



CHICAGO, IL | APRIL 11-14, 2016

**ASPEN FORUM FOR COMMUNITY SOLUTIONS  
OPPORTUNITY YOUTH INCENTIVE FUND  
CROSS-SITE SPRING CONVENING AGENDA  
APRIL 11-14, 2016  
CHICAGO, IL  
FINAL - March 30, 2016**

**GOALS:**

- Learn from the OYIF sites' work across the five areas of the OYIF: Collaborating for Impact, Building Effective Pathways, Using Data to Guide Decisions and Assess Impact, Leveraging Funding for Innovation, and Developing Supportive Policies.
- Participate in site visits to local Chicago programs to gain a deeper understanding of place-based strategies, pathway designs, lessons, and challenges in developing and/or deepening education and employment pathways for opportunity youth.
- Highlight reconnection pathways for opportunity youth that combine postsecondary education and training and connections to workforce and careers.
- Engage local, regional and national philanthropy and employers in strategies to improve outcomes for opportunity youth.
- Highlight the work of local and national youth leaders.
- Build momentum for national efforts around opportunity youth.

**SUNDAY, APRIL 10, 2016**

**2:00 PM – OPPORTUNITY WORKS MEETING**

**5:00 PM**  
LINCOLN PARK  
ROOM  
3RD FLOOR

The purpose of this meeting is to bring together the seven communities in the Opportunity Works Social Innovation Fund to discuss how communities are building pathways to postsecondary credentials for opportunity youth, and in particular boys and men of color. Sessions will be devoted to cross-site sharing, strategies for building capacity of program providers, and participating in the quasi-experimental evaluation conducted by Urban Institute for the Opportunity Works initiative.

**MONDAY, APRIL 11, 2016**

**7:00 AM – REGISTRATION FOR ALL GUESTS**

**6:00 PM**  
SUPERIOR EAST  
ROOM  
2ND FLOOR

**7:30 AM – BREAKFAST**

**9:00 AM**  
GREAT LAKES  
FOYER  
2ND FLOOR

**8:30 AM– OPPORTUNITY WORKS MEETING**

**4:00 PM**  
LINCOLN PARK  
ROOM  
3RD FLOOR

The purpose of this meeting is to bring together seven communities in the Opportunity Works Social Innovation Fund to discuss how the communities are building pathways to postsecondary credentials for opportunity youth, and in particular boys and men of color. Sessions will be devoted to cross-site sharing, strategies for building capacity of program providers, and participating in the quasi-experimental evaluation conducted by Urban Institute for the Opportunity Works initiative.

**9:00 AM – SITE VISITS**

**3:00 PM**  
MEET IN THE  
GREAT LAKES  
BALLROOM

Attendees will participate in site visits to local Chicago based programs to gain a deeper understanding of place-based strategies, pathway designs, lessons, and challenges in

## 2ND FLOOR

developing and/or deepening education and employment pathways for opportunity youth. Site visit schedule is as follows (please refer to your confirmation email for exact details of your site visit):

8:45 AM: Buses arrive at Westin Michigan Avenue

9:00 AM: Attendees and staff meet in the Great Lakes Ballroom after breakfast to organize for travel

9:15 - 9:45 AM: Buses depart for site visit locations

2:00 PM – 2:30 PM: Travel to Westin Michigan Avenue

Site visits include:

### **Becoming a Man** (Staff Lead: Monique Miles, Aspen Forum for Community Solutions)

Youth Guidance creates and implements school-based programs that enable at-risk children to overcome obstacles, focus on their education and, ultimately, succeed in school and in life. Youth Guidance sees a bright and successful future for every inner-city elementary and high school student.

In 2001, the Becoming a Man (BAM) program was launched to help young men navigate difficult circumstances that threaten their future. Program founder Anthony Ramirez-DiVittorio created a safe space for young men at Clemente High School to openly express themselves, receive support and develop the social and emotional skills necessary to succeed. Fourteen years later, the BAM program touches the lives of more than 2,500 young men of color in 48 schools in 33 Chicago communities. Serving 7th-12th graders from neighborhoods such as Englewood, East Garfield Park, Austin, Roseland and Pilsen/Little Village, BAM has been nationally recognized as a successful school-based intervention that helps young men reach their full potential. BAM's highly trained counselors meet youth where they are – physically within schools, emotionally and socially – and provide life affirming supports during very crucial points in adolescent growth and development.

### **Instituto del Progreso Latino** (Staff Lead: Sheri Brady, Aspen Forum for Community Solutions)

Instituto del Progreso Latino (Instituto) is a community-based organization with a long-standing reputation for creating innovative programs that meet the economic and educational needs of a fast-growing Latino community. The organization operates a portfolio of programs, including workforce development, adult education, financial and career coaching, and after-school programs for youth ages eight through eighteen, in addition to its two independent charter schools, Instituto Health Sciences Career Academy (IHSCA) and Instituto Justice and Leadership Academy (IJLA).

Instituto began operating its Instituto Justice and Leadership Academy (IJLA) charter school – known as Rudy Lozano Leadership Campus – in academic year 2012-2013. This achievement is a direct result of IJLA's progressive and successful methodology in serving out-of-school youth. IJLA engages students ages 16-21 in a unique and rigorous social justice inspired curriculum which is driven by a student-centered environment. The school's vision is to empower out-of-school youth to reengage as students and become decision makers in their

own lives, to take ownership of their education, and to use it to become productive agents of change. IJLA's mission is to contribute to the fullest development of students by providing an education which fosters growth as critical, active, and productive members of their families and communities. IJLA provides a unique and rigorous education program to reach out-of-school youth in Chicago, allowing them the opportunity to reinvest in their future.

**Manufacturing Careers Internship Program (MCIP)** (Staff Leads: Thaddeus Ferber, Forum for Youth Investment and Christina Kostuk, Aspen Forum for Community Solutions)

The Manufacturing Career Internship Program (MCIP) is an industry-driven workforce program designed to help employers find and hire young adults ages 18 to 24. At the same time, it showcases manufacturing to motivated, young workers interested in starting a career in manufacturing. The program includes a four week intensive boot camp, intensive soft skills training, receipt of two skills-based certificates and an eight week internship in a participating manufacturing company. The MCIP is a collaborative partnership between the local Workforce Investment Board, Business and Career Services (BCS) a not-for-profit 501c3, and Medusa Consulting Group. It is funded through a grant from the U.S. Department of Labor through the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Development. BCS is the employer of record for the internship, and covers employment insurance and worker's liability.

**Student Outreach and Re-Engagement (SOAR)** (Staff Lead: Yelena Nemoy, Aspen Forum for Community Solutions )

To support out-of-school youth, CPS launched three Student Outreach and Re-engagement (SOAR) Centers in spring of 2013 and added a fourth site in spring of 2015. The SOAR Centers are designed to re-enroll chronically truant and out-of-school youth. Since the spring of 2013, SOAR has supported over 7,500 students with 70 percent of the students obtaining stable enrollment in school or the SOAR credit recovery program, or graduating.

**UCAN** (Staff Lead: Jamiel Alexander, Aspen Forum for Community Solutions)

UCAN strives to build strong youth and families through compassionate healing, education and empowerment. UCAN operates under the cornerstones of a consistent presence, meaningful programming and unrivaled diversity. Founded 145 years ago as a Civil War orphanage, UCAN is one of Chicago's oldest, yet most innovative, social service agencies.

UCAN serves 10,000 at-risk children, youth and families across Illinois through more than 30 programs that create a healing process for youth who have experienced trauma and provide a continuum of care, including the following services: Therapeutic Youth Home, K-12 therapeutic day school, clinical and counseling services, transitional and independent living programs, support for pregnant and parenting teens, foster care placement, workforce development, youth leadership development, and violence prevention programming.

**3:30 PM –  
4:30 PM**  
GREAT LAKES  
BALLROOM

### **SITE VISIT DEBRIEF**

Teams will debrief the site visits and consider implications of the day's lessons for their work

2ND FLOOR

in their communities.

*Lili Allen, Jobs for the Future (Facilitator)*

*Monique Miles, Aspen Forum for Community Solutions (Facilitator)*

**4:30 PM –  
6:00 PM**

**HURON A  
2ND FLOOR**

### **OYIF YOUTH LEADERS MEETING**

The purpose of this meeting is for OYIF Youth Leaders to discuss their learning goals for the Chicago convening, reflect on what they already know about the city of Chicago and local efforts on behalf of opportunity youth and debrief the site visits to local community-based organizations. Youth Leaders will reflect on their work, share how their experiences of Chicago so far resonate with their experiences back home, and discuss the potential impact of what they will learn (and have already learned) in Chicago on their work in their communities.

*Jamiel Alexander, Aspen Forum for Community Solutions (Facilitator)*

*Yelena Nemoj, Aspen Forum for Community Solutions (Facilitator)*

**4:30 PM –  
6:30 PM**

**MICHIGAN  
BALLROOM II  
2ND FLOOR**

### **OYIF SITE LEADS MEETING**

*Refreshments will be served*

The purpose of this meeting is to convene the Opportunity Youth Incentive Fund site leads to further develop and deepen their community of practice.

*Lili Allen, Jobs for the Future (Facilitator)*

*Monique Miles, Aspen Forum for Community Solutions (Facilitator)*

**6:30 PM**  
**MEET IN THE  
MAIN LOBBY**

### **TRAVEL TO RECEPTION**

Meet in lobby for travel to reception.

**7:00 PM –  
8:30 PM**

**LITERACENTER  
CHICAGO LITERACY  
ALLIANCE  
641 W LAKE ST #200**

### **WELCOME RECEPTION AT THE LITERACENTER**

Reception for all guests hosted by the Literacenter, the first nonprofit shared workspace dedicated exclusively to literacy organizations in the country, operated by the Chicago Literacy Alliance. The Chicago Literacy Alliance is an association of 80+ organizations operating in and around the city to help meet literacy needs for people of all ages and backgrounds.

The reception will feature a poetry performance by Young Chicago Authors, an arts organization that engages youth in the act of telling their own stories through spoken word, verse and traditional journalism, playwriting, fiction and many other forms. Young Chicago Authors transforms the lives of young people by cultivating their voices through writing, publication, and performance education.

*Melody Barnes, Chair, Aspen Forum for Community Solutions*

*Kevin Coval, Artistic Director, Young Chicago Authors*

*E'mon McGee, Young Chicago Authors*

*Luqman Muhammad, Young Chicago Authors*  
*Sammy Ortega, Young Chicago Authors*

## TUESDAY, APRIL 12, 2016

**7:00 AM –  
6:00 PM**  
SUPERIOR EAST  
ROOM  
2ND FLOOR

**REGISTRATION FOR ALL GUESTS**

**7:00 AM –  
8:00 AM**  
GREAT LAKES  
FOYER  
2ND FLOOR

**BREAKFAST**

**8:00 AM –  
9:30 AM**  
GREAT LAKES  
BALLROOM  
2ND FLOOR

**OPENING PLENARY: PERSPECTIVES ON CHICAGO FROM SYSTEM & LOCAL LEADERS**

Research from the University of Illinois at Chicago's Great Cities Institute gives evidence of extremely high jobless rates for young people, especially youth of color. This data serves as a call to action on behalf of opportunity youth in Chicago. This plenary panel will focus both on what has been accomplished in Chicago and what remains to be done – especially in ensuring that youth have access to the full range of opportunities that they so critically need.

### ***Welcome Remarks***

*Melody Barnes, Aspen Forum for Community Solutions*  
*Monique Miles, Aspen Forum for Community Solutions*  
*Steve Patrick, Aspen Forum for Community Solutions*

### ***System Leaders Panel***

*Melody Barnes, Aspen Forum for Community Solutions (Moderator)*  
*Sandra Abrevaya, President, and Chief Impact Officer, Thrive Chicago*  
*Dr. Janice Jackson, Chief Education Officer, Chicago Public Schools*  
*Lisa Morrison Butler, Commissioner, Department of Family and Support Services, City of Chicago*  
*Karin Norington-Reaves, CEO, Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership*

### ***Reflection Panel***

*Melody Barnes, Aspen Forum for Community Solutions (Moderator)*  
*Julius Robinson, Youth Participant, Youth Guidance – Becoming A Man*  
*Bryan Samuels, Executive Director, Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago*  
*Whitney Smith, Executive Director – Midwest, Global Philanthropy, JPMorgan Chase*  
*Michael Strautmanis, Vice President, Civic Engagement, The Barack Obama Foundation*



9:30 AM –  
9:45 AM

## BREAK FOR PASSING

9:45 AM –  
12:15 PM

## OYIF LEADERSHIP COUNCIL MEETING

ONTARIO  
2ND FLOOR

The purpose of this meeting is to convene national and regional philanthropic investors in the Opportunity Youth Incentive Fund, Opportunity Works, and the 100,000 Opportunities Initiative. Investors will reflect on OYIF progress to date, share news on their portfolios, and discuss integration of Opportunity Works and 100,000 Opportunities Initiative into OYIF, as well as discuss broader efforts on behalf of opportunity youth.

*Melody Barnes, Aspen Forum for Community Solutions (Facilitator)*

*Steve Patrick, Aspen Forum for Community Solutions (Facilitator)*

9:45 AM –  
11:15 AM

## CONCURRENT SESSIONS

HURON B/C  
2ND FLOOR

### COLLABORATING FOR IMPACT: Networks for Professional Development (Building Powerful Learning Communities)

Reengagement education schools and programs are growing in many localities through charter mechanisms, state legislation or dedicated school district or county funding. OYIF leaders and stakeholders can influence the quality of these options by convening a network for reengagement leaders and staff. This session will provide both stories and practical information on developing powerful learning communities for reengagement professionals. Participants will explore how to build buy-in, shape meaningful professional development and build a data sharing culture.

*Terry Grobe, Jobs for the Future (Facilitator)*

*Nicole Yohalem, Road Map Project Opportunity Youth Initiative, Community Center for Education Results*

*Joseph Herrity, Opportunity Youth Partnership, Planned Parenthood Mar Monte (respondent)*

*Emily Thielmann, Muskie School of Public Service at University of Southern Maine (respondent)*

WASHINGTON PARK  
I  
3RD FLOOR

### COLLABORATING FOR IMPACT: YOUTH ENGAGEMENT: Speak Youth to Power: The AOYC Ambassador Program and Cultivating Young Adults into Pioneers of Change

This interactive session will provide an in-depth exploration of the Austin Opportunity Youth Collaborative's Youth Ambassador program that was co-designed by youth and adult partners in order to train the next generation of youth leaders to use their voices and stories to advocate for policy changes that can support opportunity youth, to serve on the collaborative, and to represent the work of the collaborative in the community. Participants will learn about the program model and design process, including program components, implementation strategies, funding, and incentives; hear from a youth leader in the program; and engage in a conversation about successes, challenges, and impacts of creating authentic leadership



opportunities for youth.

*Yelena Nemoy Aspen Forum for Community Solutions (Facilitator)*

*Laura Brady, Austin Opportunity Youth Collaborative*

*Michael Torres, Austin Opportunity Youth Collaborative Youth Ambassador*

*Maria Valdez, Austin Opportunity Youth Collaborative*

**HURON A  
2ND FLOOR**

## **USING DATA TO GUIDE DECISIONS AND ASSESS IMPACT: Creative Solutions to Data Collection – Technology and Techniques**

Gathering data is critical for understanding what youth are being served and how well programs are meeting their needs and expected outcomes. Data collection can also be challenging on both the capacity and resources fronts. In this session three communities – Baltimore, Hopi and San Francisco - will describe their innovative technology-based approaches to collecting data and what they are learning from the process.

*Cheryl Almeida, Jobs for the Future (Facilitator)*

*Mark Fitzfory, Jobs for the Future (Facilitator)*

*Paulo Gregory Harris, Ingoma Foundation*

*Andrew Lewis, Hopi Foundation*

*Kyle Knox, Hopi Foundation*

*Chris Reyes, Instituto Familiar de la Raza*

**WASHINGTON PARK  
II  
3RD FLOOR**

## **DEVELOPING SUPPORTIVE POLICIES/LEVERAGING FUNDING TO SUPPORT AND SUSTAIN INNOVATION: Applying to be a Performance Partnership Pilot Site**

The federal Performance Partnership Pilots (P3) initiative provides selected cities and/or states unprecedented flexibility in how they use existing federal discretionary funds to serve disconnected youth. Sites can apply to pool funding, waive regulations, and cut red tape. Yet applying to cut the red tape takes – you guessed it – a lot of red tape. In this session, you will have an opportunity to learn from OYIF sites that were selected in the first cohort of P3 sites. You will learn what it took for them to develop the proposal, tips for winning, and what the process was to develop their official performance partnership agreement with the federal government. The application period for the next cohort of P3s is open right now, so this session is a perfect opportunity to get a head start. While this session is open to all participants, it is particularly appropriate for site leads and other collaborative leaders who are working with state and local partners to align on P3.

*Thaddaus Ferber, Forum for Youth Investment (Facilitator)*

*Sara Matthen, Forum for Youth Investment (Facilitator)*

*Robert Sainz, City of Los Angeles Economic and Workforce Development*

*Dr. Elizabeth Stover, Chicago Department of Family & Support Services, Children Services Division*

*Richard Verches, Los Angeles County Workforce Development Board*

**MARQUETTE PARK  
3RD FLOOR**

## **BUILDING EFFECTIVE PATHWAYS: The New High School Equivalency**

## Exams: What We Are Learning and Implications for Preparing Students for College and Careers

In 2014 three high school equivalency exams were launched: HiSET, TASC and GED 2014. All three tests were designed to be more rigorous and align with Common Core Standards with the goal to better prepare test takers for college and careers. This session will highlight lessons learned in two OYIF communities – South King County and Denver – and explore key questions about the tests since they were launched including: what have we learned about the design and content of the tests, how have they impacted program design and delivery, what opportunities and alternative options have emerged that school and programs are taking advantage of, how are test passers faring in college and careers, and what does the future hold for the tests?

*Mamadou Ndiaye, Jobs for the Future (Facilitator)*

*Jeff Corey, Seattle Education Access*

*Lorena Zimmer, Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce*

GRANT PARK  
3RD FLOOR

### CONSULTANCY SESSION: Managing Multiple Tables

Project U-Turn is a collective impact effort at its ten-year anniversary in a city undergoing significant political transitions. It has an opportunity at this moment to both carve out its unique niche regarding opportunity youth while framing its work in relation to both new city priorities and multiple collective impact efforts. How does Project U-Turn take advantage of this moment to further build momentum for its efforts while engaging with other collective impact tables? The speaker will present the dilemma to participants; using a consultancy protocol, participants will then discuss the dilemma and give feedback on what they heard and what strategies might be useful.

*Adria Steinberg, Jobs for the Future (Facilitator)*

*Stephanie Gambone, Philadelphia Youth Network*

11:15 AM –  
11:30 AM

**BREAK FOR PASSING**

11:30 AM –  
1:00 PM

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS**

WASHINGTON PARK  
I  
3RD FLOOR

### BUILDING EFFECTIVE PATHWAYS: Seeding and Scaling Sector Strategies for Opportunity Youth: The Role of Workforce Boards

The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) has made sectoral strategies a priority – and at the same time, requires that 75% of WIOA funding target out-of-school youth. In this session, leaders of workforce boards in two regions will share their early efforts to develop sector strategies for opportunity youth and discuss opportunities and challenges in pursuing a sectoral strategy for this population. They will also discuss the role of workforce boards in seeding and scaling up these pathways.

*Maria Flynn, Jobs for the Future (Facilitator)*  
*Karin Norington-Reaves, Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership*  
*Robert Sainz, City of Los Angeles Economic and Workforce Development*  
*Richard Verches, Los Angeles County Workforce Development Board*

HURON B/C  
2ND FLOOR

## **BUILDING EFFECTIVE PATHWAYS: Enriching the Prep Phase: Building ‘First Chance’ Reengagement Programs**

Many communities are building schools and programs for youth without a high school credential. In this session, we will explore what exemplary programming looks like and how to design new programs and/or strengthen existing programs within the context of the Back on Track framework.

*Terry Grobe, Jobs for the Future (Facilitator)*  
*Ashley Koch, San Jose Conservation Corps and Charter School*  
*Dorick Scarpelli, Five Keys Charter Schools and Programs, The San Francisco Sheriff’s Department*

MARQUETTE PARK  
3RD FLOOR

## **BUILDING EFFECTIVE PATHWAYS: What Do Employers Need to Know About Working with Opportunity Youth? Lessons Learned from New York City and Detroit**

New York City, Detroit and several other OYIF Communities are working with employer partners and implementing strategies to effectively recruit, retain and support opportunity youth to be successful on the job. JobsFirstNYC in New York City is leading an economic development/workforce collaborative effort designed to provide resources to employers to hire and retain young people, and Detroit Employment Solutions Corporation is organizing a partnership with CVS and Covenant House to place students in internships with an opportunity for permanent employment for young people who successfully complete the program. This session will dig into the specific strategies being used in New York City and Detroit and surface critical lessons learned and implications for our collective efforts to better engage employers and help youth gain work experience and advance in careers.

*Mamadou Ndiaye, Jobs for the Future (Facilitator)*  
*Lena Barkley, CVS Health*  
*Linsey Gillery, Detroit Employment Solutions Corporation*  
*Paul Ortega, Swiss Post Solutions*  
*Marjorie Parker, JobsFirstNYC*

HURON A  
2ND FLOOR

## **USING DATA TO GUIDE DECISIONS AND ASSESS IMPACT: Understanding Systemic Shifts Among OYIF Communities**

During this session for OYIF Site Leads, Equal Measure will present portfolio-level progress and lessons from the first full year of the OYIF evaluation. Special attention will be given to “systemic shifts” – changes in collaborative infrastructure, commitment, and collective action – reported by sites following their first year of implementation. Participants will have an

opportunity to react to and discuss these findings with one another, and to explore their implications for their work moving forward.

*Meg Long, Equal Measure (Facilitator)*

*Georgia Kioukis, Equal Measure (Facilitator)*

*Justin Piff, Equal Measure (Facilitator)*

WASHINGTON PARK  
II  
3RD FLOOR

## DEVELOPING SUPPORTIVE POLICIES: Shaping Commitments for Opportunity Youth

One strategy that the White House, the Clinton Global Initiative, and other groups use to spark change is to call for corporations, foundations, non-profits, and state and local leaders to make a public commitment to take action on a given issue. The Opportunity Youth Network (OYN) has been asked to design a set of commitments leaders can make to spark change for opportunity youth. If you were the White House, and had the opportunity to use the bully pulpit to call for leaders in the public and private sectors to take a concrete action for disconnected youth, what would you call for them to do? What are the best practices you would call for each sector to take on? This is a working session – instead of presentations, this will be a facilitated action-focused working session.

*Thaddeus Ferber, Forum for Youth Investment (Facilitator)*

*Sara Matthen, Forum for Youth Investment (Facilitator)*

GRANT PARK  
3ND FLOOR

## CONSULTANCY SESSION: Getting to the Hard Stuff: How to Dig Into System Change and Improvement

The Southern Maine Youth Transition Network has accumulated rich information about policy and practice breakdowns from a range of sources, including information on youth experiences from "Opportunity Brokers," feedback from both young people and providers, mapping of services and service gaps, and OYIF common indicators from program partners. The question they face now is what are the processes and protocols needed to help people diagnose the root causes of these breakdowns, develop course-corrects where things are not working, and develop collective solutions? How can they create the container and conditions for the trust to have these hard conversations? What adaptive changes are necessary to allow for growth among individuals in this work, vertical alignment between providers and leadership, and horizontal alignment between distinct organizations? The speaker will present the dilemma to participants; using a consultancy protocol, participants will then discuss the dilemma and give feedback on what they heard and what strategies might be useful.

*Adria Steinberg, Jobs for the Future (Facilitator)*

*Martin Zanghi, University of Southern Maine, Muskie School of Public Service*

1:00 PM –  
1:15 PM

## BREAK FOR PASSING

**1:15 PM –**

**1:30 PM**

GREAT LAKES  
BALLROOM  
2ND FLOOR

## **RURAL COHORT PHOTOGRAPHY SHOW**

Participants will view the slide show of photographs from the Rural Cohort that will depict the work of the rural OYIF communities and the beauty and diversity of the nature and landscape of rural sites.

**1:30 PM –**

**2:45 PM**

GREAT LAKES  
BALLROOM  
2ND FLOOR

## **LUNCH PLENARY: RESPONDING TO THE URGENCY OF NOW AND BUILDING THE MOMENTUM FOR BOYS AND MEN OF COLOR**

In this plenary session we will build on earlier conversations about racial equity and racial justice by hearing about national and local efforts focused on boys and men of color – including Latino boys and men. We will hear updates on national initiatives that are driving a place-based approach to improving outcomes for boys and men of color and we will also hear from local OYIF communities that are elevating opportunity youth into their local efforts aimed at improving outcomes for this population.

### ***Opening Remarks:***

*Arne Duncan, Managing Partner, Emerson Collective, Former U.S. Secretary of Education*

### ***Plenary Panel:***

*Steve Patrick, Aspen Forum for Community Solutions (Moderator)*

*Raymond Colmenar, Senior Program Manager, The California Endowment*

*Arne Duncan, Managing Partner, Emerson Collective, Former U.S. Secretary of Education*

*Allan Ludgate, Director, Monitor Institute, Deloitte Consulting LLP*

*Theo Miller, MBK and HOPE SF Director, City and County of San Francisco*

*Kim Oliver, Director, Youth Services, Capital Workforce Partners*

**2:45 PM –**

**3:00 PM**

## **BREAK FOR PASSING**

**3:00 PM –**

**4:15 PM**

VARIOUS

## **TEAM PLANNING TIME**

Site teams will be assigned rooms to debrief the convening and consider implications of the convening's lessons for their work in their communities.

**3:00 PM –**

**4:30 PM**

HURON A  
2ND FLOOR

## **COMMUNICATIONS ADVISORY GROUP WORKING SESSION**

During the session, we will finalize the key messages that will serve as the core of our communications efforts on behalf of Aspen OYIF. In addition, we will discuss how to share the OYIF story individually and collectively in a more assertive way, using the Communications Advisory Group survey results of upcoming activities as the starting point. As part of that conversation, we will explore an opportunity to create a centralized social media presence to serve as a hub for our communications activities.

*Seth Klukoff, Equal Measure (Facilitator)*

*Justin Piff, Equal Measure (Facilitator)*

**4:15 PM –  
5:30 PM**  
ONTARIO  
2ND FLOOR

### **CALIFORNIA OPPORTUNITY YOUTH NETWORK (COYN) MEETING**

This session will look at how to strengthen COYN and will focus on planning activities for the coming year. This will include a discussion about (and possibly with) the COYN manager, policy activities and a discussion about our learning community.

*Dana Bunnett, Kids in Common, Planned Parenthood Mar Monte (Facilitator)*

**4:15 PM –  
5:30 PM**  
MICHIGAN  
BALLROOM II  
2ND FLOOR

### **NEON (THE NORTH EAST OPPORTUNITY YOUTH NETWORK) MEETING: What We Have Learned and How Those Lessons Will Guide Our Practice**

The OYIF communities in the North East have worked with local collaboratives – government, policy makers, employers, educational institutions, nonprofits, philanthropy – to raise consciousness and recognize solutions for resolving the education and employment challenges faced by opportunity youth. In this session, we will discuss the progress of the various initiatives, lessons learned through the collective impact framework, impact on local communities, recommended best practices for forming and developing collaboratives, and where we go next.

*Philip Leaf, Johns Hopkins University (Facilitator)*  
*Marjorie Parker, JobsFirstNYC (Facilitator)*

**5:30 PM –  
6:45 PM**  
HURON B/C  
2ND FLOOR

### **RURAL COHORT MEETING**

Reengagement work in rural communities differs from that in larger urban areas. A number of factors complicate this work, in particular the fact that youth are not concentrated in one community but are dispersed across counties or regions and there may be large gaps in services and options. In this meeting we will explore two issues that gain complexity because of dispersal and existing service issues: first we will define a ‘hard to serve’ youth population and explore issues or innovations in outreaching to, engaging and meeting the needs of these youth. Second, we will explore what’s currently working or in development for creating community-based or cohort programming for rural youth.

*Terry Grobe, Jobs for the Future (Facilitator)*

**6:00 PM –  
7:15 PM**  
HURON A

### **SITE LEADS INFORMAL NETWORKING (OPTIONAL)**

OYIF Site Leads will have an opportunity to informally network to debrief learnings from the convening.

**7:00 PM –  
9:00 PM**  
BAR TOMA

### **OYIF YOUTH LEADERS DINNER**

Team building dinner for OYIF Youth Leaders (required). Join your peers for a Pizza Class

10 E PEARSON ST. and Battle at Bar Toma! Covered by the Aspen Forum for Community Solutions.

**7:30 PM DINE AROUND TOWN**

## WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13, 2016

**7:00 AM – BREAKFAST**

**8:00 AM**  
GREAT LAKES  
FOYER  
2ND FLOOR

**7:00 AM – SITE LEADS INFORMAL NETWORKING (OPTIONAL)**

**8:00 AM**  
GREAT LAKES  
BALLROOM  
2ND FLOOR

OYIF Site Leads will have an opportunity to informally network over breakfast to debrief learnings from the convening.

**8:00 AM – MORNING PLENARY: POSTSECONDARY PATHWAYS: LEVERAGING  
9:30 AM COMMUNITY COLLEGE INNOVATIONS FOR OPPORTUNITY YOUTH**

GREAT LAKES  
BALLROOM  
2ND FLOOR

The purpose of this plenary is to lift up innovations across the community college system and explore those for opportunity youth in particular. Dr. Cheryl Hyman will speak to the significant and far-reaching reforms that have been put into place at City Colleges of Chicago with an eye toward what's to come next. Michael Collins, Associate Vice President of Postsecondary State Policy at Jobs for the Future, will share key reflections regarding the importance of the community college work in Chicago in the national context of community college redesign. The panel of respondents will include representatives from OYIF communities who will discuss their efforts to improve the postsecondary success of opportunity youth.

***Featured Speaker:***

*Cheryl Hyman, Chancellor, City Colleges of Chicago*

***Reflection Panel:***

*Lili Allen, Jobs for the Future (Moderator)*

*Michael Collins, Associate Vice President, Postsecondary State Policy, Jobs for the Future*

*Eugene Adams, Director of Collaborative Initiatives, CUNY*

*Clea Andreadis, Associate Provost, Bunker Hill Community College*

**9:30 AM – BREAK FOR PASSING  
9:45 AM**

**9:45 AM – CONCURRENT SESSIONS**



11:15 AM

MARQUETTE PARK  
3RD FLOOR

## COLLABORATING FOR IMPACT: Boys and Men of Color (BMOC) and My Brother's Keeper (MBK): Opportunity for Alignment and Collaboration

With the announcement of My Brother's' Keeper (MBK) President Obama infused excitement and energy into an ongoing movement of work to support and improve the life outcomes of boys and men of color (BMOC). We now find ourselves at a moment when the opportunity for alignment and collaboration is great but many are uncertain about how best to harness the resources, best practices, and programs that are currently available nationally. This session will offer an update on current national efforts around technical assistance, the sharing of best practices and other resources and explore how national efforts can best supplement, support and align with ongoing local efforts to improve the life outcomes of boys and young men of color.

*William Jawando, Aspen Forum for Community Solutions (Moderator)*  
*Raymond Colmenar, The California Endowment*  
*Chekemma Fulmore-Townsend, Philadelphia Youth Network*  
*Sara Mattben, Opportunity Youth Network, Forum for Youth Investment*  
*Junious Williams, Urban Strategies Council*

ONTARIO  
2ND FLOOR

## BUILDING EFFECTIVE PATHWAYS: Scaling Up CBO/Community College Partnerships

Many OYIF communities have developed small pilot programs for opportunity youth to advance to postsecondary credentials that are partnerships between community-based organizations and community colleges. The next frontier is to take these programs to scale so that far more opportunity youth can benefit. This requires full buy-in from partner colleges and may require CBOs to work differently as well. In this session we will hear from Austin, Boston, and New York City about how they are systematizing and scaling pilot programs, and the operational underpinnings of these more extensive partnerships.

*Lili Allen, Jobs for the Future (Facilitator)*  
*Laura Brady, Austin Opportunity Youth Collaborative*  
*Jim Marley, Good Shepherd Services*  
*Kristin McSwain, Boston Opportunity Agenda*  
*Neil Sullivan, Boston Private Industry Council*  
*Theory Thompson, Good Shepherd Services*

MICHIGAN  
BALLROOM II  
2ND FLOOR

## COLLABORATING FOR IMPACT: YOUTH ENGAGEMENT: Youth Development in Chicago: Youth and Adult Partners Share Lessons Learned from Designing Transformational Youth Engagement Models

The purpose of this session is to highlight several best in class youth serving organizations across Chicago, including organizations focused on the fields of education, performance arts, media production and workforce and community development. Adult partners will share

program design and strategies for youth engagement and critical skill development that engenders a transformation for youth into leaders. Young people will share stories of their personal and professional development as they gain self-advocacy skills, peer and/or community organizing skills and create a vision for impacting the future of Chicago as they step into the role of next generation of leaders in their communities. Lessons for adoption and scaling of promising practices will be shared.

*Monique Miles, Aspen Forum for Community Solutions (Moderator)*  
*Cheyenne Banks, Youth Representative, Free Spirit Media*  
*E'mon McGee, Youth Representative, Young Chicago Authors*  
*Joe Harvey, Youth Representative, i.c. stars/City Incite*  
*Tony Williams, Youth Representative, Alternative Schools Network*

WASHINGTON PARK  
I  
3RD FLOOR

## **BUILDING EFFECTIVE PATHWAYS: How Improving Scheduling Can Help Both Employers and Workers**

Retention for entry-level employees, including opportunity youth, is a challenge for many employers, and improving retention often improves a company's bottom line. At the same time, many former opportunity youth are balancing work with other commitments, ranging from childcare to other part-time work to school. Participants will learn about the progress that employers, non-profits, and communities have made with respect to shifting scheduling practices over the last several years, as well as the barriers and challenges that still exist in this space. Participants will also have the opportunity to reflect on ways they can support both OY and employers as they shift to adopting sustainable scheduling in their communities.

*Kim Shin, FSG (Facilitator)*  
*Matthew Bruce, Chicagoland Workforce Funders Alliance*  
*Anne Ladky, Women Employed*

WASHINGTON PARK  
II  
3RD FLOOR

## **USING DATA TO GUIDE DECISIONS AND ASSESS IMPACT: One Year In: Understanding Systemic Shifts Among OYIF Communities and What They Mean for Funders**

During this funder-only session, Equal Measure will present portfolio-level progress and lessons from the first full year of the OYIF evaluation. Special attention will be given to "systemic shifts" – changes in collaborative infrastructure, commitment, and collective action – reported by sites following their first year of implementation. Participants will have an opportunity to react to and discuss these findings with one another, and to explore their implications for local and national funders supporting collective impact and systems change efforts.

*Meg Long, Equal Measure (Facilitator)*  
*Georgia Kionkis, Equal Measure (Facilitator)*  
*Justin Piff, Equal Measure (Facilitator)*

HURON A

## **USING DATA TO GUIDE DECISIONS AND ASSESS IMPACT: Chicago Career**

**Connect**

Chicago will share its CareerConnect data platform that is designed to be an integrated workforce information system to track employer relationships and job opportunities within The Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership network. The session will focus on the impetus for developing an integrated system, lessons learned in setting it up and building it out, and aspirations for further development.

*Cheryl Almeida, Jobs for the Future (Facilitator)*

*Mark Fitzfory, Jobs for the Future (Facilitator)*

*Amanda Cage, Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership*

**11:15 AM –  
11:30 AM**      **BREAK FOR PASSING**

**11:30 AM –  
12:30 PM**      **TEAM PLANNING TIME**

VARIOUS

Site teams will be assigned rooms to debrief the convening and consider implications of the convening's lessons for their work in their communities.

**11:30 AM –  
12:30 PM**      **OYIF YOUTH LEADERS DEBRIEF**

HURON A  
2ND FLOOR

In this youth leadership track session, youth leaders will share learnings from the convening and identify opportunities to implement what they learned in their communities.

*Jamiel Alexander, Aspen Forum for Community Solutions (Facilitator)*

*Yelena Nemoy, Aspen Forum for Community Solutions (Facilitator)*

**12:30 PM –  
12:45 PM**      **BREAK FOR PASSING**

**12:45 PM –  
2:00 PM**      **LUNCH & CLOSING PLENARY**

GREAT LAKES  
BALLROOM  
2ND FLOOR

The closing plenary session will highlight key lessons over three days and identify key learnings that will inform action and impact back home. Convening participants will share their take-aways from the convening before a panel discussion that will incorporate participant reflections into the dialogue.

*Monique Miles, Aspen Forum for Community Solutions (Facilitator)*

**2:00 PM**      **ADJOURN FOR ALL GUESTS BUT SITE LEADS, 100K DEMONSTRATION CITIES**

**3:00 PM –**      **OYIF SITE LEADS MEETING**

*Refreshments will be served*

**5:00 PM**

**MICHIGAN  
BALLROOM II  
2ND FLOOR**

The purpose of this meeting is to convene the Opportunity Youth Incentive Fund site leads to further develop and deepen their community of practice.

*Lili Allen, Jobs for the Future (Facilitator)*

*Monique Miles, Aspen Forum for Community Solutions (Facilitator)*

**THURSDAY, APRIL 14, 2016**

**7:30 AM –**

**BREAKFAST**

**8:45 AM**

**MILLENNIUM PARK  
3RD FLOOR**

**8:45 AM –**

**BREAK FOR PASSING**

**9:00 AM**

**9:00 AM –**

**100K DEMONSTRATION CITIES MEETING WITH LUNCH**

**1:00 PM**

**MILLENNIUM PARK  
3RD FLOOR**

The purpose of this meeting is to review the journey of 100K Demonstration Cities across the four communities, identify differences and similarities, and explore collective aspirations for the initiative in terms of impact and learning. Communities will share their partnership structures and strategies to engage employers and youth and generate key lessons of the work to date. Participants will be introduced to, and will have an opportunity to provide input, on the Retail Industry Fundamentals Training program that is being built by Accenture Corporate Citizenship for rollout by the National Retail Federation (NRF) Foundation.

*Lili Allen, Jobs for the Future (Facilitator)*

*Mariko Lockhart, Aspen Forum for Community Solutions (Facilitator)*

*Steve Patrick, Aspen Forum for Community Solutions (Facilitator)*

*Carrie Cross, National Retail Federation (NRF) Foundation*