



## 2015 Legislative Briefings

Meeting Teams - L.A. County WIB Delegation	
<b>TEAM J</b>	Jerry Gaines, Helen Romero Shaw, Dr. Christine Bosworth, Laurel Shockley Kevin Anderson/ Stephen Acker, Rafael Carbajal, Otto Solorzano/Josie Marquez
<b>TEAM E</b>	Erick Verduzco-Vega, Dr. Patricia Ramos, Shomari Davis Richard Verches/Stephen Acker, Rafael Carbajal, Otto Solorzano/Josie Marquez
<b>TEAM X</b>	Jerry Gaines, Erick Verduzco-Vega, Christine Bosworth, Patricia Ramos, Richard Verches, Kevin Anderson, Stephen Acker, Rafael Carbajal, Otto Solorzano, Josie Marquez

SUNDAY – MARCH 29			
Time	Meeting	Location	Team
5:30 – 7 pm	<b>CWA Annual Reception: NAWB California Delegation Reception</b>	Washington Hilton Georgetown West Room 1919 Connecticut Ave. Washington, D.C. 20009	ALL
7:30 pm	<b>Team Dinner</b>	TBD	ALL

MONDAY – MARCH 30			
Time	Meeting	Location	Team
7:15-8:30 pm	<b>NAWB Forum: Awards Presentation and The Capitol Steps</b>		ALL

TUESDAY – MARCH 31			
Time	Meeting	Location	Team/Key Issues
2:30-3:00 pm	<b>Jackson Droney</b> , Legislative Aide <i>Senator Barbara Boxer</i>	Hart Rm 112 202-224-3553 Scheduler: Alicia Henry	ALL L.A. County WIB Delegates SELACO WIB: Yolanda Castro, Ben Espitia Verdugo WIB: Robert Mejia San Bernardino County WIB: Sandy Harmsen & Board
4 – 5:00 pm	<b>Eric Seleznow</b> , Deputy Assistant Secretary <i>DOL – Employment and Training Administration</i> <b>Benjamin Seigel</b> , Deputy Director <i>DOL – Center for Faith- Based and Neighborhood Partnerships</i>	U.S. DOL – ETA 200 Constitution Ave., NW Washington, D.C. 20210 202-693-2700 Contact: Tiffany Allenbach	ALL L.A. County WIB Delegates SELACO WIB: Yolanda Castro, Ben Espitia

## 2015 Legislative Briefings

WEDNESDAY – APRIL 1			
Time	Meeting	Location	Team/Key Issues
9 am-10 am	<b>Vickie Choitz</b> , Associate Director <i>Economic Opportunities Program</i> <i>Aspen Institute</i>	Aspen Institute 7 <sup>th</sup> Floor small conference room One Dupont Circle Washington, D.C. 20012 202-736-3529	Team E Dr. Bosworth
10-10:30 am	<b>Lauren Wolman</b> , Legislative Assistant <i>Rep. Brad Sherman</i>	Rayburn HOB, Room 2242 202-225-5911 Scheduler: Arlet Abrahamian	Team J Davis
10:30-11 am	<b>Sam Jammal</b> , Chief of Staff <i>Rep. Tony Cárdenas</i>	Longworth HOB, Room 1510 202-225-6131 Special Asst: Katherine Pereira	Team E
11-11:30 am	<b>Joe Jankiewicz</b> , Senior Legislative Assistant <i>Rep. Adam Schiff</i>	Rayburn HOB, Room 2411 202-225-4176 Scheduler: Christopher Hoven	Team J Verdugo WIB: Robert Mejia
12-12:30 pm	<b>Fabrice Coles</b> , Legislative Assistant-Labor <i>Senator Dianne Feinstein</i>	Hart Senate Building, Rm 331 202-224-3841 Deputy Scheduler: Jackie Radford	ALL
1:30-2:00 pm	<b>Adriane Alicea</b> , Legislative Aide and Correspondent <i>Rep. Karen Bass</i>	Cannon HOB, Room 408 202-225-7084 Scheduler: Allison Fialkov	Team E
2-2:30 pm	<b>Joseph Ciccone</b> , Legislative Assistant <i>Rep. Grace Napolitano</i>	Longworth HOB, Room 1610 202-225-5256 Scheduler: Joseph Ciccone	Team J
4 – 5:00 pm	<b>Kermit Kaleba</b> , Federal Policy Director <i>National Skills Coalition</i>	1730 Rhode Island Ave NW Suite 712 Washington DC 20036 202-223-8991	ALL

THURSDAY – APRIL 2			
Time	Meeting	Location	Team/Key Issues
10-10:30 am	<b>Jocelyn Olivas</b> , Legislative Assistant <i>Rep. Janice Hahn</i>	Cannon HOB, Room 404 202-225-8220 Scheduler: McKinley Krongaus	Team X
11 am-12 pm	<b>Jennifer Sheehy</b> , Deputy Assistant Secretary <i>DOL – Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP)</i>	U.S. DOL – ODEP South-1303 Conference Room 200 Constitution Ave., NW Washington, D.C. 20210 202-693-7851 Contact: Cecilia Hill	ALL

## TALKING POINTS FOR 2015 CONGRESSIONAL BRIEFINGS

### I. Background and Introductions

- Thank you for meeting with us. We represent business, labor and education on the L.A. County WIB and are in DC to attend the National Association of Workforce Boards Forum.
- The L.A. County WIB is the 4<sup>th</sup> largest in the nation (after NY, Chicago, LA City); 2<sup>nd</sup> largest in California with a budget of approx. \$35-40M annually, in addition to \$25M+ in summer and year-round youth employment and discretionary grant funding (National Emergency Grants (NEG)).
- We serve 4 million residents of 58 of the County's 88 cities and all 151 Unincorporated areas and the other six WIBs serve the balance of the County's 30 cities.
- Introductions – Name, Title, Business/Institution/Government Affiliation(s)
- We want to first THANK the Representative for their support and vote for the landmark WIOA legislation that passed with overwhelming bipartisan, bicameral support and signed by President Obama last July.
- Today, we would like to briefly provide you an update on our WIOA transition plans and some of our workforce development initiatives
- More importantly, we want to hear about the Representative's **workforce development priorities**. THE REAL WORK NOW BEGINS....
  - **Streamlining programs and alignment of major systems and institutions**
  - **Moving to an Employer and Business Centric model**
  - **Data Driven policies based on economic development and labor market data**
  - **Regional Coordination, Collaboration and Planning (between 7 WIBs, 20 Community Colleges, over 50 School Districts, Adult Ed, State Vocational Rehab and TANF/SNAP for example)**
  - **Sector Initiatives with Training in In-Demand Occupations with Career Pathways in High Growth Industries**

These are a just a few hallmarks of the new workforce development system

## II. L.A. County Workforce Development Initiatives

**WIOA Transition** begins in July 2015.

- The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), passed with near unanimous bipartisan support in July 2014 is an indication that jobs and employment are bipartisan, universal issues.
- The Budget Resolutions were a surprise since they propose cuts to non-Defense Discretionary such as workforce development programs. But WIOA's higher expectations cannot be achieved with reduced funding. While the unemployment rate continues to drop and job creation has continued to rise for a record number of months, the growing demand for skilled labor requires continuous investment in training to meet the existing needs of employers and address the skills-gap.
- Level funding will ensure that we are able to build a comprehensive, integrated and streamlined system that expands opportunities for jobseekers, workers and businesses.

**L.A. County is committed to a bold redesign of our workforce development system** to align efforts and strengthen collaboration with education, economic development, labor, adult education and TANF to not only meet, but exceed, Congress' ambitious goals.

### Business Services

WIOA mandates employer engagement and strengthened **Business Services**:

We have already launched innovative regional and collaborative business engagement initiatives to strengthen our partnerships with employers, education, economic development, local government and community based organizations:

- Outreach to At-Risk Businesses
  - Outreach to and Action Plans for At-Risk Businesses in collaboration with the L.A. Economic Development Corporation.
  - During the first implementation year, these services resulted in 3,846 direct and indirect jobs saved, totaling more than \$240million in labor income.
- Sector Intermediaries:
  - Sector Intermediaries in six priority, high-growth sectors – **healthcare, transportation and logistics, hospitality and tourism, advanced manufacturing, bioscience and construction** – which represent our initial asset mapping and research to guide training investments and facilitate the development of sustainable, regional sector partnerships.

- Strategic Investments in Training for Sustainable Careers:
  - **\$15 million Countywide** in WIOA Adult and Dislocated Worker funding for training focused on in-demand occupations in high-growth sectors.
  - **\$300-400 annually in federal discretionary grants** for that the WIBs, Community Colleges, K-12 that the WIBs, Community Colleges, K-12, Adult Ed and CBOs receive in L.A. County.
- Sector Initiatives:
  - We are key partners in **Regional Sector Initiatives**, including one on Information and Communications Technology (ICT) with 8 Community Colleges, 6 School Districts and 3 Cal State Universities, 3 WIBs, multiple Chambers and businesses such as Amazon.
- Better Staffing and Structure
  - We operate a System in L.A. County, not only a Job Center. We MUST now co-locate with EDD in all of our Centers and create a new Franchise with enhanced business services and increased capacity to coordinate and execute an innovative, business-centric approach.

## Regional Coordination and Planning

- The County leads or supports **diverse regional collaborative** efforts with workforce boards, veteran-serving organizations and government entities, community colleges, K-12 and Adult and Vocational Education (i.e. SB 1070 Career Pathways) and the County's Economic Development Corporation and sub-regional economic development partner organizations and chambers of commerce.
- **Community Colleges**
  - Two Community College representatives serve on the County WIB – Dr. Monte Perez, President of L.A. Mission College (the only Higher Education member on NAWB Board of Directors) and Dr. Patricia Ramos, Dean of Workforce and Economic Development at Santa Monica College.
  - LA County has funded two **Job Centers directly on college campuses** (L.A. Southwest College and College of the Canyons).
  - The L.A. County WIB plays a key role in the coordination of regular meetings between the **7 WIBs and 20 Community Colleges** in L.A. County to improve alignment of workforce and training initiatives.

- **Summer and Year Round Youth Employment**
  - As a priority and through great support and funding from the L.A. County Board of Supervisors, \$24.5 million was leveraged from WIA, TANF and General Funds and allocated to the 7 L.A. County WIBs and dozens of CBOs to implement a **Summer and Year Round Youth Employment Program** in 2014-15 that provided work experience, career exposure and subsidized internships with introductory financial literacy training for nearly 12,000 youth throughout the County of Los Angeles.

## Veterans

- **Veterans Employment Program:** Unique in the country is our innovative Job Center led by and staffed with Veterans serving Veterans that includes critical wrap around services such as housing, child support and expungement assistance, ticket forgiveness and mental health services.
- The County WIB established a **City-County WIB Sub-Committee on Veterans Employment Services**, the first multi-WIB Committee in the nation, with the City of L.A. WIB, and now a partnership of all 7 WIBs in the County.

## Priority Populations

- We share the priority you place on serving individuals with barriers to employment, such as individuals with disabilities, veterans, re-entry populations, foster youth and the long-term unemployed.
- We will tailor efforts and design special initiatives for these populations in collaboration with partners from adult education, vocational rehabilitation, EDD and community colleges.
- We are currently partnering with Volunteers of America to provide employment services for the **Re-Entry population** under a DOL Face Forward Grant.
- We are leading a countywide consortia to seek federal 2<sup>nd</sup> Chance Act funds to create a **jail-based Job Center** to expand our efforts to serve ex-offenders and we are committed to sustaining this initiative.

### III. Final Comments

- Would be great if WIOA funding could be included in the Representative's request letter.

## FOR MEETINGS WITH DOL

- Express support for implementation of WIOA
- Inquire about timing and process for WIOA rulemaking.
- Identify any major sticking points that need clarification
- Inquire about the Administration's Upskilling America initiative and current efforts to engage businesses. How can we help?
- Mention our commitment to job-driven training:
  - Employer engagement to determine hiring needs
  - Earn and Learn models (including internships, pre-apprenticeships and OJT)
  - Data-driven decisionmaking
  - A Focus on Career Pathways
  - Services to individuals with barriers
  - Regional partnerships
- We are working with regional consortia to apply for various DOL grants, including 2<sup>nd</sup> Chance Act, Apprenticeship grants and others
- **INVITE TO LOS ANGELES to SEE L.A. County Initiatives and Regional Collaboration**

