2021 Virtual Annual Conference Agenda

Monday, May 17, 2021

10:45 to 11:00 a.m. CDT Welcome

11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. CDT Concurrent Breakout Sessions

**Strategically Virtual: Supporting Job Seekers Online**  
*Michele Martin, Heldrich Center for Workforce Development at Rutgers University*  
This session will share our holistic service model and how we use technology to educate, coach, provide peer support and networking.

**What is Next? We Choose!**  
*Karen Okulicz, K-Slaw, Inc.*  
As we continue to cope with the unknown, we must learn to build our lives in a most positive way. We choose, we decide what is next.

**Auditing – Collaboration Equals Success**  
*Petra Chavez, Arapahoe/Douglas Works!, and Casey Saylor, Arapahoe/Douglas Works!*  
Arapahoe/Douglas Works! will share their collaborative approach to strategic internal monitoring procedures.

**Promoting Equity: Targeted Outreach to Vulnerable Populations**  
*Celina Shands, Full Capacity Marketing, and Maryanne Conlin, Full Capacity Marketing*  
This session is designed to help participants understand why a new recruitment lens is required during COVID-19.

**2020: Foresight, not Hindsight**  
*Josh Davies, The Center for Workforce Ethic Development*  
This session will share four strategies to assist in the development of job seekers to become a resilient and inclusive workforce.

12:00-12:30 p.m. CDT Lunch

12:30-1:00 p.m. CDT Awards Presentation

1:00-2:00 p.m. CDT General Session

**Welcome to Your Future**  
*Mike Fazio, Workforce180*  
This session will share observations and ideas for improving upon the amazing work already being done in your respective organizations!

2:00-2:30 p.m. CDT General Session
Roadmap to Local Advocacy
Kirkland Murray, Maryland State Director, NAWDP Board of Directors

2:30-3:30 p.m. CDT Concurrent Breakout Sessions

Coming Out of Crisis: Capitalizing on Resilience
Debra Thompson, Strategy Solutions, and Michael Lawrence, Community Workforce Advancements
This workshop provides best practices to create a virtual work environment that maximizes employee involvement and stakeholder engagement.

Reducing Stress and Burnout from Serving Angry Customers
Larry Robbin, Robbin and Associates
This session will share strategies that can be used to deescalate anger and help staff and customers get to a place of win win.

Institutionalizing a WIOA System-Wide Framework for Success
Erin Roth, Maryland Department of Labor, and Joe Raymond, ICF
This workshop describes how multiple state and local agencies collaborated in MD to develop a measurable “Benchmarks of Success” framework.

Career Coaching for Spanish Speakers
Celia Garcia, Jobs Skills Institute
This workshop covers social, economic, educational, and workforce strategies to utilize with the Latino English learner (EL) population.

Assessing and Addressing Skills Gaps in Your Workforce Region
Patrick Holwell, Arapahoe/Douglas Works!, and Stephanie Mufic, Arapahoe/Douglas Works!
This session will cover what data is needed for a proper assessment of labor force supply and demand.

Tuesday, May 18, 2021

10:45-11:00 Morning Update

11:00-12:00 Concurrent Breakout Sessions

Make It Stick! 4 Steps to Teaching Soft Skills Virtually
Elisabeth Sanders-Park, The Workplace Excellence Team
This fun and interactive session gives you a practical, proven, and powerful 4-step approach to teaching soft skills.
Upgrade Your Self-Care Software
Amy L. Walsh, Transformation Therapist & Mindset Coach, Peak Alignment LLC
Learn to optimize the algorithms of your mind to increase performance, overcome stress and invite balance into the workplace.

As the World Turns, So Does the Life Cycle of Grant Programs
Dawn Busick, Thomas P Miller & Associates
This workshop will share the life cycle of grant project management and provide examples of effective project management techniques.

The Need and Power of Racial Equity in WD Circles
Darrell “Coach D” Andrews, Darrell Andrews LLC
This workshop will provide attendees with tools to better understand, create, and advocate for equitable systems in their organization.

From Scarcity to Abundance in Apprenticeship and WBL
Jan G van der Hoop, Fit First Technologies
This session will share how an outdated apprenticeship model was reimagined which led to positive outcomes.

12:00-1:00 Concurrent Breakout Sessions

Reimagining Work-Based Learning for 2021 and Beyond
Chris Bernhardt, Grant Associates, and Chandra Smith, Grant Associates
This session provides practical tips for adapting Work-Based Learning programming to remote and blended learning environments.

Burnout Rx
Cheya Thousand, Cheya Thousand Consulting
This workshop will help attendees identify signs of stress and develop the skills to prevent & overcome burnout.

NAWDP Membership & Certification
David Barch, National Association of Workforce Development Professionals
This session will walk you through the requirements and the application process to become a CWDP and a NAWDP Member

How Colorado is Cultivating an Equitable Workforce Ecosystem
Hannah Matthys, Colorado Department of Labor and Employment, and Rudy Sanchez, Colorado Department of Labor and Employment
This session will share strategic EDI initiatives that helped to cultivate a teachable heart for Colorado's entire workforce ecosystem.
All Hands on Deck, Librarians Too!
Tammy Westergard, Nevada State Library; Karsten Heise, Nevada Governors Office of Economic Development; and Mark Andersen, LifeLiqe, LLC
This session focuses on education technology and how librarians are integral to helping people return to work or upskill into STEM fields.

1:00-1:30 Lunch

1:30-2:30 General Session

Career Transition: Turning Theory into Application
Tressa Dorsey, TAD Grants
Career Transition Theory focuses on applying the 4-S model to better assist our job seekers with their career transition.

2:30-3:30 Concurrent Breakout Session

Virtual Job Club
Elizabeth Waigand, Iowa Workforce Development, and Linda Rouse, Iowa Workforce Development
This session will share the Virtual Job Club challenges experienced with technology and coordination at a statewide level.

Zooming in on Success: Creating a Virtual Workplace Balance
Natalie Hodge, ROSS IES, and Kimberly Turner, ROSS IES
This session will offer tips and processes to manage overwhelming feelings while achieving new levels of productivity.

Legislative Update
Robert Knight, Equus Workforce Solutions
This session will share updates on current workforce legislation.

Creating Trauma Informed Workplaces in Equity at Work
Janell Thomas, National Fund for Workforce Solutions, and Greg Martinez, Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership
This session will provide frameworks that other workforce systems can use to begin their journey to becoming trauma-informed.

Building Skilled Talent Pipelines for Target Industries
Carl Kushinsky, Anne Arundel Workforce Development Corporation
This session will share how the Industry Sector Training Model can be used to enhance talent pipelines to maximize results for businesses.
Wednesday, May 19, 2021

10:45-11:00 Morning Update

11:00-12:00 Concurrent Breakout Sessions

**Success with Virtual Services**  
*Bradley Speck, ROSS IES, and Virginia Phelps, ROSS IES*  
This presentation will discuss Virtual Recruitment, Virtual Orientations and Workshops and day to day Virtual Case management techniques.

**Thriving Instead of Just Surviving**  
*MaryAnn Lawrence, PowerNotes LLC*  
Learn how healthy habits raise your positivity and self-confidence by completing an ongoing assessment of your life goals and values.

**From Business to Community Outreach in a COVID-19 Economy**  
*Walter Simmons, Employ Prince George’s, and Arian Tyler, Employ Prince George’s*  
It’s up to us to turn our usual employer outreach activities into Community Outreach Strategies.

**Five Truths About Racism and How it Impacts Workforce**  
*Mike Fazio, Workforce 180 LLC, and Mahdi Davenport, Soul Focused Group*  
This workshop examines the role of racism in our subconscious and empowers you to take action for the inequitable outcomes racism creates.

**Does Entrepreneurship Training Fit in WIOA Programming? Yes!**  
*Mark Greenberg, BuildEd, and John Hattery, Hattery Consulting Group*  
This fun and interactive session will illuminate how workforce professionals can prepare customers to become their own bosses.

12:00-1:00 Concurrent Breakout Sessions

**Create Your Own Custom, Online Workforce Center Using Tech**  
*Harrison Tonne, Career Edge*  
Learn how boards, cities and counties have put their entire programs online from utilizing a Learning Management and Case Management System.

**Learn How to Use FEAR to Defeat Fear in Your Life**  
*Jeff Jenkins, The Turn Creative Group*  
Learn how to take back control of your life and learn the power of using FEAR to defeat the very fears you face.
Strategies for Equity and Inclusion
Brian Ingram, National Disability Institute, and Melissa Turner, U.S. Department of Labor Office of Disability and Employment Policy (ODEP)
This interactive session will provide resources that support the WIOA Section 188 equal opportunity and non-discrimination requirements.

The Power of Pandemic Partnerships for Blended Learning
Melody Daniel, KRA Corporation, and Sandy Mead, MedCerts LLC
This workshop provides strategies to virtually engage and support participants and offers best practices that can be reproduced.

1:00-1:30 Lunch

1:30-2:30 Concurrent Breakout Sessions

Wear Your Purpose: Serving & Excelling in a Virtual World
Malcolm Free, ROSS IES, and Caleb Crow, ROSS IES
Best practices used to connect your purpose to serve your clients through challenges to success.

The Untold Story of the Unstoppable You
Jeff Jenkins, The Turn Creative Group
This session will look at how Improv Comedy helps us discover and uncover 5 simple ways to unleash the Unstoppable You.

Workforce Access and Equity: What is Your Role?
Megan Ingram, Thomas P. Miller & Associates, and Nithya Pramekumar, Thomas P. Miller & Associates
This session covers how workforce development can be advanced through DEI by building a talent pipeline that is reflective of our society.

Paychecks vs Paystubs – Embedding Financial Literacy Training
Amanda Wolosz, Grant Associates
This session will share strategies and best practices for integrating financial literacy into workforce service delivery and training.

2:30-3:30 General Session

Apprenticeship
Melissa Robbins, NAWDP CEO; Crosby Brito, Workforce Solutions – Gulf Coast Workforce Board; and Nicholas Morgan, Adaptive Construction Solutions, Inc.
Join us for a candid discussion on how to get an apprenticeship program going in your local area with people who have actually done it!