

**5th Annual
Massachusetts
Jobs and
Workforce** **SUMMIT**

Investing in Talent

Wednesday, October 15, 2014

Devens Common Conference Center, Devens, MA



THE WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS GROUP

Crittenton Women's Union
Massachusetts AFL-CIO
Massachusetts Business Roundtable
Massachusetts Communities Action Network

Massachusetts Workforce Board Association
Massachusetts Workforce Professionals Association
SkillWorks: Partners for a Productive Workforce

Featured Speakers



**The Honorable
Joseph P. Kennedy III**
U.S. Representative



Martha Coakley
Democratic Gubernatorial
Candidate



Charlie Baker
Republican Gubernatorial
Candidate



**Secretary Rachel
Kaprielian**
Executive Office of Labor and
Workforce Development



Mayor Dan Rivera
Lawrence, MA



Mayor Jon Mitchell
New Bedford, MA



Mayor Alex B. Morse
Holyoke, MA

THE WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS GROUP

The Workforce Solutions Group (WSG) brings together business, labor, community, and workforce organizations to advance a clear and unified policy agenda for workforce development. Working closely with SkillWorks and our partners across the state, WSG has been the leading advocate for systems change and alignment amongst workforce, education, and economic development agencies; and the leading advocate for increased resources for sector based job training, skills training for low income adults and youth, and employer investment in talent pipelines.

The Workforce Solutions Group has four organizational goals:

- To create a forum for discussion and consensus on policy, legislation and budget issues that affect both workers and employers, resulting in sound and proactive policy and legislation;
- To develop and enact legislation and policy initiatives which create jobs and career pathways for Massachusetts residents, and to advocate for resources through the state budget;
- To align state systems which prepare the workforce (higher education, training, adult basic education, social services and supports) to achieve maximum return on those investments; and
- To create/support systems that lead the expansion of youth employment, college and career pathways.

WSG has formulated and influenced economic development policy to ensure that the state has a prepared workforce. As a result of our organizing and advocacy, the Commonwealth has added over \$80 million in new funding for workforce development, including the creation of the *Workforce Competitiveness Trust Fund (WCTF)*, the restoration and preservation of the Workforce Training Fund as a Trust, and supplemental funding for adult basic education, youth jobs programs, and one stop career centers.

Summit Schedule

THE WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS GROUP 

8:00 AM – 9:00 AM

REGISTRATION AND NETWORKING BREAKFAST

9:00 AM - 9:30 AM

WELCOMING REMARKS

Kathie Mainzer, *Director, Workforce Solutions Group (WSG)*

Steven Tolman, *President, Massachusetts AFL-CIO*

Featured Speaker: The Honorable Joseph P. Kennedy III, *U.S. Representative*

9:30 AM – 10:15 AM

UPDATE FROM WASHINGTON DC

Holly O'Brien, *Regional Administrator*

U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration

Robert Asaro-Angelo, *Northeast Regional Representative for*

U.S. Secretary of Labor Tom Perez

10:15 AM-10:30 AM

NETWORKING BREAK

10:30 AM – 11:45AM

ISSUE PLENARY: PARTNERING FOR JOB CREATION

Introduced by: Stanley Usovicz, *Chair, MA Workforce Board Association*

Panel discussion will focus on how local cities are partnering with employers, educators and economic and workforce leaders to grow jobs and their local economies. Mayors, particular in the Commonwealth's Gateway Cities, are on the front lines in workforce and economic development. There are many upcoming changes that will impact the recruiting and retention of good talent, including new federal and state resources for job-driven training, the recently passed Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, and the upcoming gubernatorial election which will set a direction for the cities in Massachusetts. The mayors will discuss examples of successful public/private economic and workforce partnerships and the challenges which need to be overcome for their city to succeed economically.

Moderator:

Marty Jones, *CEO, MassDevelopment*

Panelists:

Mayor **Jon Mitchell** of New Bedford

Mayor **Alex B. Morse** of Holyoke

Mayor **Dan Rivera** of Lawrence

continued

Summit Schedule

11:50 AM – 12:50 PM

LUNCH PROGRAM

WSG 2014 WORKFORCE CHAMPION AWARDS

Presented by: WSG E Team Leaders Susan Quinones and Ruthie Liberman

12:50 PM – 1:45 PM

BUSINESS PLENARY: WAGE EQUITY FOR WOMEN

Introduced by: Chris Kealey, *Deputy Director, MA Business Roundtable*

The panel, including Secretary of Labor and Workforce Development Rachel Kaprielian, will discuss the programs now underway in the city of Boston and statewide to bring additional attention to the need to effectively use 100% of the talent in our workforce. The panel will focus on the work of the Boston Women's Workforce Council and the state's efforts to eliminate the wage gap and provide opportunities for women leaders.

Cathy Minehan, *Dean, School of Management, Simmons College*

Victoria Budson, *Director, Women and Public Policy Program,
John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University*

Kathy Horgan, *Executive Vice President and CEO, Global Human Services,
State Street*

Secretary Rachel Kaprielian, *Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development*

1:50 PM – 2:05 PM

FEATURED SPEAKER

Martha Coakley, *Democratic Gubernatorial Candidate*

2:05 PM – 2:20 PM

NETWORKING BREAK

2:20 PM – 3:30 PM

BREAK OUT SESSIONS – BEST PRACTICES AND NEW IDEAS

FINANCIAL SERVICES AND IT

This panel will investigate trends within the financial services and information technology sectors engaging business leaders in a discussion about the changing workforce needs in these industries. Consumer demand, technological innovation and the competition for talent are driving major employers to adapt and develop new strategies to recruit and retain employees. How will these changes impact workforce development professionals and the implementation of training programs? What competencies are most needed to train future employees in these industries? What are some best practices and examples of successful partnerships that are helping people develop the skills to succeed in the new economy?

Summit Schedule

THE WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS GROUP

Moderator: **Chris Kealey**, *Deputy Director, MA Business Roundtable*
Panelists: **Paul Fichtner**, *Senior Vice President, Global Human Resources State Street Corporation*
David McCabe, *President, Eaton Vance Investment Counsel*
Guy Pacitti, *Global Director of Leadership, IBM Software Group*

2:20 PM – 3:30 PM

APPRENTICESHIP MODELS

Springing from the declaration this year by Vice President Joe Biden that “We must fundamentally rethink the pathways to well-paying, middle-class jobs, and open those pathways to all Americans,” this session will focus on: efforts by the U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL) to modernize and transform Registered Apprenticeship for the 21st Century; efforts to expand Registered Apprenticeship programs to non-trade occupations as a proven solution for recruiting, training, and retaining talent in the fields of healthcare, information technology, and advanced manufacturing; highlight the success of building trades pre-apprenticeship programs that reach diverse populations not normally represented in the trades (women, people of color, low income, and those with high barriers to employment), and the recruitment, retention, and compliance and enforcement approach to diversify both the construction and transportation sectors.

Moderator: **Brian Doherty**, *President, Boston Building Trades*
Panelists: **Gerry Ghazi**, *President, Vermont HITEC and River Valley Workforce Institute, NH*
Jill Houser, *Director, Office of Apprenticeship, US DOL Region I*
Jamie Merloni, *Director of Training, New England Laborers’ Training Academy*

2:20 PM – 3:30 PM

ADVANCED MANUFACTURING

This moderated discussion panel will focus on the ways workforce, education and employer partners have worked to align training and education programs with the state’s economic development and workforce strategies and the needs of manufacturers. Panelists will provide examples of their work to develop programs in collaboration with regional employers and workforce and education system partners.

Moderator: **Marybeth Campbell**, *MA Director of Education and Workforce Development*
Panelists: **Dennis Bunnell**, *Industry Advisor and Consultant, Mt Wachusett Community College \$16M US DoL Round 3 TAACCT Manufacturing grant*
Bob LePage, *Vice President, Foundation and Workforce Training, Springfield Technical Community College*
Kathy Rentsch, *Dean, Business and Technology, Quinsigamond Community College*

continued

Summit Schedule

2:15 PM – 3:30 PM

WORKFORCE OPPORTUNITIES IN THE TOURISM AND FILM INDUSTRIES

The tourism and film industries are both enjoying a stellar year in the Commonwealth. This workshop will feature a panel of experts to share information about future trends in both industries, and what this will mean for the educational and training needs of the workforce. The panel will explore how the film industry has successfully partnered with the One Stop Career Center system to meet their highly specialized, non-traditional, unique recruitment needs, and what other states around the country are doing to train people for these industries.

Moderator:

Lisa Strout, *Director MA Film Office, Massachusetts Office of Travel and Tourism*

Panelists:

Dan Hunter, *Award winning playwright, songwriter and humorist;*
Founding partner of Hunter Higgs, LLC.

Chris O'Donnell, *Business Manager, International Alliance of Theatrical*
Stage Employees

Linda Rohrer, *Executive Director, Career Source, Cambridge*

2:15 PM – 3:30 PM

PAY FOR SUCCESS – A NEW MODEL FOR FINANCING WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

This session will provide attendees with an overview of the Pay for Success model, early lessons Pay for Success is essentially performance-based contracting between government and social service providers, wherein investors provide the working capital for pay-for performance contracting services, in the form of bond purchases, and the bonds and investors are re-paid if target outcomes and related savings are achieved. This session will provide attendees with an overview of the Pay for Success model, early lessons learned, and an opportunity to engage in a conversation about the opportunities and challenges in expanding Pay for Success further to support workforce development efforts as well as other social interventions.

Moderator:

Loh-Sze Leung, *Consultant, National Fund for Workforce Solutions*

Panelists:

Caitlin Reimers Brumme, *Director, Capital Markets Team, Social Finance*

Danielle Cerny, *Social Innovation Finance Manager, Massachusetts Executive Office*
of Administration and Finance

Lili Elkins, *Chief Development and Strategy Officer, Roca*

Carol Grady, *Chief Operating Officer, Jewish Vocational Service*

3:40 PM – 3:55 PM

FEATURED SPEAKER

Charlie Baker, *Republican Gubernatorial Candidate*

3:55 PM – 4:00 PM

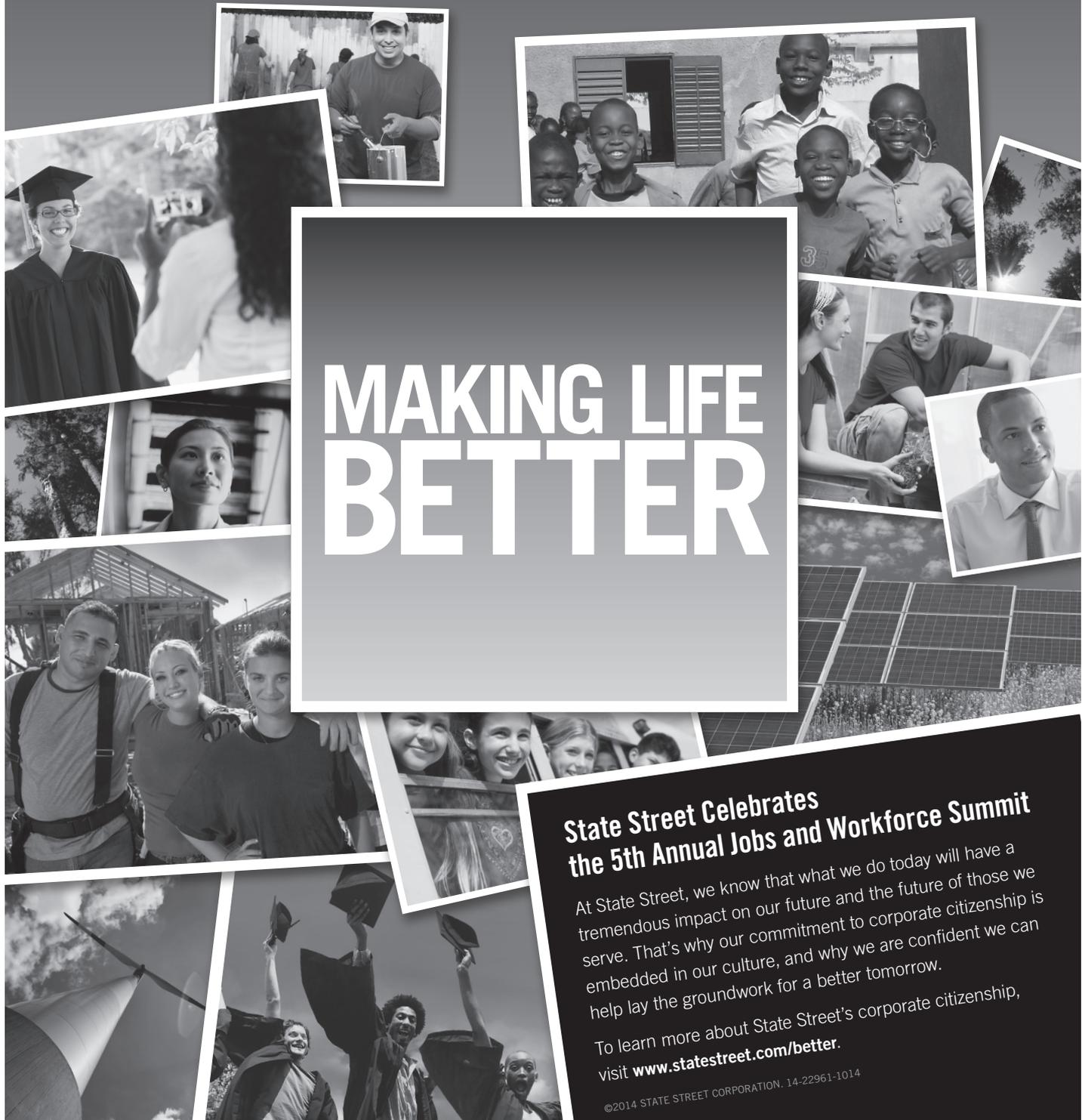
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Speakers Biographies



Robert Asaro-Angelo

Robert Asaro-Angelo is the Northeast Regional Representative for U.S. Secretary of Labor Tom Perez. He was appointed by the Obama Administration in October of 2010 to a region covering Maine to Virginia, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. He serves as the eyes and ears for the Secretary and acts as a liaison to federal office holders, other federal agencies, state and local governments and many other stakeholders.

Rob is honored to be able to work across the Department of Labor's 17 sub agencies that are based in the field, such as OSHA, the Wage Hour Division, the Employee Benefits Security Administration and 14 others, all of whom are committed to the Department's mission to foster, promote, and develop the welfare of the wage earners, job seekers, and retirees of the United States; improve working conditions; advance opportunities for profitable employment; and assure work-related benefits and rights.

Prior to his appointment Rob worked for the Laborers Union, AFSCME, and SEIU where he educated union members about government and politics. Rob earned a master's degree in Public Policy at Rutgers University after attending Boston University where he majored in Television Production.



Charlie Baker

Charlie Baker is the Republican candidate for governor of Massachusetts. A former Secretary of Administration and Finance under Governors Weld and Cellucci, and former CEO of Harvard Pilgrim Health Care, Charlie has been a highly successful leader of complex organizations in both the private and public sectors. He has spent the past three years as an Entrepreneur in Residence at the venture capital firm General Catalyst Partners.

As part of the Weld/Cellucci Administration, Charlie helped turn a billion-dollar deficit into a surplus, create a half million jobs, and enact ambitious education reforms. As Secretary of Administration and Finance, he oversaw a number of cost-saving reforms, modernizing state government and making it more efficient. For his leadership, he received the Distinguished Service Award from the National Governor's Association in 1998.

As CEO of Harvard Pilgrim Health Care, Charlie led the company out of receivership to become the highest ranked health plan in the country for member satisfaction and clinical effectiveness six years in a row. During his tenure, Harvard Pilgrim was named one of Boston Business Journal's "Best Places To Work" for seven straight years.

Raised in Needham, Charlie attended public schools and is a graduate of Harvard College. He earned an MBA from Kellogg Graduate School of Management at Northwestern University. Charlie and his wife, Lauren, have been heavily involved in numerous civic and charitable endeavors. They live in Swampscott, and have three children: Charlie, AJ, and Caroline.

SkillWorksSM
PARTNERS FOR A PRODUCTIVE WORKFORCE

SkillWorks congratulates
the Workforce Solutions Group
on over 10 years of advocacy
on behalf of workers and employers
in the Commonwealth
and on a successful
5th Annual MA Jobs and Workforce Summit!

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www.skill-works.org
@skillworks_ma

Speakers Biographies

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Victoria Budson

Victoria A. Budson is the founding Executive Director of the Women and Public Policy Program (WAPPP) at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government (HKS). WAPPP analyzes cutting-edge issues as they impact women's roles and lives, conducts research, develops curriculum, and publishes materials focused on gender and public policy. While at the Harvard Kennedy School, Budson was founding Executive Director of the Council of Women World Leaders, a group of current and former presidents and prime ministers. From 1999-2004, Budson served as an Ombudsperson at HKS.

Currently, Budson serves on the Board of Directors for the National Council for Research on Women (NCRW). The mission of NCRW is to harnesses the resources of its network to ensure fully informed debate, policies and practices to build a more inclusive and equitable world for women and girls. Budson has been a member of numerous other Boards of Directors including: iVillage Cares, National Women's Political Caucus, Massachusetts National Abortion Rights Action League, Massachusetts Women's Political Caucus, Women's Legislative Network and Alliance, Massachusetts Coalition of Democratic Women, and Wellesley College Hillel Alumnae Board. Budson has served on the Steering Committee for the Massachusetts State Treasury's Women and Money conference.

Budson speaks on various topics such as the future of feminism, gender and public policy, electoral politics and political action at institutions including Carnegie Mellon, Harvard University, Tufts University, Wellesley College, the Eleanor Roosevelt Center at Val-Kill, and the Center for Women's Policy Studies. In 2009, Budson was featured in the coauthored book *More than Title IX: How Equity in Education has Shaped the Nation* (Hanson, Katherine, et al).

Dennis Bunnell

Dennis R. Bunnell serves as the industry consultant for the manufacturing initiative of Mount Wachusett Community College. He established and chairs its Advanced Manufacturing Advisory Board supporting the College's TAACCCT-3 project team.

Mr. Bunnell is an experienced executive with more than 40 years in the paper industry. He has held senior management positions in finance, human resources, strategic planning, sales, marketing, and operations for major paper manufacturers. His career includes more than 20 years as President and/or CEO in both the U.S. and Canada. Mr. Bunnell has extensive international executive experience serving on global management leadership teams for multinational, European-based manufacturing companies while directing their North American operations.

Mr. Bunnell was the President and CEO of Munksjö Paper in Fitchburg for more than nine years before leaving to re-start an idled paper manufacturing company in New York State at the request of NYS's Empire Development Corp. While in Fitchburg, Mr. Bunnell was active in the community, participating in regional development initiatives, serving on the Board of Directors of the North Central Massachusetts Chamber of Commerce, which he chaired in 2003 to 2004, then continuing as a member of its Leadership Council. Mr. Bunnell facilitated NCMCC's Manufacturing CEO Roundtable for seven years, and was a founding member of the CEO Club of Boston. He has served on Gov. Mitt Romney's Regional Competitiveness Council for Central Massachusetts, was a Trustee of the Fitchburg Art Museum, and was a member of the Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical High School's Business Education Enrichment Foundation (BEEF).

Mr. Bunnell has a B.A. in Economics from Otterbein College and a J.D. from Fordham University School of Law.

Speakers Biographies



Marybeth Campbell

Marybeth Campbell has fifteen years experience in public policy, public education and project management in the areas of clean energy, education, economic and workforce development. Most recently Marybeth served in a role as the Commonwealth's first cross-secretariat Director of Education and Workforce Development advising the Patrick Administration's cabinet secretaries in the Executive Offices of Education, Labor and Workforce and Housing and Economic Development on workforce and education policy development, program strategy and implementation. Marybeth previously served as the state's first

Workforce Development Director at the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center establishing national-leading green jobs programs by working with higher education, vocational schools, labor organizations and community based nonprofits to develop training and workforce capacity that supports the Commonwealth's growing clean energy industry. Her previous work also includes serving as the Public Education Manager for the former Massachusetts Renewable Energy Trust where she oversaw two education initiatives that funded projects to increase awareness among teachers, students and the public about the benefits of clean energy, and as a senior research analyst for the Massachusetts House of Representatives Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy. She has a Bachelors degree in Political Science from Providence College and attended Suffolk University Law School.



Danielle Cerny

Danielle Cerny is the Social Innovation Finance Manager for the Massachusetts Executive Office of Administration and Finance (ANF); structuring, contracting for, and managing implementation of the state's pay for success initiatives. Danielle began her work on pay for success projects as a Rappaport Public Policy Fellow at ANF in 2010, and wrote the RFR that procured services for the state's first pay for success initiative. Danielle has previously worked with the Massachusetts Department of Children and Families, the Brady Center to Prevent Gun Violence, the National Women's Law Center, and the Massachusetts State Senate.

Danielle holds a Master in Public Policy from the Harvard Kennedy School, where she was a Public Service Fellow, a J.D. from Georgetown Law, and a B.A. with honors in Political Science from Brown University.



Martha Coakley

A native of Berkshire County in Western Massachusetts, Martha has charted a career as a distinguished prosecutor before serving as Middlesex District Attorney and now as the Commonwealth's first female Attorney General. She is a voice for fairness for those who need it most, and brings people together to drive innovative solutions to our biggest challenges.

Martha has successfully prosecuted some of the Commonwealth's most dangerous criminals and brought landmark cases to protect consumers, taxpayers, civil rights, and the environment.

Martha has been a national leader in addressing the economic crisis by holding big banks accountable and keeping people in their homes, protected civil rights as the first Attorney General to successfully challenge the Defense of Marriage Act, tackled fraud and corruption, championed major initiatives to address the costs of health care and energy, and recovered hundreds of millions of dollars back for the Commonwealth's taxpayers. Martha is a passionate advocate for public safety, bringing justice to victims of crime and their families while implementing innovative prevention programs in our schools and communities.

Martha was born and raised in North Adams. Her father was a World War II and Korean War veteran and a small business owner. Her mother was a homemaker raising five children. Martha was part of the first female class to attend Williams College, and received her J.D. from the Boston University School of Law. Martha lives in Medford with her husband, retired police Deputy Superintendent Thomas F. O'Connor, Jr., and their Labradors, Jackson and Jefferson.

Speakers Biographies

THE WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS GROUP



Lili Elkins

Lili Elkins has served as Roca’s Chief Development and Strategy Officer since 2011 and, prior to that, served as a consultant to Roca for five years. Ms. Elkins provides assistance with: resource development; strategic planning and financial forecasting; program design, development, operations and replication; program evaluation, including work with third party evaluators; and, operation of special projects. In addition to her work at Roca, Ms. Elkins is an adjunct professor at Columbia University’s Executive Program for a Master in Public Administration, where she teaches Financial Management in Government and Nonprofits and in Columbia University’s Mailman School of Public Health where she teaches Public Health Finance. Ms. Elkins has over 20 years of fundraising, program design and program management experience working with non-profits. Ms. Elkins, a member of the New Jersey Bar, has her J.D. from Rutgers University, an M.A. in public policy and administration from Columbia University, and a B.A. from Barnard College, Columbia University.



Paul Fichtner

Paul manages a team of professionals supporting the strategic human resources initiatives associated with State Street’s Global Transformation. In this role Paul works with leadership teams to implement effective people strategies that support the goals and changing direction of the business. Paul also manages the human resources activity for corporate mergers and acquisitions that are led out of the United States. As such, his team coordinates the practice areas including employee relations, talent management, talent acquisition, compensation, and the uniform and effective implementation of corporate policies and procedures.

Paul joined State Street in 2005 and has more than 25 years of experience in the field of human resources. At State Street he has had the opportunity to manage global teams supporting Capital Markets, Global Services/Operations, Sales and Relationship Management, and the Corporate Offices. Prior to joining State Street, Paul developed a centralized human resources department for both Fleet Financial and the Bank of America. In addition to his work in financial services, he held a variety of HR leadership positions for Federated Department Stores.

Paul holds a Bachelors of Science degree in Psychology and a Bachelors of Arts degree in Communications from the University of Southern Maine.



Gerry Ghazi

Gerry is co-founder and president of two non-profit education organizations, Vermont HITEC in Vermont and River Valley Workforce Institute in New Hampshire, committed to workforce development in the fields of healthcare, information technology, and advanced manufacturing. Ghazi has created and implemented an academic and registered apprenticeship workforce development model, graduating and employing over 1000 registered apprentices in Vermont and New Hampshire at employer-partners like IDX Systems (now GEHealthcare), Fletcher Allen Health Care, Dealer.com, Dartmouth-Hitchcock, Hypertherm, Timken Aerospace,

Allscripts, and Husky Injection Molding Systems. Gerry holds an A.A.S in Computer Science from County College of Morris, a B.S. in Computer Science from Rutgers University, and a J.D. degree from Seton Hall Law School.

Speakers Biographies



Don Gillis

Don Gillis is the Executive Director of the Massachusetts Workforce Board Association, a private sector led organization comprised of business executives, education, labor, workforce and economic development leaders and a member of the leadership team of the Workforce Solutions Group. Prior to assuming his position at the Association, Mr. Gillis was the Chief Economic Development Officer for the cities of Boston and Fall River. He received his Master's degree from Boston University where he is currently a Ph.D. candidate in urban sociology and sociology of education. He also completed the Program for Management

Development at the Harvard Business School. He has served on a number of Boards of Directors including the US Small Business Administration Massachusetts Council and the New England Shelter for Homeless Veterans. He is currently a board member of the Early Education for All Advisory Committee and the National Workforce Association.



Carol Grady

Carol is Chief Operating Officer for Jewish Vocational Service (JVS). She is responsible for all JVS programs and services, human resources, volunteers, and the Massachusetts One-Stop Career Center. Carol and her team work with key Boston area employers, active job seekers, career changers, and those seeking educational opportunities leading to new skills and careers.

In the past several years at JVS, Carol and her teams have built the largest employer based education and training program in Boston, established the Healthcare Training Institute, implemented a new Adult Diploma Program, expanded the Bridges to College program and started new skills training programs in nursing and pharmacy tech. Carol and all JVS staff work hard to understand the changing marketplace and develop or enhance programs and services to meet the demands. Most recently JVS was awarded the \$10M Pay for Success Social Impact Bond which will expand services in the areas of skills training, college enrollment, ESOL classes, and rapid employment services reaching deeper into Boston, East Boston, Framingham, and Lynn communities.

Carol received her BA in Education from the University of Northern Iowa and her Masters in Public Health from East Stroudsburg University.



Kathryn M. Horgan

Kathy Horgan is an executive vice president and chief operating officer for State Street's Global Human Resources (GHR) division. Based in Boston, she is responsible for overseeing the delivery of GHR services and processes to managers and employees globally. She is directly responsible for the HR Business Partner, Employee Relations, and Talent Development organizations. She is also chairperson of the North America Regional Benefits Committee (NARBC).

Prior to joining State Street in 2009, Ms. Horgan was an executive vice president of human resources for Old Mutual Asset Management, where she was responsible for the delivery of HR strategy and services supporting their institutional multi-boutique operating model. Prior to that, she spent more than 10 years at Mellon Financial Corporation as human resources director for their global asset management business. Prior to Mellon, she was a human resources manager at Boston Scientific Corporation. She began her career with Baxter Healthcare Corporation.

Ms. Horgan has more than 25 years of human resources experience and graduated from Cornell University with a bachelor's degree in industrial and labor relations.

Speakers Biographies

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Jill Houser

Jill has been the Regional Director of Region I Office of Apprenticeship, since October 2007. Located in Boston, Jill serves as a liaison between the National Office and the State Apprenticeship Agencies of Region I and directs the efforts of federal staff in the promotion and oversight of registered apprenticeship programs.

Prior to being selected as Regional Director, Jill served as Regional Executive Assistant, New Hampshire State Director and Apprenticeship and Training Representative with the Bureau of Apprenticeship and the Office of Apprenticeship, Employment and Labor Services. Jill has served on several national teams including the Diversity Team, Data System Team and Infrastructure and Capacity Team. Before joining the Department of Labor in 1991, Jill distinguished herself as the first woman in New Hampshire to gain journey worker status as both a carpenter and a millwright. She taught at a private school in New Hampshire before beginning her adventure in the construction trades. She has received numerous awards including the Secretary's Compliance Assistance Award and the Secretary's Exceptional Achievement several times.

Jill earned two Bachelor Degrees at the University of Wisconsin, Madison and completed her coursework for a Master's in Adult and Occupational Education at the University of New Hampshire. She completed an apprenticeship as a carpenter and millwright.



Dan Hunter

Dan Hunter is a founding partner of Hunter Higgs, LLC, an advocacy and communications firm specializing in cultural non-profits. Hunter is the originator of the Creative Challenge Index, a public policy initiative to increase the priority of creative work in public schools. Hunter led and consulted on successful campaigns for the Creative Challenge Index (also known as the Innovation Index) in Massachusetts and Oklahoma.

Hunter is a frequent keynote speaker at conferences; and, with his 30 years of experience in politics, he is an astute strategist. He also conducts advocacy training and creative thinking seminar, entitled How Can I Be Creative When I'm Too Busy Working.

He is the former executive director of the Massachusetts Advocates for the Arts, Sciences, and Humanities (MAASH) a statewide advocacy and education group. An award-winning playwright, songwriter and humorist, Hunter also has 25 years' experience in politics and arts advocacy, serving as Director of the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs (a cabinet appointment requiring Senate confirmation) and running a successful advertising and political consultancy firm in Des Moines. As director of MAASH, Hunter successfully campaigned for cultural facilities funding and an increase of 70% in cultural funding during a time when the total state budget increased by only 14%.

He is the author of many plays, three books of humor and co-author with Massachusetts Senator Stan Rosenberg of the advocacy chapter for the textbook, Fundamentals of Arts Management, published by the University of Massachusetts Arts Extension Service.

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Speakers Biographies



Marty Jones

After spending decades in the real-estate industry, Marty Jones became MassDevelopment’s first female president and CEO in May 2011. She has set new priorities for the Agency, the Commonwealth’s quasi-public economic-development authority, to leverage its investments in focusing on promoting affordable housing, protecting the state’s six military installations, and creating new opportunities in advanced manufacturing. At the same time, Jones serves as an inspiration for women in the finance and real estate industries.

During her tenure, Jones has spearheaded development of several new loan products at the Agency, including financing to support hiring at manufacturing and emerging technology companies; played a key role in the Patrick Administration’s Military Asset and Security Strategy Task Force; and overseen more than \$5 billion in investment in the Massachusetts economy. Jones has also overseen a new signature real estate project at the Agency: an expansion of the Myles Standish Industrial Park in Taunton with a focus on the Commonwealth’s vital life sciences industry. Finally, under her leadership, MassDevelopment has organized a series of first-in-the-state regional academies for local officials and leaders to discuss best practices in economic development.

Prior to MassDevelopment, Jones was president of Boston building, development, and property management company Corcoran Jennison where she managed staff and project teams for new development projects that transformed communities, directed asset management for multifamily portfolios, chaired a joint venture between Corcoran Jennison and Beacon Communities, and directed all aspects of the Westminster Company, a 175-employee operation with 66 properties and 5,000 apartment units in North and South Carolina.

Jones got her start at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in both the Washington and Boston offices. A member of the Board of Directors of MassEcon and the New England Council, and a national trustee of the Urban Land Institute, Jones graduated from Brown University and resides in Winchester.



Rachel Kaprielian

Secretary Rachel Kaprielian oversees the Commonwealth’s five labor and workforce regulatory agencies: the Departments of Unemployment Assistance, Career Services, Labor Standards, Industrial Accidents, and Labor Relations. She also manages the Joint Task Force on the Underground Economy and Employee Misclassification, working with the officials in the Patrick Administration and across state government to combat workplace fraud and protect exploited workers. Sec. Kaprielian also oversees Commonwealth Corporation, a quasi-public agency focused on designing and implementing workforce strategies with external partners to address existing skills gaps and keep Massachusetts economically competitive.

A lifelong Massachusetts resident, Secretary Kaprielian has a successful track record in customer service and governmental management. From 2008 to 2014, she served as Registrar at the Registry of Motor Vehicles (RMV) Division of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) where she spearheaded the multi-year strategy to dramatically expand and improve online transactions available to the state’s 4.7 million drivers and their 5.8 million registered vehicles.

Prior to her role as Registrar, Kaprielian served from 1995 to 2008 as State Representative for Watertown and Cambridge where she displayed a keen dedication to constituent services, smart business strategy and consumer- friendly policy reform. Kaprielian has advocated for a wide range of issues including municipal and regional organizational reforms, aggressive anti-tobacco policies, early intervention programs for at risk children, expanded and inclusive special education programs, comprehensive pension reform and innovative job training initiatives.

Secretary Kaprielian earned her B.A. from the College of the Holy Cross. An attorney, she holds a J.D. from Suffolk University Law School, as well as a Master’s Degree in Public Administration from the Harvard Kennedy School. She has served on the boards of numerous community and civic organizations including the Watertown Boys and Girls Club, Blue Cross/Blue Shield Foundation, JFK Library New Frontier Committee and Mount Auburn Hospital. Her personal interests include running, cooking, traveling and enjoying time and adventure with her wonderful friends and family, and most especially, her son Will.

Speakers Biographies

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Chris Kealey

Chris Kealey is Deputy Director of the Massachusetts Business Roundtable (MBR), a non-profit business organization of CEOs and senior executives from major employers across the Commonwealth. Working with business leaders from a variety of sectors, Mr. Kealey addresses public policy challenges in education, transportation, health care and taxation to improve the long-term strength of our economy in Massachusetts. Most recently, Mr. Kealey served as Chief of Staff and Communications Director for the Massachusetts

Technology Collaborative. He managed all external communications and worked with the executive team to advance technology-based solutions that strengthened regional economies, improved the healthcare system, expanded high speed Internet access, and stimulated cluster growth.

Mr. Kealey has 20 years of experience as a senior government affairs and communications executive in economic development, real estate development, life sciences, clean energy, human services and taxation. He previously served as Chief of Staff and Communications Director at the MassDevelopment and as Communications Director for the Department of Revenue's Child Support Enforcement program.

Mr. Kealey serves on the Massachusetts Workforce Investment Board, the Executive Team of the Workforce Solutions Group, and serves as Chair of the Governance Committee as a member of the Board of Directors for Teachers21. In 2012, Department of Revenue Commissioner Amy Pitter appointed him to the DOR Advisory Council.

He received his undergraduate degree from the College of the Holy Cross. He lives in Medway with his wife and three daughters.



The Honorable Joseph P. Kennedy

Joseph P. Kennedy III is proud to serve the Fourth District of Massachusetts in Congress.

Having dedicated his career to public service, Joe brings a firm commitment to social justice and economic opportunity to the U.S. House of Representatives. Elected in November of 2012, he represents a diverse district that spans from the suburbs of Boston to the more industrial towns of Massachusetts' South Coast.

Prior to seeking office, Joe served the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as an Assistant District Attorney in both the Middlesex County and Cape and Island's District Attorneys' Offices. A graduate of Harvard Law, he was an active member of the school's Legal Aid Bureau – a pro-bono law firm that provided legal services to low-income families around Boston. During that time he also co-founded an afterschool program for at-risk youth in the Boston area with his wife, Lauren.

Earlier in his career Joe served as a member of the Peace Corps in the Dominican Republic where he designed and implemented an economic development project that helped create jobs and increase the standard of living in an isolated community near Puerto Plata. Joe has also worked as an international development analyst for the United Nations' Millennium Project and as an anti-poverty consultant abroad. He is fluent in Spanish and currently sits on the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, as well as the House Committee on Science and Technology.

Born and raised in Massachusetts, Joe holds a bachelors degree in Management Science and Engineering from Stanford University. He lives with his wife, Lauren, and their dog, Banjo, in Brookline, Mass.

Speakers Biographies



Bob LePage

Mr. LePage is the Vice President of Foundation and Workforce Training for Springfield Technical Community College (STCC). In his role he serves as Executive Director of Training and Workforce Options, a regional collaborative between STCC and Holyoke Community College focused on enhancing and accelerating the performance of industry in the Western Massachusetts region. As such he serves in a leadership role to support a recently formed partnership between the Massachusetts Gaming Commission, casino developers, community based organizations and the Commonwealth's fifteen community colleges to provide workforce

development strategies for the emerging casino industry. Additionally, he supports the STCC Foundation Board's mission as a catalyst of student success, economic development, and workforce partnerships.

Prior to joining STCC, he served over the last decade as Vice President of a leading national educational consulting firm specializing in, strategic planning, workforce development and institutional advancement services. He has assisted over 150 colleges as well as a number of state systems on workforce oriented industry sector partnership development, career pathways and facility development initiatives. He joined the consulting group as the lead consultant for ACT, Inc. in the creation of a network of over two hundred and fifty workforce development certification, training, and assessment centers in partnership with community and technical colleges across the country.

Mr. LePage holds a Master's of Business Administration from the University of Massachusetts and dual Bachelor of Science degrees in Marketing, and Finance & Insurance from Northeastern University.



Loh-Sze Leung

Loh-Sze Leung is the former executive director of SkillWorks: Partners for a Productive Workforce. Prior to SkillWorks, Ms. Leung was the assistant executive director of the Los Angeles Youth Opportunity Movement, a youth education and workforce development program of the City of Los Angeles. Ms. Leung has also served as a program development, research and fund raising consultant for organizations including the Los Angeles Regional Foodbank, the Los Angeles Alliance for a New Economy, Peace Games, the Boston Private Industry Council, and the Commonwealth Corporation. Ms. Leung has a Masters of Public Policy from the UCLA School

of Public Affairs with a concentration in community economic development. She is a founding member of Saffron Circle, the first Asian American giving circle in Boston, and also serves as a member of the Governor's Advisory Council on Refugees and Immigrants. Loh-Sze is now living in Dallas and working as an independent consultant advising national and local foundations, nonprofits and funder collaboratives in the areas of workforce development and education.



Ruthie Liberman

Ruthie Liberman is Vice President of Public Policy at Crittenton Women's Union (CWU). She directs CWU's advocacy efforts to shape public policy and achieve social change that will help lift low-income families out of poverty and into the middle class. Ruthie assumed her current position in 2008, after having administered many of CWU's programs from 1996 through 2003, and again from 2005-2008. Her hands-on experience invaluablely informs her current public policy work. Before joining CWU, Ruthie worked at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and Brigham and Women's Hospital and ran a pediatric and family AIDS program

at Dimock Community Health Center for six years.

Her previous public policy experience includes serving as the Director of Public Policy for Planned Parenthood in Los Angeles and a Senate Fellowship in the California Legislature. Ruthie received her bachelor's degree from Pomona College in Claremont, Calif. and a master's degree in public administration from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

Speakers Biographies

THE WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS GROUP



Katherine Mainzer

Katherine Mainzer has over 25 years experience in public policy development, media relations, and legislative advocacy. An innovative coalition builder and entrepreneur, she has served as the Director of Advocacy and Communications at the Strategy Group since 2008. Kathie also serves as Director of the Workforce Solutions Group, a statewide coalition working to improve job training and skills development.

As Executive Director of the Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless, Kathie helped pass legislation and develop policies to remediate homelessness. As Founder of Citizens for Safety, Kathie brought community leaders together to create the Boston Gun Buyback program, implement community policing and increase funding for youth development programs.

In 1993, Kathie and three colleagues opened Bella Luna Restaurant in Jamaica Plain. For 21 years, Bella Luna and the Milky Way Lounge have served as a catalyst for economic revitalization and a gathering spot for families. Kathie has served as President of the local business association, as well as on the board of the Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Development Corporation, Mass. Law Reform Institute, National Coalition for the Homeless, and the MA State Welfare Advisory Board. Kathie holds a Masters in Public Administration from the JFK School of Government at Harvard University and lives in Roslindale.



David C. McCabe

David C. McCabe is President of Eaton Vance Investment Counsel and Eaton Vance Trust Company and provides investment management services to private accounts, foundations and endowments.

Prior to joining Eaton Vance Investment Counsel in December 2005, David served as President of Voyager Asset Management (MA). In addition to his role as President, he also was responsible for providing portfolio management services to both institutions and private investors. David also spent a number of years at Cowen & Company, where he actively managed client portfolios and served as a member of the research department, specializing in technical analysis and market strategy. David is a graduate of Harvard College.



James (Jamie) Merloni, III

Since May of 1999, Jamie Merloni has served as Training Director for the New England Laborers' Training Trust Fund. In his capacity as Training Director, Jamie is responsible for overseeing all of the programs offered at the New England Laborers' Training Academy (N.E.L.T.A.) Hopkinton, Massachusetts site and is continuously meeting the special needs and requests of signatory contractors and local unions. He currently serves as a key committee member of the Construction Career Day programs held in Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

The purpose of this program is to provide high school students with hands-on experience and an interactive approach to the numerous career opportunities available in the construction industry.

Jamie not only serves an important role in the Laborers' Apprenticeship Program, but was also extremely instrumental in the development and creation of a Construction Craft Laborers' Program at the Medford Vocational Technical High School in Medford, Massachusetts; the New England Laborers'/Cranston Public Schools Construction & Career Academy in Cranston, Rhode Island; and, the Tri-County Regional Vocational Technical High School in Franklin, Massachusetts. This program provides high school students with first-hand information, insight, and technical education in the Construction Craft Laborers' program and affords students career opportunities in the field of construction.

Speakers Biographies



Cathy Elizabeth Minehan

Cathy E. Minehan is the Dean of the School of Management at Simmons College. The Simmons MBA program is rated #1 in opportunities for women by the Princeton Review and #5 “Green” MBA. The Simmons program was also ranked in the top 20 MBA programs internationally for integrating social responsibility and sustainability by the Aspen Institute, Business and Society Program.

Ms. Minehan retired from the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston in July 2007 after 39 years with the Federal Reserve System, having served as the President and Chief Executive of the Boston Bank and a member of the Federal Open Market Committee from July 1994 on. She is considered an expert in the U.S. payment systems and was a key figure in the operation of and policy setting for the key payment and securities systems operated and regulated by the Federal Reserve System. Ms. Minehan is a graduate of the University of Rochester and is a member of the University’s Board of Trustees. She holds an MBA from New York University and was named a distinguished Alumna from New York University in 1995. She also serves as Managing Director of Arlington Advisory Partners LLC, an entity she uses to house her various profit and non-profit positions. Ms. Minehan is a director of VISA Inc., and the Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company. She is also Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Massachusetts General Hospital, a Board Member of Partners Healthcare System, she is chair of the Boston Women’s Workforce Council and Chairman of the Massachusetts Governor’s Council of Economic Advisors. She serves on a number of other non-profit boards in the areas of health care, education and public broadcasting. She is an elected fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and a recipient of many other honors and distinctions.



Mayor Jon Mitchell

Taking office in January 2012, Jon Mitchell is New Bedford’s thirty-eighth mayor. In November 2013, he was the first sitting New Bedford mayor since 1866 not to be opposed for reelection.

Jon has sought to re-establish New Bedford as one of the leading cities in the Northeast. Since he took office, New Bedford has moved aggressively to reform its school system, to modernize the Port of New Bedford, to solidify the downtown’s status as the cultural and economic center of Southeastern Massachusetts, and to raise the quality of life of every neighborhood. Under Jon’s leadership, New Bedford has emerged as one of the greenest cities in the United States. According to the Wall Street Journal, New Bedford is second only to Honolulu in solar energy production per capita, and, as the staging port for the Cape Wind project, it is about to become the birthplace of the American offshore wind industry.

Jon’s roots are deeply imbedded in New Bedford. He was born in the city, and hails from a local fishing family that included his grandfather, Alexander Mitchell, whose name is inscribed at the Seaman’s Bethel among local fisherman lost to the sea. The son of public school teachers, Jon was raised in New Bedford and North Dartmouth, and attended local public schools.

Jon attended Harvard College, where he funded his tuition with financial aid and by working in factories and warehouses back home during the summers. After graduating from Harvard with a degree in economics, Jon went to work in Washington, D.C., and remained there to attend law school at George Washington University. Upon graduation, Jon began work as a federal prosecutor in the United States Department of Justice. As one of the youngest federal prosecutors in the country, Jon successfully prosecuted both violent crime cases in the District of Columbia, as well as major white collar crime cases in various parts of the country.

After three years, Jon returned to Massachusetts, where he worked briefly at the Massachusetts Attorney General’s office prosecuting public corruption cases, before leaving for private practice at a major Boston law firm. After paying off his remaining student loans, he returned to the role of federal prosecutor as an Assistant United States Attorney in Boston, in which he prosecuted cases in the areas of white collar crime, firearms, narcotics, environmental crime, and public corruption

Speakers Biographies

THE WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS GROUP



Mayor Alex Morse

Alex Morse was born and raised in Holyoke and is a proud product of the city's public schools. He is an alumnus of Brown University with a degree in urban studies, becoming the first in his family to graduate from college. On January 3, 2012, Alex B. Morse was sworn in as the youngest Mayor in the history of the city of Holyoke at the age 22.

Since taking office, economic development has been his number one priority. In his first year alone, Mayor Morse launched several new initiatives and incentives that have already catalyzed new growth – helping both retain existing businesses and attract new development. In education, the Mayor has made early literacy a major priority. With help from the United Way, he created a Community Literacy office in City Hall and launched a campaign to increase 3rd grade reading scores. Mayor Morse has also made public safety a top priority. He has been a proponent of community policing strategies that have decreased crime statistics to a record low. By putting officers back on foot and bike patrol, launching a mobile community policing unit and new K-9 unit, 2012 was the first year in over 25 years that Holyoke was without a recorded homicide.

Mayor Morse's success has provided national attention to Holyoke, helping to attract innovative minds that want to be a part of what's happening in the Paper City. Mayor Morse recently was sworn in to a second term, and will continue to market Holyoke as a great place to live, work, and have fun.



Chris O'Donnell

Since 2003, Chris O'Donnell has been the Business Manager of I.A.T.S.E. Local 481, the local union that represents the technicians and crafts people who work on film and television productions in New England. He is a founding member of the Massachusetts Production Coalition, the leading voice of the industry in Massachusetts, and has served on the Board since 2005. Before becoming Business Manager of Local 481, Chris was a freelance Boom Operator for 20 years and worked on dozens of feature films and television projects including "Spider-man", "A Simple Plan", "My Best Friend's Wedding", and "Against the Law," the last episodic TV series to shoot in Massachusetts.



Guy Pacitti

Guy Pacitti is the Global Director of Leadership for IBM Software Group. He is responsible for the end-to-end global leadership and management development approach to accelerate IBM Software Group's business results. He designs and executes programs focused on addressing current and future senior leadership needs of the organization. He leads a team of 20 HR professionals responsible for succession planning; identification, assessment, development and placement of leaders. The team is accountable for the programs and initiatives which drive the identification and development of current and future leaders of the organization. Prior to this, he served as the HR Executive leading the HR function for Lotus Software where he provided direction to HR professionals globally; and focus areas included labor cost analysis, leadership, performance management, career development, integrating employees from acquired companies and resource management. He has been employed by IBM since 1999. Prior to this, he was Director of Human Resources for The Weber Group, a Cambridge, Massachusetts-based consumer and technology public relations consulting firm for ten years. He holds a bachelor's degree from Ithaca College in Ithaca, York.

Speakers Biographies



Susan Quinones

Susan L. Quiñones is the Executive Director of the Massachusetts Workforce Professionals Association (MWPA), a non-profit membership organization. MWPA members include the Massachusetts One-Stop Career Centers and Workforce Investment Act Fiscal Agents committed to spreading best practices and promoting high quality services to job seekers and business partners. Prior to joining the MWPA, Susan was Chief-of-Staff to MassDOT Secretary Jeff Mullan.

Susan is an attorney admitted to practice in MA and NY. Before relocating to MA, Susan was a partner with the law firm of Wilson, Elser Moskowitz in New York, NY. Ms. Quiñones holds a Juris Doctor from Georgetown University Law Center in Washington, DC and a Bachelor's degree from Hobart and William Smith College, in Geneva, NY.



Caitlin Reimers

Caitlin is a Director on the Capital Markets Team where she leads the financial structuring and capital raising activities to drive social impact at scale. She brings investment insight to the Product Development Team to create optimized financing solutions tailored to achieve our public and private partners' desired social and financial outcomes for each transaction. Specifically, she drives the development of outcomes pricing, financial projections and risk/return models, builds relationships with investors, and manages the execution of outcomes-based financing transactions. Prior to Social Finance, Caitlin worked in strategic management consulting and asset management.

While at Strategic Value Capital Management, she led due diligence and valuation analysis and made investment recommendations, including timing and portfolio weighting, to the fund manager. During her time at The Parthenon Group, Caitlin drove in-depth market research and best-practice analyses to provide strategic support for prominent education and financial services clients. Committed to supporting enterprise development in low-income communities, she has also had experience facilitating the structuring of offering memorandums for an impact investing fund and assessing microcredit loans for low-income women. From 2010-2012 she served as the pro-bono Director of Finance and Strategy for a start-up fair trade fashion organization. Caitlin holds an MBA with high distinction from Harvard Business School, where she was a Baker Scholar, and a B.A. with honors from The Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University.

Kathy Rentsch

Kathy Rentsch is Dean for the School for Business Engineering & Technology at Quinsigamond Community College. She provides both academic and administrative leadership, establishing collaborative partnerships with industry, educational partners and community agencies and developing grants and other funding proposals to enhance programming. She spearheaded an industry, education and community partner planning effort to secure a \$750,000 National Science Foundation Advanced Technological Education grant to design and launch a public communication campaign on advanced manufacturing. This career awareness effort, called Mass-TEC, informed the statewide awareness campaign—AMP It Up. She has been actively engaged in campus-based implementation of the USDOL TAACCCT/MA Community College Workforce Development Transformation Agenda by developing stackable certificates and more flexible and responsive curriculum pathways leading to industry credentials and employment in six key industries.

Speakers Biographies

THE WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS GROUP



Mayor Dan Rivera

Dan took office in January 2014. He previously served Lawrence as an At Large City Councilor. Dan was elected Vice President of the Council during his second term and chaired the Budget and Finance Committee for three years. Dan led the Council in finding close to \$500,000 to fund police positions during the worst of the City's financial crisis, and initiated a successful campaign to cut the City Council's pay as a sign of fairness and shared sacrifice during tough budget times. Dan has worked to make the city services more responsive, more transparent, and financially healthy. Dan is a member of the Board of Trustees for Northern Essex Community College where he has played a supporting role in the expansion of the college's Lawrence campus.

As a youth Dan was a Boy Scout, a US Air Force Auxiliary Civil Air Patrol Cadet, newspaper delivery boy for the Eagle Tribune, Co-chair, LHS Model United Nations, and high school Senior Class Secretary. Dan Rivera is the son of a single mother who emigrated from the Dominican Republic to find a better life for her family by working in area mills. As the middle boy of a family of four, Dan never had anything handed to him. He has worked hard his entire life and has the experience and educational background to lead the city and restore Lawrence's civic pride.

After high school Dan served the United States as a Military Police officer in Germany where he was deployed to Iraq and Kuwait during Operations Desert Storm and Desert Shield. When he returned home, Dan worked his way through college on the GI Bill at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, where he received his Bachelor's Degree. While at UMass Amherst, Dan was elected by his peers to represent them on the Board of Trustees for the University of Massachusetts system.

One of Dan's proudest accomplishments was becoming manager of the public housing project he grew up in. During his time as a project manager, Dan went to school nights and weekends to earn his Masters degree in Business Administration from Suffolk University. Dan later worked as Economic Development Director for Congressman Marty Meehan before joining the private sector for a career in marketing.



Lew Finfer

Lew Finfer has been the Director of the Massachusetts Communities Action Network (MCAN) since 1985. MCAN is a federation of faith based community improvement organizations with affiliates in the Gateway Cities of New Bedford, Fall River, Brockton, Lynn, Salem, Springfield, and Worcester.

Mr. Finfer has been a community organizer in Massachusetts since 1970, working with neighborhood improvement groups in Dorchester and Somerville in the 1970's, directing the Massachusetts Tenants Organization and then the Massachusetts Affordable Housing Alliance in the 1980's, and as founding co-Director and later Director of Greater Boston Interfaith Organization from 1996 to 2002.

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Speakers Biographies



Linda Rohrer

Linda Rohrer is the Executive Director of Career Source, the Massachusetts One-Stop Career Center that is chartered by the Metro North Regional Employment Board, operated by Middlesex Community College, and located in Cambridge and Chelsea. Annually, Career Source serves over 10,000 job seekers and 500 employers; providing an array of services to help job seekers find their next employment opportunity and assisting employers to find the talent they need. Her career reflects a range of experience from direct service delivery to development, management and leadership of complex, multi-stakeholder, multi-million dollar initiatives. Prior to joining Career Source, Ms. Rohrer served as Vice President and Director of the Center for Workforce Innovation at Commonwealth Corporation. As such, she was responsible for creating and managing industry-focused initiatives to meet employer workforce needs while providing advancement opportunities for workers. Earlier in her career, she worked for the City of Lowell, Office of Employment and Training where her efforts were aimed at developing and implementing workforce development programs for disadvantaged adults and dislocated workers. Ms. Rohrer has a bachelor's degree in social work from the State University of New York and a master's degree in education from the University of Massachusetts.



Lisa Strout

Lisa Strout has been at the helm of the Massachusetts Film Office since June of 2011, and has overseen 70 major film and television productions throughout the state during her tenure. Lisa was formerly the director of the New Mexico Film Office for nearly a decade, during its production boom. She has 34 years of experience in the film industry, including 20 years as a location manager in New England, New York, California, New Mexico, Texas, and Italy. Films include: Mystic Pizza, Falling Down, Dante's Peak, Room with a View and Thirteen Days. Additionally, she managed the New York City offices of Merchant Ivory Productions for two years.

Today, Lisa is happy to be back in her home state, working hard to create jobs, economic opportunities, and build a sustainable film industry within the Commonwealth for thousands of MA residents and many thousands more in the years to come.



Steven Tolman

Steven Tolman of TCU-IAM Local 1089 was elected President of the Massachusetts AFL-CIO at the 54th Constitutional Convention on October 5, 2011. Shortly after beginning work for Amtrak in 1972, Steven got involved in the labor movement. He rose through the ranks of the Transportation Communication International Union and ultimately became the Division Chairman of New England while he continued to work full time for the railroad. He graduated the Harvard Trade Union Program in 1980 and also got involved in his community. He is a past commissioner of the Watertown Housing Authority and is a current member and the former chairman of the Ward 22 Democratic Committee.

When the labor movement asked that union leaders step forward and run for office, he answered the call and ran for State Representative from his community of Allston/Brighton and was elected to the Massachusetts House of Representative in 1994.

In 1998, Steven was elected to the Massachusetts State Senate. He was the first Senate Chairman of the Joint Committee on Mental Health and Substance Abuse, and Vice-Chair of the Senate Ways and Means Committee. Steven was re-elected in November 2010 to a seventh term in the Senate and was a member of the Senate President's leadership team, he resigned the Senate serving as the Assistant Majority Leader.

Steven spent 17 years in the Legislature, fighting for the issues of working families and making sure that labor had a strong voice on Beacon Hill. He also continued his studies at night and received a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Law and Labor Studies at the University of Massachusetts at Boston. He and his wife Susan live in Brighton with their two daughters and son.

Speakers Biographies

THE WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS GROUP



Stanley J. Usovicz, Jr.

Stanley Usovicz is the Regional Director for Verizon – Massachusetts. He is the former Mayor of Salem, Massachusetts, a city of 42,000 on the North Shore. While Mayor, Mr. Usovicz received a number of national and state awards including: America's Most Livable Communities Award 2004; National Trust for Historic Preservation -2005; and the Governor's Smart Growth Innovation Award.

Mr. Usovicz served on the Salem City Council and has led a number of successful economic development efforts in Massachusetts. He currently is chair of the Massachusetts Workforce Board Association, a business-led organization representing the 16 workforce boards and their partners in the state. A graduate of Endicott College in business administration, he received a Masters of Education from Cambridge College.



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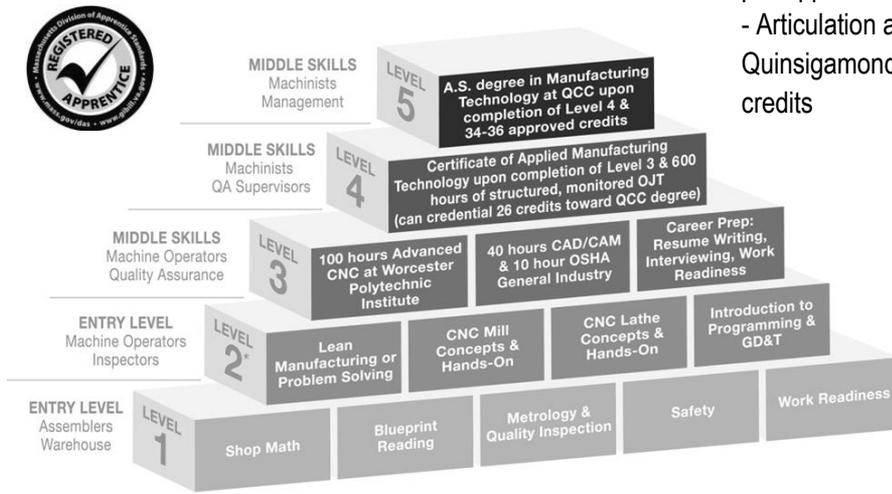
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