Building Workforce Partnerships 2017

BREAKING BARRIERS - MAKING CONNECTIONS
Building a Middle-Class Economy for All

MARCH 21-23, 2017
HILTON | ORANGE COUNTY/COSTA MESA

WED thanks the supporting organizations and partners that helped make this event possible:

[Logos of various supporting organizations]

Christina S. Camiling, Agent.
MONDAY, MARCH 20, 2017

4:00 PM – 6:00 PM  
Early Registration Open

TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 2017

PRE-CONFERENCE MEETINGS (BY INVITATION)

9:00 AM – 1:00 PM  
Annual Statewide Rapid Response  
Roundtable Meeting  
(Rapid Response and Business Engagement Professionals)  
(BALBOA BAY)

9:00 AM – 10:00 AM  
New Labor Reps Orientation

10:00 AM – 12:00 PM  
Labor - Annual Statewide Meeting  
(NEWPORT BEACH)

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM  
Amalgamated Transit Unions  
(LAGUNA BEACH)

THIS YEAR’S CONFERENCE WILL FEATURE THREE TRACKS:

(BE/RR) Business Engagement/Rapid Response – Rapid Response and Business Services are two aspects of the larger, ongoing business engagement activities that are done not only through workforce boards, but as part of the larger public service community, through a myriad of partners. This track helps new practitioners not only understand rapid response/layoff aversion, but to see how these services fit into a continuum of services with businesses throughout the business cycle.

(PP) Priority Populations - One important aspect of WIOA is the prioritization on serving the most vulnerable workers—low-income adults and youth who have limited skills, lack of work experience, and/or low basic skills and/or education attainment, as well as serve specific population groups such as the formerly incarcerated, public assistance recipients, the homeless, and English Language Learners.

(HR) High-Road Partnerships - Presentations will highlight how to engage, how to create, how to leverage and how to support labor-management training partnerships in your regional or locale to meet your mission and serve your customers through enduring, quality programs.
1:00PM – 1:30PM

CONFERENCE WELCOME & OPENING
Breaking Barriers, Making Connections (PACIFIC)

John Brauer, Executive Director,
California Labor Federation - WED Program
Julio Perez, Executive Director,
Orange County Labor Federation

1:30PM – 3:00PM

OPENING PLENARY
The View from Washington on Workforce Education and Training (PACIFIC)

MODERATOR: John Brauer, Executive Director,
California Labor Federation - WED Program

PRESENTER: Kermit Kaleba, Federal Policy Director,
National Skills Coalition

As Federal Policy Director, Kermit Kaleba directs the organization’s Washington-based efforts to advance a national skills strategy within federal legislation, agency regulation and national funding initiatives. Mr. Kaleba assists state and local leaders in federal policy advocacy both within Washington and in their home districts and works with National Skills Coalition field staff and partner organizations to help improve state and local implementation of federal programs. Please join us in hearing his insights on both the White House and Congress thinking about workforce development.
Business Engagement 101 (BE/RR)
(NEWPORT BEACH)

MODERATOR: Dan Patterson, California Workforce Development Board
PRESENTERS: Joumana Barakat, Foothill Workforce Development Board
Martha Bader, California Labor Federation
Elizabeth Arteaga, Orange County Small Business Development Center
Pat Richards, NOVA Workforce Development Board
Gerald Washington, City of Glendale, Verdugo Job Center
Ed Wanket, SJC Economic Development Association
Curtis Compton, San Bernardino County Workforce Development Department

Doing What Matters for Strong Workforce and the Economy – Together (BE/RR)
(BALBOA BAY)

MODERATORS: Tony Jaramillo and Brian Halili, JVS - Los Angeles County Rapid Response/ Business Services
PRESENTERS: Nick Esquivel, California Community College Chancellor’s office
Doug Marriott and Roberto Gutierrez, Los Angeles Valley College

The California Community Colleges have made an unprecedented investment in workforce training this year with the $200 million Strong Workforce funding for career and technical education. Each college region has submitted regional plans for how they will use their share of the money, including targeted sectors for training and identified partners for collaboration. Come here from the Chancellor’s office about the program and from the Southern California region about how they are using this money to build on and braid into other funding sources to construct demand-driven training pipeline that serves their local economy and citizens in creating sustainable, high-skilled jobs and flourishing businesses.

Rapid Response and Business Services are two aspects of the larger, ongoing business engagement that we are doing not only through our workforce boards, but as part of the larger public service community, through all of our partners. This year, we are taking a step back to help new practitioners not only understand rapid response/layoff aversion, but to see how these services fit into a continuum of our service with businesses throughout the business cycle. We will be looking at different engagement points along the business cycle and which partners can help us at each step along the way as well as sharing best practices. Other Business Engagement workshops throughout the conference go deeper into these partnerships and build on concepts.
The Barrier Buster! New Ways to Eliminate Barriers to Employment for the Hard-to-Employ! (PP) (EMERALD BAY 1)

**PRESENTER: Larry Robbin**, Robbin and Associates

The approaches people take to help individuals overcome their barriers to employment have remained relatively unchanged for decades. Many of these strategies worked at one time, but they are no match for the powerful and multiple barriers people are struggling with today. This workshop is for the management and staff of any kind of program that does counseling to help people with their employment barriers. You will learn how to uncover people’s strengths and use them to empower people to address their barriers. Find how proactive barrier conversations can make it easier for people to open up about their challenges. Discover how to involve role models to give people hope they can overcome these obstacles to success. Learn how to close the referral gap so people get the help they need. If you want to get cutting edge ideas about how to eliminate barriers to employment, do not miss this workshop!

What Does A State-of-the Art Regional Training Intermediary Look Like (HR) (LAGUNA BEACH)

**MODERATOR: Dan Marschall**, Working for America Institute

**PRESENTER: Rhandi Berth**, Vice-President Director of Industrial Initiatives, Wisconsin Regional Training Partnership (WRTP)/BIG STEP

WRTP/BIG STEP is a 501(c)3 nonprofit workforce intermediary dedicated to connecting people to family-sustaining jobs. Its mission is to enhance the ability of public and private sector organizations to recruit, develop, and retain a more diverse, qualified workforce in construction, manufacturing and emerging sectors of the regional economy. By being industry led, worker centered, and community focused, WRTP/BIG STEP helps under-employed, under-served, and under-represented individuals succeed in well-paying careers while exceeding industry’s workforce needs. This workshop will present insights on the premier regional training intermediary in the country, as well as provide an overall framework for why regional intermediaries like WRTP work for regions and communities.

5:00 PM – 7:00 PM

**HIGH ROAD RECEPTION**
(BRISTOL 3, TERRACE – LOBBY LEVEL)

**DINNER ON YOUR OWN**
7:30 AM  Breakfast Provided

8:30 AM – 10:00 AM  MORNING PLENARY
SlingShot Initiative – Demand Driven Innovation and Collaboration
(PACIFIC 3-4)

MODERATOR:  Amy Wallace, California Workforce Development Board
PANELISTS:  Stephen Baiter, Oakland Workforce Development Board
Patti Castro, Alameda Workforce Development Board
Stephanie Murillo, San Bernardino Workforce Development Board
Angela Gardner and Cyd Spikes, Consultants to Los Angeles SlingShot Initiative

The California Workforce Board’s SlingShot initiative is part of a set of innovative efforts using discretionary money to unleash creativity in the workforce system. The initiative seeds collaborative efforts among stakeholders within a region to identify and solve employment challenges that slow California’s economic engine, using a streamlined application process. Through SlingShot, California’s diverse economic regions have defined goals around shared prosperity and income mobility for workers and employers in their region. Regional differences are the strength of the SlingShot initiative, but there are commonalities in how innovative methods of measurement are applied across the regions. Come hear from several successful projects throughout the state to understand the power of the partnerships and the approach itself.

10:15 AM – 11:45 AM  ROUND 2 WORKSHOPS

Getting Started with Data: Incorporating Real Time Data for Business Engagement into Existing Workflows - (BE/RR)
(NEWPORT BEACH)

PRESENTERS:  Bill Greene and Michele Robertson, Dun & Bradstreet
Cheryl Parker, CEO, The Urban Explorer Inc.
Tamico Thomas and Victoria Lemus, Fresno Workforce Connection
Sandi Miller and John Gonzalez, Tulare Workforce Investment Board
Ed Wanket, San Joaquin County Economic Development Association

The State of CA (EDD and WDB) subscribed to Dun & Bradstreet’s data solutions via D&B Market Insight and The Urban Explorer’s EconoVue six months ago, providing staff licenses to all 48 WDBs and EDD LMI associates. Since that time, all workforce boards have been trained in how to use the tools and database. In this workshop, the WDBs of Fresno, San Joaquin and Tulare counties will demonstrate how they have begun using the software and data in their existing workflow. A discussion among workforce board peers, the software developer and data provider will explore benefits, questions and probe ways to begin to institutionalize these tools to enhance workflow across a variety of WDB functions.
Business Engagement: Mini-Track 101, Tax Incentives for Business Engagement (BE/RR)  
(LAGUNA BEACH)

**PRESENTERS:** Jeff Malin, Governor’s Office of Business and Economic Development - GoBIZ  
Lila Fedler, Franchise Tax Board  
Hatem Kassem, California Board of Equalization

This is the first in our series of Business Engagement Partner mini-track of workshops. In this workshop, we will return to our roadmap of partners and our binder of partner programs, focusing on programs on the state that help business through the provision of tax incentives. The state of California has several programs to assist businesses to grow through the use of tax credits and breaks. We will hear from the Governor’s Office of Business on their California Competes program, the Franchise Tax Board on California’s New Employment and Research and Development Tax Credits, and from the Board of Equalization on programs to assist California’s businesses.

Are You Talking Like Business People Think? How To Get The Private Sector To Work With You! (PP)  
(EMERALD BAY 1)

**PRESENTER:** Larry Robbin

If you want to get jobs, apprenticeships, on-the-job training opportunities, career ladders etc. you need to know how to talk and think like business people. This revealing workshop will take you inside the mind of a private sector businessperson as they hear you try to convince them to work with you. Find out why much of what we say actually inadvertently gives them reasons not to work with us! Learn the hidden reasons they have for not using our services so you can avoid these deadly mistakes. Private sector people live in the world of sales and they will compare your sales approach to what works for them. You can’t just describe what you want to do, you need to learn how to sell it in ways that appeal to them. Talk like business people think and you can open the doors of opportunity wider than you ever thought possible!

Identifying High-Road Industry Opportunities (HR)  
(EMERALD BAY 2)

**MODERATOR:** John Brauer  
**PRESENTER:** Rhandi Berth

WRTP/BIG STEP is a 501(c)3 nonprofit workforce intermediary dedicated to connecting people to family-sustaining jobs. This workshop will highlight WRTP’s successful “Needs Assessment” strategy, which WRTP implements with its Labor, community and industry partners to identify training and placement opportunities and to turn them into real gains for workers and employers. Utilized primarily in the construction and manufacturing sectors, by WRTP, their strategy has real applications across sectors and industries.

CalFresh Employment And Training (E&T) Program (PP)  
(EMERALD BAY 3)

**PRESENTER:** Jessica Bartholow, Western Center on Law and Poverty

The CalFresh Employment and Training (E&T) Program is California’s employment and training program for Non-Assistance CalFresh applicants and recipients. The E&T Program was developed to comply with federal legislation which requires states to established employment and training programs for persons in receipt of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits. Please learn about efforts at the county and state level to bring this valuable tool to a variety of training partnerships.
NOON - 1:30 PM  LUNCHEON PLENARY
The State of the State for Workforce Development and Education
(PACIFIC 3-4)

MODERATOR:  Bob Lanter, Executive Director, CWA
PANELISTS:  Tim Rainey, Executive Director, California Workforce Development Board
Van Ton-Quinlivan, Vice-Chancellor for Workforce Development, California Community Colleges Chancellors Office
Virginia Hamilton, Regional Administrator, DOL Region 6

Over the last 6 years, California has undertaken major efforts to innovate, align and improve the effectiveness of its workforce development and education systems at the state, region and local level. Join us as some of the leaders in those efforts provide updates on their efforts to date, and what the next several years may hold with changes in Washington in 2017 and changes in Sacramento in 2018. Plenary speakers will also provide insight as to how you can be part of those efforts at the regional and local level.

1:45 PM – 3:00 PM  ROUND 3 WORKSHOPS

New Workflow for Proactive Business Engagement: Strategically Elevating Workflow With New Tools - (BE/RR)
(NEWPORT BEACH)

PRESENTERS:  Cheryl Parker, CEO, The Urban Explorer Inc.
Bill Greene and Michele Robertson, Dun & Bradstreet
Tammy Aguilera, Chris Rafter and Barrie Du Bois, San Luis Obispo Workforce Development Board
Nakisa Hupman, work2future workforce development board

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Business Engagement: Mini-Track 2, Hiring Incentives for Business Engagement (RR/BE)
(LAGUNA BEACH)

PRESENTERS:  Julie McElrath, Foothill Workforce Investment Board
Sandi Miller, Tulare Workforce Investment Board
Flechia D. Phillips, Work Opportunity Tax Credits Program, EDD
Chanise Simms-Robinson, United States Veterans Initiative

This is the second in our series of Business Engagement Partner mini track of workshops. In this workshop, we will return to our roadmap of partners and our binder of partner programs, focusing on programs on the state that help business through the use of hiring incentives. In addition to hiring incentives offered through the workforce system, the state of California has several programs to assist businesses to grow and many of our partners also have hiring incentives targeted toward special groups, such as the veterans, who can benefit from special assistance as potential hires. Come hear about some of these special programs and how they can work together in business engagement to help both businesses and job seekers.
Re-Entry & Construction Pre-Apprenticeship,
Creating Careers and Changing Lives,
Welcome to the Flintridge Center (HR)
(EMERALD BAY 1)

**MODERATOR:** Taelor Stamm, Program Manager, California Workforce Development Board

**PRESENTERS:**
- **Daniel Torres**, Job Developer, The Flintridge Center
- **Chris Hannan**, Business Agent, Los Angeles/Orange County Building Trades Council

This workshop will highlight The Flintridge Center, an organization based in Pasadena, with the mission to break the cycle of poverty and violence through community planning, innovation and action. One avenue is through their Apprenticeship Preparation Program (APP), which utilizes the National Building Trades MC3 Curriculum, (and funded by Prop 39), with the goal to prepare and assist previously incarcerated and gang affiliated community members for careers in the construction trades. Unions and the construction industry were selected as our primary focus because apprentices earn dependable hourly wages, receive full benefits, and are not denied employment due to their backgrounds. Come hear about the partnership between the Los Angeles/Orange County Building Trades Council and the APP helping individuals in high-risk circumstances overcome barriers and reach a state of economic stability, ultimately providing them with viable alternatives to repeating offenses, criminal activities, and violence.

Creating a Pathway to Gainful Employment for People Who Experience Barriers (PP)
(EMERALD BAY 3)

**PRESENTERS:**
- **Julie Sinai**, Roberts Enterprise Development Fund, Vice President, Policy & California Initiatives
- **Ashley Cordero**, Initiatives Manager, Social Enterprise Representative – invited

LA:RISE, the Los Angeles Initiative for Social Enterprise, is a partner collaborative that has built an employment pathway from unemployment, to transitional employment, to full time work for opportunity youth or individuals that have been previously homeless or incarcerated. Funded initially by the Department of Labor in a Workforce Innovation Fund Grant, it has now been locally funded by the City of LA General Fund allocation. It is built on the foundation that partnership can improve individual outcomes. Social Enterprises and the LA City Workforce system partner together to better prepare individuals professionally through paid work experience and personally, addressing issues like housing and transportation.

MOBILE UP: Cellphone First Learning for Hard-to-Reach Workers (HR)
(BALBOA BAY)

**PRESENTERS:**
- **Alison Ascher Webber**, Consultant in Mobile Learning & Adult Education, Director of Strategic Initiatives at the EdTech Center at World Education
- **Grazia More**, SEIU-USWW Building Skills Partnership

The California Federation of Labor is leading a workforce innovation project called MOBILE UP in which labor-management training programs are piloting how to bring cellphone-first ESL, Career Education and Coaching to immigrant service workers and other low-wage workers in California. Project leaders the SEIU union and experts in Mobile Learning and Adult Education will share their research into best practices and lessons learned through initial pilot testing with workers in building service, long-term health care and other sectors.

Job Center in a Jail: Building Partnerships for Successful Re-entry to the Workforce (PP)
(EMERALD BAY 2)

**PRESENTER:** Kristen Walker, Sand Diego Workforce Partnership

San Diego County has successfully implemented two specialized America’s Job Centers of California in correctional facilities. The mission for these Job Center’s is to inform the public workforce system on how to best serve the justice involved population. Workshop will provide strategies for working in correctional facilities and key lessons to building partnerships to improve workforce outcomes for this population.
Human Centered Design
Mini Plenary (BE/RR)
(LAGUNA BEACH)

*MODERATOR: Virginia Hamilton*, Regional Administrator, DOL Region 6

**PRESENTERS:** Efrem Bycer, Code for America
Patience Ofodu and Donna Van Wert, Contra Costa Workforce Development Board
Tiffany Garcia, San Diego Workforce Partnership
Jason Hopper, Tulare Workforce Investment Board

Human Centered Design is revolutionizing the way public agencies design services to maximize public participation and benefit from our programs. California is blessed to have one of the national leaders of this movement in Virginia Hamilton, and is home to several programs using the approach that have won awards from the White House. Come hear about these programs and how human-centered design is changing the way we do business and reach our customers.

The Role of Labor-Management Partnerships and Workforce Training in the New Economy -- Perspectives from ETP Contractors (HR)
(NEWPORT BEACH)

*MODERATOR: Peter Cooper*, California Employment Training Panel

**PRESENTERS:** Aida Cardenas, Building Skills Partnership
Deb Moy, Mission College / Transit Apprenticeship for Professional Career Advancement (TAPCA)
Jeff Armstrong, Nor Cal Laborers JATC

Labor-Management partnerships (L-M) can bring significant benefits to workers, employers, unions, and communities, particularly as they relate to workforce training. Unions and employers rarely achieve optimal results alone, but rather must work with other organizations and institutions in their communities, such as community colleges, community-based organizations, and Local Boards. This workshop kicks-off with a description of the role of L-M partnerships in three projects funded by the California Employment Training Panel (ETP) – one in the hospitality sector, one in the construction sector and one in the transportation sector. Then it will provide an open forum for discussing some of the challenges in maintaining a robust L-M partnership as well as the role of L-M partnerships in the New Economy in which work and employer attachments are frequently short-term and precarious.

Breaking Barriers for the Immigrant and Limited English Workforce (PP)
(BALBOA BAY)

*MODERATOR: Jennifer Hernandez*, California Labor and Workforce Development Agency

**PRESENTERS:** Andrew Munoz, Orange County Workforce Development Board
Mary Anne Foo, Orange County Asian and Pacific Islander Community Alliance (OCAPICA)
Erick Serrato, Pacific Gateway Workforce Development Board

Immigrant workers and English Language Learners often face barriers to entry into the workforce system and have been largely underserved for years. As part of our efforts to ensure access to programs to California’s most vulnerable, The California Workforce Development Board and the Labor & Workforce Development Agency recently released a policy memo highlighting best practices to serve English language learners and immigrant workers in California. In light of the memo, this panel will be discussing best practices being implemented by local boards and education partners to recruit and train this target population. However, we will also discuss the best service delivery models for this target population on behalf of AJCCs and CBOs.
Trade and Employment (HR)
(EMERALD BAY 3)

**PRESENTER:** Hugo Romero, Project Coordinator for the UCLA Labor Center on labor and immigrant issues

**Will Wiltschko,** Lead Organizer, California Trade Justice Coalition

**Aaron Lehmer-Chang,** Director, California Trade Justice Coalition

Trade deals, like NAFTA, have consequences related to job elimination, job quality and economic security for workers across North America. Join us for a workshop on the background and critical importance of understanding and building solidarity between the labor and immigrant rights movements.

At this workshop you will learn about the pressing issues facing workers of every legal status and learn how to unite broad-based coalitions seeking an open, transparent process that yields broadly shared economic benefits for working families in Canada, Mexico and the United States while improving environmental health.

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**5:00PM – 7:00PM**

**NO-HOST SOCIAL HOUR:**

**THE MOTH**

We don’t often get time to just share the stories of our work. The Moth is a story telling contest where story-tellers compete for prizes. Come with your best 5-minute stories from the field and let’s have a drink and some fun swapping stories of the highs - or the lows. Extra points for jobs created or saved (and can you document them?), good news of people helped by our work, creativity, and swag. We will have guest judges and a fabulous prize for the best story.
8:00 AM  Breakfast Provided

9:00 AM – 10:15 AM  ROUND 5 WORKSHOPS

Training Incentives for Business Engagement (BE/RR) (LAGUNA BEACH)

Presenters: Yvonne Jonason, Employment Training Panel
Ryan Swier, Employment Training Panel
Wendy Merlino, Riverside Workforce Development Board
Heather Murray, Sutter County Job Center
Bob Huber, EDD Trade Adjustment Assistance

This is the third in our series of Business Engagement Partner mini track of workshops. In this workshop, we will return to our roadmap of partners and our binder of partner programs, focusing on programs in the state that help business through the provision of training incentives. In addition to training incentives offered through the workforce system, the state of California has several programs to assist businesses to grow and workers to thrive. The emphasis in this workshop will be on layering funding sources to create ongoing support for businesses as they grow.

Using Econovue and Dun & Bradstreet for Regional Analysis and Planning (BE/RR) (NEWPORT BEACH)

Presenters: William Greene and Michele Robertson, Dun & Bradstreet
Cheryl Parker, CEO, The Urban Explorer Inc.
Bill Greene and Michele Robertson, Dun & Bradstreet
Nakisa Hupman, work2future workforce development board
Brian Schwartz and Cesar Cortes, Los Angeles County Workforce Development

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Empowering Vulnerable, Underrepresented Populations – (PP)
(EMERALD BAY 1)

**MODERATOR:** Gregg Irish, Executive Director of LA City WDB

**PRESENTERS:** Charlie Woo, Chair of LA City WDB and CEO and Co-Owner of Megatoys
Bamby Salcedo, President and CEO of Trans Latin@ Coalition
Hyepin Im, President and CEO of Korean Churches for Community Development
Mareta Zuniga, President and CEO of Workforce Connections

Los Angeles City Workforce Development Board recently launched an exciting initiative to target and engage several vulnerable underserved populations. Based on research findings and public hearings, seven underserved populations were identified for innovative grant projects. Join the discussion to learn from best practices and challenges. What parallels might there be with your own area’s populations, economy and industry sectors?

Fair Chance Hiring for Workforce Development Professionals: What You Need to Know When Serving People With Records & Potential Employers (PP)
(BALBOA BAY)

**PRESENTERS:** Sonja Tonnesen, Deputy Director, Root & Rebound
Dominik Taylor, Staff Attorney, Root & Rebound

During this interactive workshop, attorneys from Root & Rebound will teach and facilitate a timely discussion about what you need to know when serving, training, and advocating for employment opportunities for clients with criminal records. This workshop will also ensure that you know and can quickly digest critical information about the most up-to-date Fair Chance hiring laws and best practices that both you and your partner-employers must be aware of. Lastly, Root & Rebound’s attorneys will detail important information and next steps for anyone looking for information about finding Fair Chance employers in their area, choosing a reputable background check company, helping clients access clean slate remedies (like expungement and Prop. 47), and much more.

The basis for this training is Root & Rebound’s *California Employers’ Fair Chance Hiring Toolkit*, which was created in partnership with Los Angeles Mayor’s Office of Reentry. Root & Rebound is a proud member of the Los Angeles Blue Ribbon Commission on Employment Equity and the White House’s Fair Chance Business Pledge.
CLOSING PLENARY
(PACIFIC 4)

Transformative Change – The Job Seeker’s Perspective

**MODERATOR:** Larry Robbin, Robbin & Associates

**PRESENTER:** Daniel Torres, Job Developer, The Flintridge Center

In keeping with the theme of the conference, Breaking Barriers – Making Connections, we would like to have a panel presentation at one of the plenary sessions where individuals that have overcome serious barriers to employment success and are now on their way in apprenticeship or career pathways programs can share their stories with the conference attendees.

The goal of this panel is to help the conference attendees learn more about the issues that people face as they try to improve their lives. We also want to highlight the best practices in both programs and support that can help people make progress. We hope these presentations will help to educate and motivate the conference participants so they will improve their programs and services in their communities to help more people be as successful as these positive role models. We also want to show our respect and celebrate the progress that these individuals have made.

*Adjourn Building Workforce Partnerships 2017!*
Thank you and see you next year!
3:13 - 4:45 pm Round I Workshops

KENNEDY

(R) Rapid Response Basics for Practitioners
(Note: This session will last until 5:15pm. By special permission, this session is open to all statewide rapid response coordinators including non-conference attendees.)

Moderator: Martha Bader, California Labor Federation

Presenters: Maricela Hernandez, City of Los Angeles Rapid Response
Nabi Mukhtar, Stanislaus Alliance
Pat Richards, NOVA Workforce Investment Board

Supporting workers through job transition and trying to prevent layoffs are core functions of the Rapid Response system under the Workforce Investment Act (WIA). This session provides an overview of the system’s many parts and partners. Peers from around California will outline requirements, resources, partners, and challenges with tangible examples from diverse areas.

NATIONAL

(R) Working State Technology Tools for Proactive Rapid Response – LMID, CalJobs, and more

Presenters: John Merris-Coots, California Career Zone
Nancy Galoussi, EDD “Super-Trainer”
Anna Sargsyan, EDD “Super-Trainer”

Partners from different state systems are introducing new technologies and tools to assist our work and coordinate all of California’s workforce investment efforts across regions. Come learn about some of the new and existing tools that are required and available for Business Services, Rapid Response and other front line staff.

O’HARE

(SP) Taking Your Sectors to High Wage

Moderator: Gregg Irish, Los Angeles City Workforce Investment Board

Presenters: Adine Forman, Hotelworkers Training Academy
Aida Cardenas, Building Skills Partnership
Shomari David, IBEW Local 11

Learn about and discuss models demonstrating how creative partnerships and workforce investment yields mutual benefit, community investment, and economic development.

MIDWAY

(SP) Workforce and Community Partnerships to Serve Veterans

Moderator: Taro O’Sullivan, Labor Community Services and United Way LA

Presenters: Irene Cruz, USMC, American Legion Women Veterans and SEIU 721 Veterans Caucus
Rennie Wilson, IBEW Local 11
Joe Macias, United Association Local 250

This workshop will focus on how to maximize potential opportunities for veterans by creating community partnerships. The session will discuss best practices for engaging veterans and developing career ladders for this