

Vision / Implementation / Partnership

MASSACHUSETTS

WiOA

WORKFORCE INNOVATION & OPPORTUNITY ACT

Partner Reconvening

Energizing local partnerships



January 8, 2018
Worcester State University
486 Chandler Street
Worcester, MA 01602

Agenda

- 8:00am (45 minutes) Arrival/Continental Breakfast**
- 9:00am (15 minutes) Welcome and Building Partnerships for a Strong Economy** *Secretary Rosalind Acosta*
- 9:15am (45 minutes) Continuing to Move Forward Through Partnerships** *Undersecretary Jennifer James-Price, Director Alice Sweeney*
- 10:00am (90 minutes) Local MOUs and Ongoing Partnerships Panel** Local Workforce Boards and their Partners share successes and challenges from their collaborative efforts to operationalize partnerships at the career centers.
- 11:45am (45 minutes) Accessibility: Foundation for Digital Experience and Future of Work**
Digital Accessibility is the foundation for user experience and the future of work. Traditionally focused on providing equal access to people with disabilities, Accessibility has become a strategic imperative in providing a personalized experience on any device so everyone, regardless of age or ability, has equal access to skills acquisition and employment opportunities. The speakers will share emerging trends, accessible technology overview and insight into creating a programmatic approach to embed accessibility in an enterprise setting.
Frances West, Founder, FrancesWestCo, former IBM Chief Accessibility Officer, Becky Gibson, Chief Technologist, FrancesWestCo
- 12:30pm (45 minutes) Motivational Interviewing**
The principles and structure for Motivational Interviewing will be discussed as well as how this customer centered approach to interviewing is beneficial to both customers and staff.
Angela Cooper, Boston Medical Center
- 1:15pm (15 minutes) Next Steps and Closing**
Alice Sweeney

WIOA Core Partners Represented

Massachusetts Workforce Development Board
Department of Career Services
Department of Unemployment Assistance
Massachusetts Commission for the Blind
Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission
Adult and Community Learning Services
Department of Transitional Assistance
Senior Community Services Employment Program
Department of Veterans' Services
Executive Office of Community Colleges
Division of Apprentice Standards
Commonwealth Corporation

Local Workforce Development Boards

Berkshire County Regional Employment Board
Boston Private Industry Council
Bristol Workforce Investment Board
Brockton Area Workforce Investment Board
Cape and Islands Workforce Development Board
Central Massachusetts Workforce Investment Board
Franklin Hampshire Regional Employment Board
Greater Lowell Workforce Development Board
Greater New Bedford Workforce Investment Board
Regional Employment Board of Hampden County
Merrimack Valley Workforce Investment Board
Metro North Regional Employment Board
Partnerships for a Skilled Workforce (Metro South/West)
North Central Massachusetts Workforce Investment Board
North Shore Workforce Investment Board
South Shore Workforce Development Board

Speakers and Presenters

Rosalin Acosta is the Secretary of the Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development. Prior to joining the Baker-Polito Administration she was a widely respected financial and banking service professional with over thirty years of experience in Greater Boston financial institutions, most recently as Senior Vice President and Managing Director for Enterprise Wealth Management at Enterprise Bank in Lowell, where she oversaw the operations of the bank's Wealth Management and Brokerage divisions since 2013. Secretary Acosta has also worked in senior executive roles at TD Bank and Sovereign Bank (now Santander). She has served in many community and civic capacities, including as a Board Member of The Boston Foundation, a Board Overseer at Boston Children's Hospital since 2009, where she was a founding member of Milagros Para Ninos, and a 14-year Member of the Boston Chapter of the Association of Latino Professionals For America (ALPFA). Acosta was a Director and Planning Member of the Merrimack Valley Workforce Investment Board and was appointed a Northern Essex Community College Trustee by Governor Baker in 2016. Secretary Acosta has been named one of Boston's Most Influential Women by the Women of Harvard Club in 2014, where she serves on the Leadership Committee, and El Planeta's Top 100 Most Influential Hispanics in Massachusetts for three consecutive years. Born in Cuba, she earned a Bachelor of Arts from Wesleyan University in Connecticut where she was a member of the Women's Varsity Ice Hockey Team. She is the proud mother of five children and an avid traveler, runner and cyclist.

Angela Cooper (LCAT) Angela is a Licensed Creative Arts Therapist, consultant and trainer. For the last 15 years, Angela has worked in nonprofit organizations with adolescents and young adults involved with the criminal justice system, the foster care system and with histories of trauma and substance use. Angela has been practicing Motivational Interviewing since 2008 and was trained by MINT in 2012. She has since trained community based organizations, school personnel, and police and probation officers across New York City and the greater Boston area to use Motivational Interviewing, Cognitive Behavioral Therapy techniques, and to be trauma informed in their work with vulnerable populations.

Speakers and Presenters

Becky Gibson Becky is a globally recognized expert in the field of digital inclusion and enabling accessible solutions and is the Chief Technologist at FrancesWestCo. Her extensive career as IBM's senior architect has impacted products, customer strategy, and industry standards. She is passionate about making Web and mobile applications usable for people of all abilities. She participated in the creation of W3C Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.0 (WCAG) and developed and evangelized the Accessible Rich Internet Applications (ARIA) specification. Becky is a recognized expert in the accessibility field and works with clients, partners and an invited speaker at conferences.

Jennifer James-Price serves as the Undersecretary of Workforce Development for the Massachusetts Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development. She directs the Workforce Skills Cabinet on behalf of the Baker-Polito Administration. The Workforce Skills Cabinet develops signature policy initiatives to align education, workforce, and economic systems to address job growth and hiring demand in regions across the state. The Cabinet is made up of the Secretary of Labor and Workforce Development, Secretary of Education, and the Secretary of Housing and Economic Development. Prior to this post, Jennifer served as the deputy director at the state's Department of Workforce Development beginning in 2001 after earning a master's degree in urban development and city planning from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. She received an undergraduate degree in social work from the University of New Hampshire.

Alice Sweeney is the Director at the Massachusetts Department of Career Services. Her career includes 41 years serving in the workforce development field at both the Municipal and State level. Ms. Sweeney has held various management positions throughout her nearly 30 year tenure with the Commonwealth. At the municipal level for 7 years she served as Operations Manager of the Chelsea CETA Training Center, and 3 years as Operations Manager of Employment Connections, Inc and served 2 years as Chief of Staff to the Mayor of Chelsea representing the CEO on the Local Board. Ms. Sweeney holds a B.S. in Business Education from Salem State University. Ms. Sweeney is an active member of the National Association of State Workforce Agencies (NASWA) participating on the Veterans Affairs Committee, Chair of the Mark Sanders Award Sub-Committee and past Chair of the Employment and Training Committee.

Speakers and Presenters

Frances West Frances West is currently the founder of FrancesWestCo, a company providing strategic digital inclusion and accessibility technology advice to help institutions achieve innovation and market expansion. Her in-depth knowledge comes from being IBM's first Chief Accessibility Officer and holding a variety of global sales, marketing, alliance management, and research executive positions. Frances is an internationally recognized keynote speaker and a leader in engaging with government, private, and non-profit for technology-led strategic initiatives solving complex problems. She is also the Chair of the Strategy & Development Committee of G3ict, a UN-affiliated organization focused on IT inclusion. Frances was born in Taiwan and attended universities in Hong Kong and the US. She also holds an Honorary Doctor of Science degree from the University of Massachusetts, Boston.

Local MOUs and Ongoing Partnerships Panel

Bristol Workforce Area:

- Tom Perreira, Executive Director, Bristol Workforce Investment Board
- Nelson Abreu, Director of the Taunton Department of Transitional Assistance.
- Maria Ferreira-Bedard, Executive Director, Southeastern Massachusetts SER-Jobs for Progress, Inc

North Shore Workforce Area:

- Mary Sarris, Executive Director, North Shore Workforce Investment Board
- Sylvia Hosman, Director, North Shore Office of the Department of Transitional Assistance
- Mark Whitmore, Executive Director, North Shore Career Center

Hampden County Workforce Area

- Maura Geary, Director of Workforce Services, Regional Employment Board of Hampden County, Inc.
- Edda Daniele-Johnson, Managing Director of Career Center Services at the Regional Employment Board of Hampden County, Inc.
- Dr. Kermit Dunkelberg, Assistant Vice President for Adult Education and Workforce Development at Holyoke Community College
- Jorge Messmer, Area Director Mass Rehabilitation Commission

Notes
