

Partner Organizations

- 1. <u>AIR</u>: American Institutes for Research is a behavioral and social science research and evaluation organization. AIR's overriding goal is to use the best science available to bring the most effective ideas and approaches to enhancing everyday life.
- 2. BrightHive: Transforming data sharing and transparency among education providers, governments, and employers in the workforce development sector to empower individual job seekers and enable smarter human capital investment decisions at scale. BrightHive helps organizations, networks and communities securely and responsibly link their data to enhance their impact, empower individual and collective decision making and increase equity of opportunity. For far too long, workforce and education stakeholders have struggled to collaboratively share their data with other organizations inside and outside of their network. BrightHive address this challenge by providing the legal, technical and governance framework that empower a collective of organizations to securely connect their data sources and create new shared data resources.

BrightHive is currently working to create a network of workforce boards eager to begin collaborating with their data. Part of this effort will include bringing data together to create a set of regional and/or national outcomes metrics that enable them to draw new insights and improve their ability to make data-driven decisions about how to improve job training program outcomes. Fellows can work with our team to help develop a set of resources for building data-sharing capacity and serve as subject matter experts in the metrics development.

- 3. Coleridge Initiative: Our goal is to change the empirical foundation of social science, statistical and public agencies in the United States and transform understanding of how our society works. We are a fast-growing university-based startup that has already created dozens of pilot projects, worked with over 100 agencies—federal, state and local—and trained over 250 agency staff. Our team is led by world-renowned experts—Rayid Ghani, Robert Goerge, Frauke Kreuter, and Julia Lane—and we are building new technologies housed in a secure computational research platform, the NYU Administrative Research Data Facility, to promote access and discovery of sensitive and confidential microdata. Those technologies are combined with training programs and consulting services to build agency capacity to serve society.
- 4. Government Performance Lab: Speeding up our nation's progress on difficult social problems by improving how state and local government human service agencies function and how their dollars are spent. We hire and train full-time employees, embedding them in government agencies to lead 12-36 months intensive reform projects. GPL conducts research on how governments can improve the results they achieve for their citizens.

- 5. JFF: JFF is a national nonprofit that drives change in the American workforce and education systems to achieve economic advancement for all. JFFLabs provides a critical connection between traditional systems and new technology, financial models, and forward-leaning leaders. Together, we address the challenges to economic advancement faced by students, workers, and the businesses and systems that serve them. Through the AWAKE Initiative, JFFLabs has explored the current state of data and technology within the workforce system. Josh Copus will share examples of how workforce boards are creating more responsive and adaptable organizations through improved tools, technology, and data infrastructure.
- 6. JPAL: JPAL North America works to reduce poverty by ensuring that policy is informed by scientific evidence. We conduct rigorous impact evaluations to generate policy-relevant evidence, policy outreach to inform decision-making, and capacity building to increase the use of evidence among our partners. Our new Work of the Future Initiative focuses on increasing opportunity, reducing disparities, and helping all workers navigate the work of the future. Through this initiative, J-PAL North America partners with leaders to develop randomized evaluations of strategies and innovations that can address the changing nature of work in North America. Partners include workforce development centers, employment and education service providers, and labor departments among others. In addition to developing new randomized evaluations, we build the internal evaluation capacity of our partners and offer trainings and technical assistance to help partners address evaluation challenges. J-PAL North America also connects partner organizations with our global network of affiliated researchers, over 180 professors with deep research expertise, to carry out high-quality randomized evaluations.
- 7. Maycomb Capital: Outcomes financing, often called Pay for Success, has emerged as an innovative way for local governments to pay for what works and improve outcomes for disadvantaged communities. The Community Outcomes Fund is a dedicated pool of mission-driven private capital for outcomes financing. By partnering with the Fund, RFA Workforce Fellows will develop procurements processes and contracts that link payments to priority outcomes, rather than services performed. When payments are tied to outcomes, service providers need working capital to operate. The Community Outcomes Fund provides the upfront capital to deliver evidence-based programs until outcomes are achieved and validated. We are excited to partner with RFA Workforce Fellows to drive better outcomes for individuals and families in their communities while increasing accountability and transparency in the contracting for and delivery of human services. We are looking forward to learning from the Fellows' expertise regarding state and local workforce development needs, providers, and funding mechanisms.
- 8. Social Finance: Social Finance is a national nonprofit organization dedicated to mobilizing capital to drive social progress. Social Finance has pioneered Pay for Success (PFS), a set of innovative financing strategies that directly and measurably improve the lives of those in need. Through PFS, Social Finance partners with governments, foundations, investors and service providers to drive tangible, measurable results for our communities. As an intermediary, Social Finance drives the design and structure of PFS projects, raises the project capital, and provides ongoing active performance management. Ultimately, Social Finance aims to create a world where every individual has the opportunity to thrive: governments make funding decisions on— and pay for—positive social outcomes, high-performing service providers have access to sustainable funding that rewards performance, and impact investors can invest their capital directly in improving lives.

- 9. Federal Reserve Center for Workforce and Economic Opportunity: Our center focuses on employment policies and labor market issues that affect low- and moderate-income individuals. It acts as a bridge between research and practice, connecting researchers, businesses, and policymakers with innovative approaches to creating economic opportunity through education and employment. The center also contributes to economic research and monetary policy discussions by tracking labor market trends affecting low- and moderate-income workers.
- 10. Third Sector Capital Partners: Third Sector uses public funding and data as levers to impact how governments, providers, and their partners work with and improve the lives of the people they serve. This process leads to quantifiable improvements in people's lives by creating new incentives to inspire sustainable operational changes in workforce services and other career pathways efforts. Third Sector can support you in reaching your goals by providing education and case-studies on outcomes-based workforce efforts from other states, as well as by helping you educate and engage key stakeholders in your efforts.

As you develop your goals and efforts, Third Sector can work with you and your team to by facilitating meetings and conversations to help you assess, design and/or implement work in key areas including: population goals (including demographics and disparities), outcome goals (such as education and training, assets, etc.), data (including reviewing data access and quality considerations), programs/providers (such as developing new provider engagement strategies and continuous improvement processes), funding/sustainability, and timing/resources (including evaluating the benefits of financial or non-financial contract incentives).