Midwest)

8:30 AM - 9:30 AM

Location: Lincoln East

Region 6 (West)

8:30 AM - 9:30 AM

Location: Lincoln West

9:45 AM - 11:00 AM

NAWB Awards Ceremony and Can't Miss Announcements

Location: International Ballroom

11:15 AM - 12:15 PM

Special Sessions

12:30 PM - 1:00 PM

Closing General Session & Adjournment

Location: International Ballroom (Center)