



THE ASPEN INSTITUTE
OPPORTUNITY
YOUTH
INCENTIVE FUND

grantee convening

aspen co | october 9-11 2017

enhance your experience

ENHANCE YOUR ASPEN EXPERIENCE

This year, we have planned for a range of wellness and outdoors activities and spaces that will offer participants of the OYIF October 2017 Convening an opportunity to enhance their Aspen experience. These include yoga and hiking, as well as designated locations on campus for quiet reflection and for networking.

QUIET REFLECTION AND NETWORKING LOUNGES

Two locations on the Aspen Meadows Resort campus have been designated for attendees to use for quiet reflection and for networking. These spaces will be available beginning at 9 am on Monday, October 9, and through the wrap of the convening at 2:45 pm on Wednesday, October 11.

QUIET REFLECTION LOUNGE is located in the Catto Board Room in the Doerr-Hosier Center. This space is intended to be quiet, so we ask attendees to be understanding of the purpose of this space and not use cellphones.

NETWORKING LOUNGE is located in Murdock Lounge in the Doerr-Hosier Center. Please utilize this space for informal networking and conversations with others. The Murdock Lounge will also be open in the evening hours for cocktails and after-hours conversation.

YOGA

Aspen Yoga Society will be offering three yoga classes to participants of the OYIF October 2017 Convening.

Tuesday, October 10, 7:00 – 8:00 AM – Hines Room, Kresge Building

Tuesday, October 10, 5:45 – 6:45 PM – Anderson Park

Wednesday, October 11, 7:00 – 8:00 AM – Hines Room, Kresge Building

MORNING: An all levels yoga class designed to awaken the body and invigorate the senses, setting you up to feel energized for the start of your day. This class will incorporate yoga postures, guided breath exercises, and intentional meditation.

EVENING: A gentle yoga stretch class designed to unwind the body and calm the mind, incorporating a guided relaxation to allow your body to rest and rejuvenate before your evening activities. All levels. Please wear warm layers.

SIGN-UPS: If you have not signed up electronically through your registration record, please visit the concierge desk in Doerr Hosier once you arrive in Aspen to inquire about availability. Space is limited.

HIKES

The following hikes are available to participants of the OYIF October 2017 Convening. Both hikes will be offered concurrently. Space is limited.

DATE: Tuesday, October 10, 2017

TIME: 4:30 – 6:30 PM

DEPARTURE LOCATION: Barksdale Lobby, Doerr-Hosier Center

RIO GRANDE WALK

DIFFICULTY: Easy, level, paved & gravel

HIKING TIME: 1 hours

The Rio Grande Trail is a 42-mile, rails to trails project built in the Aspen branch of the historic Denver and Rio Grande Western Railroad. Participants will depart from the Aspen Meadows Resort and connect with the Rio Grande Trail as it winds along the Roaring Fork River. The hike returns along the same route, exiting at the Aspen Music Festival tent and back through Anderson Park to the Aspen Meadows Resort. The walk is on gentle terrain and features interesting architecture, beautiful gardens, wildflowers, birds and local wildlife.

RIO GRANDE/JOHN DENVER SANCTUARY

DIFFICULTY: Easy, level, paved & gravel

HIKING TIME: 2 hours

Participants who choose this route will also depart from the Aspen Meadows Resort and continue along the Rio Grande Trail for a longer distance. Just after crossing a bridge over the river, the trail meets the John Denver Sanctuary. Participants can pause here to enjoy the beautiful park. There are quiet places to sit and enjoy the views, its large perennial gardens, and reflect. The hike returns along the same route, back to the Aspen Meadows Resort.

SIGN-UPS: If you have not signed up electronically through your registration record, please visit the concierge desk in Doerr Hosier once you arrive in Aspen to inquire about availability.

We request that all participants sign up for one of the guided hikes by 10:00 am on Tuesday, October 10.



sunday october 8

8:30 – 9:00 AM

Koch Lobby
Koch Seminar Building

BREAKFAST AND REGISTRATION FOR OPPORTUNITY WORKS MEETING

9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Lauder Room
Koch Seminar Building

OPPORTUNITY WORKS MEETING

The purpose of this meeting is to bring together the seven communities in the Opportunity Works Social Innovation Fund that are building pathways to postsecondary credentials and career success for opportunity youth, and in particular young men of color. Led by Jobs for the Future, sessions will be devoted to strategies for deepening the depth and quality of pathways, scaling Back on Track schools and programs, sustaining Back on Track schools and programs, resources for building youths' math skills, implementing trauma-informed practices, and findings from the implementation evaluation and data dashboard.

4:00 – 6:00 PM

Barksdale Lobby
Doerr-Hosier Center

REGISTRATION FOR ALL GUESTS

6:00 – 7:30 PM

Kaufman Room
Doerr-Hosier Center

INFORMAL/DROP-IN DINNER FOR EARLY/INTERESTED GUESTS

7:30 – 8:30 PM

Murdock Lounge
Doerr-Hosier Center

OYIF SITE LEAD OPTIONAL NETWORKING

monday october 9

8:00 – 9:00 AM

Barksdale Lobby
Doerr-Hosier Center

BREAKFAST

(for youth leaders and adult partners attending the OYIF Youth Leaders Team Building Hike)

8:30 AM – 4:00 PM

Lauder Room
Koch Seminar Building

OPPORTUNITY WORKS MEETING

The purpose of this meeting is to bring together the seven communities in the Opportunity Works Social Innovation Fund that are building pathways to postsecondary credentials and career success for opportunity youth, and in particular young men of color. Led by Jobs for the Future, sessions will be devoted to strategies for deepening the depth and quality of pathways, scaling Back on Track schools and programs, sustaining Back on Track schools and programs, resources for building youths' math skills, implementing trauma-informed practices, and findings from the implementation evaluation and data dashboard.

monday october 9

9:00 – 12:00 PM

Aspen Meadows Loop
Meet in the
Barksdale Lobby
Doerr-Hosier Center

OYIF YOUTH LEADERS TEAM BUILDING HIKE

The hike will provide youth leaders with an opportunity to explore the outdoors and the natural environment of Aspen, Colorado, while participating in activities that focus on civic engagement, community-building, and leadership development. The hike will be youth-led and facilitated by participants of Fresh Tracks, a partnership project with the Center for Native American Youth and My Brother's Keeper Alliance that builds on President Obama's legacy. While the hike is youth-focused, we encourage adult partners to join us on the trail!

Please note that we will be meeting in the Barksdale Lobby in the Doerr-Hosier Center at 8:00 AM for light breakfast and departing promptly at 9 AM. The Aspen Meadows Loop is a mostly level and paved, easy trail. Participants should wear comfortable athletic shoes and layers and keep hydrated.

FACILITATORS

CJ GOULDING Fresh Tracks
TRENTON CASILLAS-BAKEBERG Center for Native American Youth
DEVIN EDWARDS My Brother's Keeper - Boston
ISRAEL JUAREZ Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce
JUAN MARTINEZ Fresh Tracks
KIMBERLY PIKOK Fresh Tracks

10:00 – 10:30 AM

Booz Allen
Hamilton Room
Koch Seminar Building

NEW PARTICIPANT ORIENTATION

This optional session will provide an opportunity for new attendees to network and learn about the Opportunity Youth Incentive Fund.

MONIQUE MILES Aspen Institute Forum for Community Solutions (Moderator)

10:00 AM – 6:00 PM

Barksdale Lobby
Doerr-Hosier Center

REGISTRATION FOR ALL GUESTS

12:00 – 1:00 PM

Hines Room
Kresge Building

OPTIONAL LUNCH FOR YOUTH LEADERS AND SITE LEADS

1:00 – 2:30 PM

Hines Room
Kresge Building

OPTIONAL OYIF YOUTH LEADERS & OYIF SITE LEADS MEETING

OYIF youth leaders and site leads will participate in a dialogue about building authentic youth/adult partnerships and how adult partners can support youth professional development.

FACILITATORS

ANNA CRUZ Harder+Company Community Research
JENNIFER JAMES Harder+Company Community Research

3:00 – 6:00 PM

Hines Room
Kresge Building

OYIF SITE LEAD MEETING

The purpose of this meeting is to convene the Opportunity Youth Incentive Fund site leads to further develop and deepen their community of practice.

FACILITATORS

ANNA CRUZ Harder+Company Community Research
JENNIFER JAMES Harder+Company Community Research

monday october 9

3:30 – 5:00 PM OYIF YOUTH LEADERS MEETING

Booz Allen
Hamilton Room
Koch Seminar Building

The purpose of this meeting is to strengthen the OYIF youth leaders peer network and advance the professional development of OYIF youth leaders. This innovative and interactive session will challenge youth leaders to identify and build upon their current networking, personal branding, and intentional goal-setting skills. The presenters will model strategies, skills and techniques youth and young adults can engage in to facilitate intentional growth and reflect on self-development and formation of personal identity. Session participants will have an opportunity to develop and deepen essential skills that are critical for young professionals.

FACILITATORS

JAMIEL ALEXANDER Aspen Institute Forum for Community Solutions
JAMISHA DAVIS Motivating, Inspiring, Supporting & Serving Sexually Exploited Youth (MISSEY)
SHAWNICE JACKSON National Council of Young Leaders – Opportunity Youth United
KIMBERLY PHAM Project U-Turn, National Council of Young Leaders – Opportunity Youth United
AMANDA SHABOWICH Youth Voice Project
SHANICE TURNER United Way of Greater Atlanta, National Council of Young Leaders – Opportunity Youth United

7:00 – 8:30 PM WELCOME RECEPTION FOR ALL GUESTS & LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Barksdale Lobby
Doerr-Hosier Center

The reception will feature community art by Francisco “Enuf” Garcia, 3Nuf86.

8:30 – 10:00 PM INFORMAL NETWORKING

Murdock Lounge
Doerr-Hosier Center

tuesday october 10

7:00 AM – 6:00 PM REGISTRATION FOR ALL GUESTS

Barksdale Lobby
Doerr-Hosier Center

7:00 – 8:00 AM YOGA

Hines Room
Kresge Building

(See program guide for more information)

7:30 – 8:00 AM BREAKFAST

Barksdale Lobby
Doerr-Hosier Center

tuesday october 10

8:00 – 9:45 AM

McNulty Room
Doerr-Hosier Center

OPENING PLENARY: *Leading with Our Head & Heart: Network Leadership towards Community Progress*

Screening of *Let America Be America Again* by Langston Hughes

The opening plenary session will invite two leaders from diverse networks, institutions and sectors, who have successfully led networks rooted in community-level progress, to share guidance that informs the current and future transition of the Opportunity Youth Incentive Fund network, including advice on the role of a network in building a movement. Both leaders will offer suggestions regarding how to deepen and sustain commitment to equity and justice, and to systems alignment to support education and employment outcomes for opportunity youth. At the same time, these leaders will offer advice on how to strengthen our commitment to data, rigor and outcomes, so that the national numbers of opportunity youth continue to decline and the documentation of effective strategies proliferate. These leaders will extract lessons learned from national networks that are aimed at ensuring the future impact and success of the Opportunity Youth Incentive Fund, our community partners and young people, with an emphasis on keeping young people at the center of our work in place and at the national level.

WELCOMING REMARKS

STEVE PATRICK Aspen Institute Forum for Community Solutions

MODERATORS

MELODY BARNES Aspen Institute Forum for Community Solutions

DOUG WOOD Program Officer, Youth Opportunity & Learning, Ford Foundation

PLENARY SPEAKERS

JEFF EDMONDSON Managing Director, The Ballmer Group

KAREN PITTMAN Co-Founder, President & CEO, The Forum for Youth Investment

9:45 – 10:00 AM

BREAK FOR PASSING

10:00 – 11:30 AM

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

Booz Allen
Hamilton Room
Koch Seminar Building

YOUTH ENGAGEMENT: WHEN WE FIGHT WE WIN!

Storytelling Strategies for Agitators and Activists

Effective organizers know not only how to tell a good story, but how to connect it to a broader analysis of systems of oppression and a transformative vision for the future. In this interactive session, participants will learn how to construct compelling personal stories, tie them into larger community-based narratives that pinpoint root causes and collective solutions to local problems, and use storytelling to agitate and inspire action. Session leaders will also discuss strategies for not reinforcing harmful dominant narratives in storytelling and share their process for creating narratives – including spoken word, written and oral stories – that support their work in movement-building and organizing for social change and justice.

GREG JOBIN-LEEDS Schott Foundation for Public Education (Facilitator)

VINNIE CERVANTES Denver Justice Project

JAMISHA DAVIS Motivating, Inspiring, Supporting & Serving Sexually Exploited Youth (MISSSEY)

FRANCISCO "ENUF" GARCIA 3Nuf86

ISRAEL JUAREZ Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce

DR. IETEF VITA Going Green Living Bling

Hines Room
Kresge Building

BUILDING EFFECTIVE PATHWAYS: Maximizing Impact in Expanding Opportunity for Youth through Outcomes-Based Financing Models

The current \$13B annual public workforce system struggles to support our country's most vulnerable, including opportunity youth. With funding spread across 11 federal agencies and 47 programs, this siloed system often relies on prescriptive, compliance-focused cost-reimbursement contracts. This session will explore innovations in workforce financing through the application of both Pay-for-Performance (P4P) outcomes-based contracts and Pay for Success (PFS) in transforming our public workforce and education systems into drivers of economic opportunity. We will hear from Third Sector Capital Partners, Inc. and the San Diego Workforce Partnership, who are taking advantage of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act P4P guidelines that enable outcomes contracting. Social Finance and College for America will share lessons from their PFS project in a competency-based online postsecondary platform for youth. We will explore successes and challenges in leveraging outcomes-based financing models through these pilot sites and allow participants to explore the possibility of applying an outcomes orientation in their own communities.

SARAH KEH Prudential (Moderator)

EMILY FABIASCHI Third Sector Capital Partners, Inc.

ANNA FOGEL Social Finance

ANDY HALL San Diego Workforce Partnership

YVONNE SIMON College for America at Southern New Hampshire University

Lauder Room
Koch Seminar Building

BUILDING EFFECTIVE PATHWAYS: Partnerships Can Only Do So Much; How to Encourage Employer Practice Change

How do you approach helping employers examine and change practice? FSG will share lessons they have learned through their Impact Hiring Initiative's Innovation Labs including how they are helping companies look at their employment system to assess and remove barriers to hiring, retaining and advancing opportunity youth. Participants will engage in an interactive "systems change" activity and hear directly from employers and those who have worked within companies to influence and change practice.

NICOLE TRIMBLE FSG (Facilitator)

MARIE DAVIS 100,000 Opportunities Initiative™

Kaufman Room
Doerr-Hosier Center

BUILDING EFFECTIVE PATHWAYS: Global Approaches for Youth Reconnection: Can They Work?

Opportunity youth exceed 600 million globally. Despite contextual and cultural differences, the reasons for – and the solutions to – their disconnection can be strikingly similar regardless of where they reside. Around the world, and domestically, communities are deploying creative strategies to connect youth to opportunity pathways. How could cross-border learning opportunities to share these strategies help spur innovation and uplift solutions? Through (Re)Connecting Youth: Exchanging Global Lessons, International Youth Foundation is exploring the answer to this question. This session will dive into lessons learned from targeted learning exchanges that are testing how global approaches for opportunity youth around social-emotional learning, creative retention strategies, employer connections, youth empowerment, and cross-sector partnership can be adapted in the U.S. Following the panel discussion, participants will break into small groups led by each of the panelists, and using real-life examples, will explore how and why these global innovations might be adapted in their own communities.

PATRICE CROMWELL The Annie E. Casey Foundation (Moderator)

GUILHERME BIMA Rede Cidadã, Brazil

MARLA LINO Fronteras Unidas Pro Salud, A.C., Mexico

ANGELA VENZA International Youth Foundation

BRICE WHITE Youth Empowerment Project

Paepcke Gallery
Paepcke Memorial
Building

BUILDING EFFECTIVE PATHWAYS: Innovative Scale Strategies: Building out Pathways for the Future

How do we move from promising pilots to pathways at scale? In this session participants will learn about a range of strategies for scaling pathways and hear from two Opportunity Works sites on their approaches to scaling, and their accomplishments to date. Participants will then have an opportunity to work in groups with a scaling tool to consider potential approaches to scaling their own efforts that they might implement back home.

FACILITATORS

CHERYL ALMEIDA Jobs for the Future

MAMADOU NDIAYE Jobs for the Future

PANELISTS

STEPHANIE GAMBONE Philadelphia Youth Network

NICOLE YOHALEM Community Center for Education Results

Stranahan Room
Koch Seminar Building

COLLABORATING FOR IMPACT: How to Sustain Momentum, Funding, and Results for Your Collaborative Over Time

How do you sustain the energy, outcomes, human resources, and financial resources to achieve results in your opportunity youth collaborative? This session will explore different strategies that can be employed to sustain collective impact, with a particular focus on the backbone role. Whether you are in the early, mid, or late stages of your work, this session will provide insights to build and sustain momentum in your opportunity youth collaborative. Attendees will work through an activity to navigate the dynamic tensions at various stages of collective impact, and identify the traps which often prevent collective efforts from moving forward.

FAY HANLEYBROWN FSG (Facilitator)

Paepcke Library
Paepcke Memorial
Building

COLLABORATING FOR IMPACT: Engaging Youth in Systems Change Work: A Discussion of What's Working and the Difference It's Making

How do communities engage youth in supporting and leading systems change? What can backbone staff and collaboratives do to create space for youth to inform, implement, and lead systems change efforts in their communities? During this highly interactive session, Equal Measure will provide a framework for youth engagement and facilitate a conversation among participants about how communities have engaged youth in their work. Participants looking to share their strategies, learn with one another, and identify opportunities to bolster their youth engagement efforts are encouraged to attend.

FACILITATORS

JUSTIN PIFF Equal Measure

LAIYI WEI Equal Measure

Hudson Commons
Boettcher Building

DEVELOPING SUPPORTIVE POLICIES: Building Inclusive Policies: Ideas for Serving Opportunity Youth Who Are Immigrants/English Learners

Immigrants comprise 1 in 6 young people ages 15-24 in the United States today. Many of these individuals would qualify as opportunity youth. In this session, get a quick overview of key data, and then dig into the specifics: What practices are being used to successfully serve immigrant and English language learner (ELL) youth? In what respects are the assets they possess and the barriers they face similar (or different) to those of U.S.-born opportunity youth? And what kind of public policies can be most effective in improving their education and career prospects? Finally, how will the recent rescission of the federal Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program affect undocumented youth and the workforce programs that serve them? This engaging session will provide numerous opportunities for participants to share their practitioner expertise and reflect on potential policy solutions. Come prepared to chime in!

AMANDA BERGSON-SHILCOCK National Skills Coalition (Facilitator)

Harris Seminar Room
Boettcher Building

DEVELOPING SUPPORTIVE POLICIES: Scaling Success through Local, State and Tribal Opportunity Youth Policy Advocacy

Scaling effective pathways to success requires changes to local, state and tribal policies and funding streams. Aspen has compiled a list of policy wins from among OYIF sites. Come be inspired by what your colleagues have accomplished: from advancing legislation preventing remediation policies lack of access to financial aid from holding foster care college students back, to increasing funding for the Chaffee Educational and Training Voucher program, to restoring the dual-enrollment line item in a district budget. You will also have an opportunity to help shape a working model for the types of policies OYIF sites can tackle, and craft strategies for launching your own successful advocacy campaigns.

THADDEUS FERBER Forum for Youth Investment / Opportunity Youth Network (Facilitator)

CHRISTINA GRANT The School District of Philadelphia

THOMAS LEE Alliance for Children's Rights

11:30 – 11:50 AM BREAK FOR PASSING

11:50 AM – 1:30 PM
McNulty Room
Doerr-Hosier Center

LUNCH PLENARY SESSION: Celebrating the Opportunity Youth Incentive Fund Journey & Mapping the Opportunity Youth Movement

This lunch plenary session is designed to provide a historical overview and roadmap of the progress achieved across the network of community grantee partners in the Opportunity Youth Incentive Fund network, vis-à-vis the evolution and achievement of the opportunity youth field. Different stakeholders and leaders – from diverse sectors and systems – will share their perspectives on specific accomplishments over the past 5 years, with an emphasis on what we have collectively learned as a network and field. Panel and audience participants will collectively design a “journey map” that celebrates progress. This plenary session will also center young adult leaders as the drivers of solutions locally and nationally.

MODERATORS

MONIQUE MILES Aspen Institute Forum for Community Solutions

STEVE PATRICK Aspen Institute Forum for Community Solutions

tuesday october 10

1:30 – 2:15 PM BREAK FOR REFLECTION & NETWORKING

Barksdale Lobby
Murdock Lounge
Doerr-Hosier Center

2:15 – 5:15 PM OYIF LEADERSHIP COUNCIL MEETING

Hines Room
Kresge Building

The purpose of this meeting is to convene national and regional philanthropic investors in the Opportunity Youth Incentive Fund, Opportunity Works, and the 100,000 Opportunities Initiative™ Demonstration Cities. Investors will share updates on their work and learn about updates from philanthropy across the opportunity youth field. AFCS staff will frame the history of the national opportunity youth eco-system and movement and the future of the field, including the role of AFCS, and solicit advice and feedback from funder partners on the present and future focus of our work.

FACILITATORS

MELODY BARNES Aspen Institute Forum for Community Solutions

MONIQUE MILES Aspen Institute Forum for Community Solutions

STEVE PATRICK Aspen Institute Forum for Community Solutions

2:15 – 3:45 PM DEEP DIVE & INNOVATIVE DESIGN STUDIO SESSIONS

Paepcke Gallery
Paepcke Memorial
Building

An Application of the Life Course Framework: Native American Males

Developed by Forward Change, *An Application of the Life Course Framework: Native American Males*, provides a data-intensive framework for understanding how the life course outcomes of Native American males compare to those of other population groups in the United States. Situated within a survey of economic, criminal justice, family and socio-ecological changes in the U.S. over the past 40 years, the life course outcomes of Native American males are shown to require focus and urgent attention. This deep dive session will further highlight: 1) how broad changes in the U.S. have led to enduring intergenerational patterns of disadvantage, particularly for low-income communities of color, and that many of these patterns affect boys and girls very differently; 2) how race, gender and place intersect in ways that drive disparate life outcomes for disadvantaged children and young adults; and 3) how life outcomes and well-being are a consequence of the interaction of human development, ecological and contextual factors and situated choice.

ARNOLD CHANDLER Forward Change (Facilitator)

Kaufman Room
Doerr-Hosier Center

Shifting Systems to Support Opportunity Youth: A Discussion with Three Collaborative Leaders

Since its onset, the OYIF has had its sights set on changing systems. Investments in backbones and collaboratives have promoted deep, long-term changes to the systems and structures that affect opportunity youth. These changes, in turn, can create environments for youth to thrive and reach their full academic and career potential. Through brief presentations followed by a panel discussion, leaders from three collaboratives will share their stories of success in breaking down systemic barriers to improve pathways for opportunity youth. Austin Opportunity Youth Collaborative will present its work on changing community college policies to improve systems for opportunity youth. Boston Opportunity Youth Collaborative will tell the story of building on reengagement efforts, interrupting the school-to-prison pipeline, and impacting community college policies. The Road Map Project collaborative from South King County, Washington, will discuss how they built a coordinated system for reengaging opportunity youth. This deep dive session will highlight the forthcoming publication from the Aspen Institute Forum for Community Solutions.

JUSTIN PIFF Equal Measure (Facilitator)
TAMARA ATKINSON Workforce Solutions Capital Area
KATHY HAMILTON Boston Private Industry Council
KRISTIN MCSWAIN Boston Opportunity Agenda
NICOLE YOHALEM Community Center for Education Results
MOLLY YOUNG Austin Opportunity Youth Collaborative

Stranahan Room
Koch Seminar Building

Pathways to Prosperity for Leaders and Communities of Color through the Outdoors

This youth-led deep dive session will present opportunities to integrate culture exchange, civic engagement, and community stewardship, with education and workforce exposure through the platform of the outdoors. Fresh Tracks is a partnership project with the Center for Native American Youth and My Brother's Keeper Alliance, building on President Obama's legacy.

CJ GOULDING Fresh Tracks (Moderator)
TRENTON JOSEPH CASILLAS-BAKEBERG Center for Native American Youth
DEVIN EDWARDS My Brother's Keeper – Boston
ISRAEL JUAREZ Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce
KIMBERLY PIKOK Fresh Tracks, Arctic Ambassador

McNulty Room
Doerr-Hosier Center

Youth Perspectives on What Makes a Good Job – And Why It Matters to Employers

In the first nation-wide research project to survey opportunity youth since 2012, FSG and Hart Research partnered to ask current and former opportunity youth about their experiences with work – and their ideas for improving opportunity in the U.S. We heard from over 1,200 current and former opportunity youth across the U.S about their current or recent experiences with an entry-level job. In today's deep dive session, the researchers will share key insights and facilitate a robust discussion with young leaders from across OYIF communities about the implications of this research. What changes should we encourage employers to make? What should young people consider when taking a job, and how can they make the most of an entry-level job? And what are the implications for the organizations that support youth – from funders to intermediaries to direct service organizations? Join the discussion about how can we use this new data to offer better support to young people seeking to achieve their dreams.

KIM GILSDORF FSG (Moderator)

RYAN DALTON Cowen Institute at Tulane University, National Council of Young Leaders – Opportunity Youth United

ELLEN GARDNER Schultz Family Foundation

SHAWNICE JACKSON National Council of Young Leaders – Opportunity Youth United

FELIX MORAN Arizona Center for Youth Resources

SHANICE TURNER United Way of Greater Atlanta, National Council of Young Leaders – Opportunity Youth United

Paepcke Library
Paepcke Memorial
Building

Opportunity Youth Getting Credit: How to Make Credit-Building Part of Your Program

In this deep dive session you will learn what credit is, why it matters for young adults, and how to add credit-building to your program. We will share the state of credit access among opportunity youth across the country and the implications for access to economic opportunity. We will provide an overview of the design of MyPath Credit, the first model in the country to support opportunity youth to build credit and savings while they participate in employment programs, and its pilot at Year Up in the Bay Area. You will hear first-hand from a MyPath Credit participant about her experience building credit and her role in designing credit curriculum for her peers. The session will then lead participants through an approach to assessing their program to determine the credit needs of their participants and how they might add credit-building and saving to their programs.

FACILITATORS

LORAINA FLORES MyPath

MARGARET LIBBY MyPath

Lauder Room
Koch Seminar Building

Digital Strategies & the Future of Work for Opportunity Youth

This deep dive session will start by describing some of the major trends related to technology disruption and its potential impact on future jobs as well as the skilling and education strategies needed to keep pace with the accelerating rate of change. Next, we will learn from technology enterprises that are establishing new platforms and digital training programs to provide training and other supports to young people to prepare them for specific jobs and/or entrepreneurial opportunities. Specifically, we will discuss the principal barriers (educational, technology access, networks) that need to be overcome so that opportunity youth can benefit from digital programs. While the broad trends and research will touch on the challenge of technology disruption and the future of work across the globe, the specific models and examples will be U.S.-based and will provide ideas and models for the OYIF community to consider as participants determine how their respective organizations can best integrate digital strategies into their programming and support to opportunity youth.

JAMIE MCAULIFFE Aspen Institute Forum for Community Solutions (Moderator)
JESSICA GARCIA-KOHL LRNG
BO GHIRARDELLI SkystheLimit
MARIE GROARK Get Schooled
TOM OGLETREE General Assembly

Booz Allen
Hamilton Room
Koch Seminar Building

Participant Journey Mapping: Using a Human Sights Design Approach to Identify Strengths and Challenges in Program Design

In this interactive innovative design studio, participants will learn about the value of Human Insights Design approach, which reflects practices used by market researchers, human-centered designers, and behavioral design specialists. It can be used to uncover existing project issues (e.g., low take-up, high attrition) from participants' perspectives and design new approaches based on valuable, tested insights and how to utilize journey mapping to learn more about participants' journeys in their programs. Participants will gain understanding of their project elements from participants' points of view, identify strengths and challenges in their program design and walk away with a deeper understanding of how to identify and address opportunities for improvement.

FACILITATORS

HIBA HAROON Prosperity Now
OLA WADIBIA Prosperity Now

3:45 – 4:00 PM BREAK FOR PASSING

4:00 – 6:30 PM OYIF YOUTH LEADERS ART NIGHT

Kaufman Room
Doerr-Hosier Center

Join us for an evening of creativity and networking to color, sketch, collage, make beats, or perform spoken word. All are welcome!

4:00 - 6:30 PM OPEN SPACE & NETWORKING

Barksdale Lobby
Murdock Lounge
Doerr-Hosier Center

tuesday october 10

4:00 – 5:00 PM CALIFORNIA OPPORTUNITY YOUTH NETWORK (COYN) MEETING

Booz Allen
Hamilton Room
Koch Seminar Building

This invitation-only meeting is for California Opportunity Youth Network (COYN) Executive Committee members. The goal of this meeting is to follow up on action steps related to collaborative decision-making, fundraising to build COYN site capacities for policy advocacy, and future goals and objectives for the network.

4:00 – 5:00 PM NORTH EAST OPPORTUNITY YOUTH NETWORK (NEON) MEETING

Stranahan Room
Koch Seminar Building

During this meeting of the North East Opportunity Youth Network (NEON) communities, participants will discuss the role of intermediary and backbone organizations in systems change efforts and how to appropriately measure indirect influence and impact.

4:00 – 5:00 PM RURAL COHORT MEETING

Lauder Room
Koch Seminar Building

During this meeting of the Rural Cohort, participants will discuss what sustainability, scale, and impact mean in the rural context.

EMILY THIELMANN University of Southern Maine (Facilitator)

4:00 – 5:00 PM PATHWAYS TO CAREERS FUND GRANTEE AND PARTNERS MEETING

Paepcke Gallery
Paepcke Memorial
Building

This meeting will provide the opportunity for representatives from projects funded through the first round of the Pathways to Careers Fund (in Chicago, New Orleans, and Seattle) to come together to share about their work and learn more about other organizations and employers engaged through the Fund. This session is open to anyone interested in learning more about the Pathways to Careers Fund.

EMMA UMAN Aspen Institute Forum for Community Solutions (Facilitator)

4:30 – 6:30 PM HIKES

Meet in the
Barksdale Lobby
Doerr-Hosier Center

(See program guide for more information)

5:30 – 6:30 PM GLOBAL & U.S. OPPORTUNITY YOUTH DIALOGUE

Paepcke Library
Paepcke Memorial
Building

This is a by-invitation meeting of the global opportunity youth delegation and a select number of U.S. opportunity youth leaders. The purpose of the meeting is to exchange views and ideas on the most pressing issues facing young people in their respective communities. The session will begin with a brief summary of recent global youth surveys: the Citi Foundation's 2017 Pathways Survey and the recently launched Youth Well-Being Index from International Youth Foundation and Hilton Worldwide. Subsequently, we will present a few of the themes and ideas from the global youth opportunity landscape research that Jamie McAuliffe is conducting on behalf of the Forum for Community Solutions. After setting this context, there will be a facilitated dialogue among the youth present to elicit reactions and comments to the survey findings and landscape research and more open-ended questions about key concerns and hopes each of them has for themselves, their families and their community peers. The session will be video-taped and a short film will be produced after the convening.

JAMIE MCAULIFFE Aspen Institute Forum for Community Solutions (Facilitator)

JAMIEL ALEXANDER Aspen Institute Forum for Community Solutions

DARIA SHEEHAN Citi Foundation

ANGELA VENZA International Youth Foundation

tuesday october 10

5:45 – 6:45 PM **YOGA**
Anderson Park (See program guide for more information)

7:00 PM **DINNER ON YOUR OWN**

7:30 PM **OYIF YOUTH LEADERS DINNER**
Hickory House
730 W Main St

9:00 PM **INFORMAL NETWORKING**
Murdock Lounge
Doerr-Hosier Center

wednesday october 11

7:00 – 8:00 AM **YOGA**
Hines Room
Kresge Building (See program guide for more information)

7:00 – 8:00 AM **BREAKFAST**
Barksdale Lobby
Doerr-Hosier Center

8:00 – 9:45 AM **MORNING PLENARY SESSION: NATIVE AMERICAN YOUTH:
Building Resilience through Action and Culture Resilience**
McNulty Room
Doerr-Hosier Center

Native youth are leading innovative initiatives in tribal communities across the country that are drawing on their cultural strengths and building intergenerational resilience. Together with their community partners, youth are building a collective voice that has the power to impact broader systems change. Panelists will share new research from the Native American Male Life Course Data Framework to help participants understand some of the unique challenges facing Native youth today. Community partners and Native youth will respond to the data and frame the challenges and tensions within communities, while also noting the assets, strengths and benefits of cross cultural and cross geographical contexts when working toward system change. Participants will also have an opportunity to learn about effective leadership development strategies for Native youth that focus on cross-cultural engagement and long-term connections to local community partners and resources that sustain long-term community action.

MODERATORS

MICHAEL SMITH Executive Director, MBK Alliance; Director, Youth Opportunity Programs, Obama Foundation

ERIK STEGMAN Executive Director, Center for Native American Youth at the Aspen Institute

PLENARY SPEAKERS

THE HONORABLE AJA BROWN Mayor, City of Compton

ARNOLD CHANDLER Co-Founder, Forward Change

JUAN MARTINEZ Director, Fresh Tracks

MONICA NUYAMSA Executive Director, The Hopi Foundation

KIMBERLY PIKOK Youth Leader & Trainer, Fresh Tracks

wednesday october 11

9:45 – 10:00 AM **BREAK FOR PASSING**

10:00 – 11:30 AM **CONCURRENT SESSIONS**

Kaufman Room
Doerr-Hosier Building

COLLABORATING FOR IMPACT: Necessary Conversations: How to Address Issues of Equity with Partners

Addressing the issue of equity with partners can be challenging. Join us for this session that looks at how backbone organizations are leading courageous conversations about this in their work with system and collaborative partners, and the successes and challenges in this process. Presenters will share with us their strategies and approaches to working with key partners and stakeholders on implementing an equity lens or frame in the work, including a shared equity framework that is being implemented across a variety of collective impact efforts in one locality. Questions will include what was their starting place and why? How has the context in which they are working impacted the how and why of their process? What have they learned from their equity journey?

SHERI BRADY Aspen Institute Forum for Community Solutions (Facilitator)

RUTH BARAJAS-CARDONA Bay Area Community Resources

JUSTIN BURCH Rural LISC

SHERYL EVANS DAVIS San Francisco Human Rights Commission (HRC)

PAULO GREGORY HARRIS Ingoma Foundation

Lauder Room
Koch Seminar Building

BUILDING EFFECTIVE PATHWAYS: Apprenticeships: Building a Pathway that Engages Opportunity Youth

How can cross-sector collaboratives focused on opportunity youth take advantage of the growing interest in apprenticeships? How can they better understand and build on existing apprenticeship efforts in their own communities? What are essential elements of successful pre-apprenticeships and what role does the collaborative play in identifying providers to develop early-win apprenticeship pathways? This session will provide an overview of the apprenticeship movement and share resources participants can use in building effective apprenticeship pathways in their community. Participants will consider strategies that enable them to learn more about their own local apprenticeship efforts for opportunity youth. As example and prompt for discussion, the Philadelphia Youth Network will present its recently released pre-apprenticeship RFP; share how the RFP connects to the city's broader opportunity youth workforce strategy; highlight key elements and current status; and address participant questions. Participants will also have an opportunity to share their own promising practices and challenges in small group breakouts.

MIKE SACK Jobs for the Future (Facilitator)

STEPHANIE GAMBONE Philadelphia Youth Network

Hines Room
Kresge Building

BUILDING EFFECTIVE PATHWAYS: Employers & Community Provider Fishbowl Conversations

Employers and providers alike share a desire to learn more about each other's priorities, concerns and challenges with opportunity youth hiring and retention. Inquiring minds want to know: How can we partner together to meet our separate and overlapping needs? In this fishbowl format session that will consist of two panels, employers will begin by discussing key issues and questions, including top challenges and efforts they are leading to support hiring, retaining, and advancing opportunity youth, and their ideas for supports that could be offered by community based provider partners. A panel of providers will reflect on what they heard from employers, and discuss their experiences of engaging employers in their efforts to support training, recruiting, and retention of youth. Fishbowl panelists and observers will debrief to cull key takeaways and ideas to take back to their communities and companies.

MODERATOR

MARIKO LOCKHART Aspen Institute Forum for Community Solutions

EMPLOYERS PANEL

MARIE DAVIS 100,000 Opportunities Initiative™

LISA DOWD CVS Health

DANIELLE GARRETT Walgreens

YUI NAMIKI Sprint

ANDREA WOOD Best Buy

PROVIDERS PANEL

ALLISON ANGELONI Skills for Chicagoland's Future

DENNIS BAGNERIS Liberty's Kitchen

AMY BARAD Cowen Institute at Tulane University

DEB CROMER iFoster

LEAH EGGERS Youth Guidance

SOUTHIMALA KESSAY Accelerator Y

DARIUS MENSAH Educurious

MELVYN POLK Detroit Employment Solutions Corporation

Booz Allen
Hamilton Room
Koch Seminar Building

BUILDING EFFECTIVE PATHWAYS: "More Than What's On Paper": How You Can Use the Grads of Life Campaign to Advance Employer Perception and Practice Change in Your Community

This hands-on workshop is an opportunity for attendees to access resources that can help OYIF communities advance their work with opportunity youth and employers. During the session *Grads of Life* will demonstrate its new 7 Second Resume PSA campaign, "More Than What's on Paper". This campaign offers opportunity youth a chance, in seven seconds – the amount of time the average hiring manager spends looking at a resume – to speak directly to employers about the skills they bring to the workforce. Attendees will learn how to help opportunity youth create their own video resumes and have a chance to try out the process themselves. *Grads of Life* will also share information about ongoing and upcoming opportunity youth talent pipeline pilots designed to change employer sourcing, hiring and training practices, giving participants an opportunity to leverage these activities. Please bring your smartphone and headphones, and download Snapchat if you do not have it already.

FACILITATORS

JAMIEL ALEXANDER Aspen Institute Forum for Community Solutions

TOI ESHUN Grads of Life

ELYSE ROSENBLUM Grads of Life

Harris Seminar Room
Boettcher Building

DEVELOPING SUPPORTIVE POLICIES: Shape the Reconnecting Youth Campaign: Unleashing Limitless Potential and Design Your Dream OYIF-OYN Advocacy Boot Camp for City, State, and Tribal Advocacy

Join the coalition shaping the *Reconnecting Youth Campaign: Unleashing Limitless Potential*, calling on Congress to invest in America's future by funding one million bridges to meaningful education, training, service and employment opportunities each year. Opportunity Youth Network (OYN) is developing for this campaign a set of tools and trainings to build the capacity of a select cohort of local, state and tribal organizations to mount and win successful advocacy campaigns. What types of supports? Here is your chance to help decide! Are there particular skills, trainings, or online advocacy tools you want access too? Tell us your dream package of supports – and then we will do our best to get them for you! You also will hear tips on effective advocacy – especially in tribal communities – from Sixkiller Consulting, which helps community leaders, non-profits and businesses develop innovative and value-add strategies to drive public policy outcomes at all levels of government.

THADDEUS FERBER Forum for Youth Investment, Opportunity Youth Network and Reconnecting Youth Campaign (Facilitator)

JO ANN PAANIO Forum for Youth Investment

CASEY SIXKILLER Sixkiller Consulting

Hudson Commons
Boettcher Building

USING DATA TO GUIDE DECISIONS AND ASSESS IMPACT: How Communities Are Changing Systems to Support Opportunity Youth: Lessons from the OYIF Evaluation to Date

During this session – open to all convening attendees – Equal Measure will present portfolio-level progress and lessons from the OYIF evaluation to date. Findings about key areas of progress towards changing systems to support opportunity youth – and the processes used to achieve these shifts – will be highlighted. Participants will have an opportunity to react to and discuss these findings with one another, and to explore their implications for their work moving forward.

FACILITATORS

JUSTIN PIFF Equal Measure

LAIYI WEI Equal Measure

Stranahan Room
Koch Seminar Building

CONSULTANCY: Customizing Pathways for Youth

How can a Reengagement Center help young people make the right choice of a pathway to a high school credential? In Tucson, there are a range of options for youth to reengage with their education, including GED programs, alternative schools, and regular high schools. In this consultancy, United Way of Tucson and Southern Arizona will present their Reengagement Center model and their challenge in determining the best way to help youth find their “best fit” pathway, and helping partner organizations understand and build out their niche. Participants in the consultancy will provide feedback and potential additional approaches.

LILI ALLEN Jobs for the Future (Facilitator)

ASHLEY JANICKI United Way of Tucson and Southern Arizona

LANCE MEEKS Goodwill of Southern Arizona

Paepcke Gallery
Paepcke Memorial
Building

CONSULTANCY: Role of Cross-Sector Collaboratives in Pathway Development

What role should a cross-sector collaborative play in developing pathways? How should a collaborative support pathway development in a way that respects all partners' contributions while at the same time pushing for quality? In this consultancy, the Cowen Institute, the backbone organization of the New Orleans EMPLOY collaborative will present the ways in which they have supported their local pathway design efforts, and the challenges they have faced as a backbone organization in doing so. They will then hear from participants about other potential ways that a backbone can engage with partners in developing pathways that are high-quality.

MAMADOU NDIAYE Jobs for the Future (Facilitator)
NICOLE JOLLY EMPLOY Collaborative, Cowen Institute

10:00 – 11:45 AM

Paepcke Library
Paepcke Memorial
Building

RURAL AND TRIBAL FUNDERS MEETING

The purpose of this meeting is to convene national and regional philanthropic investors in rural and tribal communities. AFCS staff will share an overview of the new OYIF rural and tribal opportunity youth strategy and solicit constructive critique from investors, including identifying potential pitfalls and solutions.

FACILITATORS

MELODY BARNES Aspen Institute Forum for Community Solutions
MONIQUE MILES Aspen Institute Forum for Community Solutions
STEVE PATRICK Aspen Institute Forum for Community Solutions
DR. WYNN ROSSER, PH.D. T.L.L. Temple Foundation

11:30 – 11:45 AM

BREAK FOR PASSING

11:45 AM – 12:45 PM

Various Locations

TEAM PLANNING TIME

Site teams will be assigned rooms to debrief the convening and consider implications of the convening's lessons for their work in their communities. See team planning time handout for more information.

11:45 AM – 12:45 PM

Barksdale Lobby
Murdock Lounge
Doerr-Hosier Center

OPEN SPACE & NETWORKING

11:45 AM – 12:45 PM

Booz Allen
Hamilton Room
Koch Seminar Building

YOUTH LEADERS DEBRIEF

Youth leaders will share learnings from the convening and identify opportunities to implement what they learned in their communities.

FACILITATORS

JAMIEL ALEXANDER Aspen Institute Forum for Community Solutions
YELENA NEMOY Aspen Institute Forum for Community Solutions

12:45 – 1:00 PM

BREAK FOR PASSING

1:00 – 2:45 PM

McNulty Room
Doerr-Hosier Center

LUNCH & CLOSING PLENARY SESSION: CALL TO ACTION: *WHEN WE FIGHT, WE WIN!* Lessons to Deepen & Sustain the Movement

The closing plenary session will bring together Greg Jobin-Leeds, author of *WHEN WE FIGHT, WE WIN! Twenty First Century Social Movements and the Activists That Are Transforming Our World*, along with organizers from various movements his research has covered, including leaders from The Dream Act Movement and the End the New Jim Crow Movement. Each of the panelists will engage in a dialogue aimed at lifting up critical lessons in grass roots organizing for social change, with an emphasis on policy, advocacy and influencing systems. These leaders will offer critical advice to the Opportunity Youth Incentive Fund network on the value of inter-generational partnerships – including the roles that young people play – to spark and drive long-term progress and success in local community-based social change efforts.

PLENARY SPEAKERS

BARCLAY JONES Leadership & Equity Officer, Denver Foundation (Moderator)

VINNIE CERVANTES Organizer, Denver Justice Project

FRANCISCO "ENUF" GARCIA Artist, 3Nuf86

GREG JOBIN-LEEDS Author, Co-Founder & Co-Chair, Schott Foundation for Public Education

DR. IETEF VITA Community Arts Activist, Going Green Living Bling

3:00 – 5:00 PM

Hines Room
Kresge Building

COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE FOR 100,000 OPPORTUNITIES INITIATIVE™ DEMONSTRATION CITIES AND ADDITIONAL COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE MEMBER COMMUNITIES

This is a closed session for teams from the 100,000 Opportunities Initiative™ Demonstration Cities and affiliated Community of Practice partner cities (Chicago, Phoenix, Los Angeles, Seattle, New Orleans, New York City, Oakland, Detroit, and Dallas). City teams will meet to engage in action planning for the coming year. Building on the Design Thinking framework introduced in the spring convening, teams will begin with “open thinking” for creative brainstorming and then move into “closed thinking” to develop a plan to accomplish a specific action item over the coming year. Participants will have the opportunity to share their plans and receive feedback from peer city team members, and engage in a facilitated large group dialogue that will cover critical issues in opportunity youth employment such as employer engagement, retention and sustainability of the local collaborative’s work.

FACILITATORS

LILI ALLEN Jobs for the Future

MARIKO LOCKHART Aspen Institute Forum for Community Solutions

EMMA UMAN Aspen Institute Forum for Community Solutions

7:30 – 8:30 AM BREAKFAST

Hines Foyer
Kresge Building

8:30 – 12:00 PM COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE FOR 100,000 OPPORTUNITIES INITIATIVE™ DEMONSTRATION CITIES AND ADDITIONAL COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE MEMBER COMMUNITIES

Hines Room
Kresge Building

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FACILITATORS

LILI ALLEN Jobs for the Future

MARIKO LOCKHART Aspen Institute Forum for Community Solutions

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