



August 31, 2021

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Majority Leader
United States Senate
322 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker
United States House of Representatives
1236 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Republican Leader
United States Senate
317 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Republican Leader
United States House of Representatives
2468 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Leader Schumer, Speaker Pelosi, Leader McConnell, and Leader McCarthy,

Thank you for your leadership as our country recovers from the most devastating economic crisis since the Great Depression. Congressional efforts to meet the needs of working people and local businesses are vital right now. The undersigned organizations urge you to invest at least \$100 billion in workforce development, as proposed in the American Jobs Plan, to ensure workers have skills necessary to access and succeed in good jobs that businesses need filled.

A staggering number of workers – particularly historically underserved workers of color, young people, women, and immigrants – have lost jobs that aren't coming back. An equitable recovery for these populations will be mostly served through the local workforce system and its stakeholders. There are nearly 10 million workers who are unemployed right now, with increasing job losses in states such as Michigan, Texas, Kentucky, Missouri, and Illinois. More than 1/3 of the job loss over the pandemic will be permanent.

Permanent job loss means workers will need to reskill and upskill to enter new industries. Of workers over 25 who are unemployed, more than 44 percent have no education past high school. Yet, based on projections and lessons learned from past economic downturns, almost all the jobs created in recovery efforts will require some education past high school.

Businesses already faced challenges finding skilled workers prior to the pandemic, a challenge the crisis only exacerbated. Surveys of manufacturing, energy and construction executives found difficulties finding skilled workers were a top concern going into the pandemic and in 2021. Across industries, more than half of workers need access to digital skills to succeed in jobs of the 21st century.

And anticipated industry changes – such as technological adoption – and proposed federal investment will even further add to this challenge. Analyses of previous infrastructure deals suggests that every \$100 billion invested creates 1 million new jobs, the majority of which require some training after high school. Employment in healthcare occupations will grow 15 percent from 2019 to 2029, adding 2.4 million new jobs.

Investing in workers' access to skills that meet industry demand must be a component of the federal response to the current crisis. And workers themselves agree - according to polling commissioned in the summer of 2020, 84% of unemployed workers want Congress to immediately increase investments in training to support their journey back into the workforce.

The nation's workforce system - convened through workforce development boards, career and technical education, adult basic education providers, and the nation's community colleges - stand poised to address this need, but desperately need federal investments to meet this demand. Further compounding the funding issues is a two-decade history of declining federal investments in the workforce system.

Except for an initial investment of \$345 million, Congress has not funded workforce development in any of its COVID response packages to date. A \$100 billion investment in workforce development would mean Congress lives up to its responsibility to workers, to businesses and to communities across the country.

We urge you to make critical investments of no less than \$100 billion for workforce development in the next recovery package to ensure that all workers have the skills and reemployment assistance necessary, and all businesses can contribute to, a truly inclusive economic recovery. This scale of investment is critical to meeting U.S. workers' and businesses' need in the current crisis. We thank you for your attention to these important issues.

Academy of Hope Adult Public Charter School
Adaptive Human Capital, LLC.
Adult Education and Literacy
Adult Learning Alliance of Arkansas
Adults Can Learn To Read
Advance CTE
African American Health Alliance
Albany Can Code, Inc
Alexandria/Arlington Regional Workforce Council
Alianza Municipal de Servicios Integrados, Inc.
All Saints Literacy Center
Allegany County
Allegany County Employment & Training
Alternative Schools Network
AMANAEDUConsults LLC
American Association of Port Authorities
Accelerate Apprenticeship for Transportation
American Association of Community Colleges
American Dream Home Care Agency LLC

American YouthWorks
America's Promise Alliance
Aneta Uplifts, LLC
Anne Arundel County Literacy Council
Anne Arundel Workforce Development Corporation
Arc of Rensselaer County
Area 14 WDB-Ohio
Arizona Association for Lifelong Learning
Arizona Workforce Association
Aspen Institute Forum for Community Solutions
Associated Resources
Association for Career and Technical Education
Association of Community College Trustees
Association of Farmworker Opportunity Programs
Augustus F. Hawkins Foundation
Barbara R Murray & Associates - DOL OA
Bay Consortium Workforce Development Board
Benton Franklin Workforce Development Council
Better Decisions Better Choices Reentry Services Inc

Better Together
 Birmingham Jumpstart, Inc.
 Black LGBT Lives Matter
 Blue Mountain Community College
 BoroBots, Inc.
 BPSAdult Education Division
 Brattleboro Development Credit Corporation
 Breaktime United, Inc.
 Bridge consultants
 Building Back Better
 Building Skills Partnership
 Building STEAM Bridges-Empower Workforce
 Readiness
 Burlington English
 Business Leaders United
 Cal State University Monterey Bay
 California EDGE Coalition
 California Employers Association
 California Opportunity Youth Network
 Capital Area Michigan Works!
 Career and Technical Association of Texas
 Career Path Services
 Career Solutions
 CareerSource Capital Region
 CareerSource North Central Florida
 CareerSource Polk
 CareerSource Tampa Bay
 CareerWork\$, Inc.
 Catherine McAuley Center
 Cattaraugus-Allegany Workforce Development Board,
 Inc.
 Cayuga-Cortland Workforce Development Board
 CDE California Department of Education
 Center for Employment Opportunities
 Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP)
 Central Alabama Community College Adult Education
 Central Arkansas Planning and Development District
 Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit
 Centro CHA Inc. (Long Beach Community Hispanic Assc.)
 Charlotte Technical College/ACC
 Chicago Area Project
 Chicago Citywide Literacy Coalition
 Chicago Jobs Council
 Children's Funding Project
 Chula Vista Adult School-Sweetwater Union HS District
 City of Duluth Workforce Development
 City of Minneapolis Employment and Training
 Clackamas Workforce Partnership
 CLUES - Comunidades Latinas Unidas En Servicio
 Coalition on Adult Basic Education (COABE)
 Coalition on Human Needs
 Colleton County Adult Education
 Colorado ACTE
 Columbia Greene Workforce NY
 Columbia-Greene Workforce Investment Office
 Common Heart Literacy Program
 Commonpoint Queens
 Community First High School
 Concepts, Inc./SEED
 Continuing Education Association of New York (CEANY)
 Core Skills Partnership
 Corporation for a Skilled Workforce
 Corpus Christi Literacy Council
 Cortland County Business Development Corp and
 Industrial Development Agency Inc.
 Cortland County Business Development Corporation
 Cortland Works Career Center
 Cortland County Employment and Training
 Coryer Staffing Corporation
 Crawford County Adult Education Center
 CROP Organization
 Cumberland Workforce Development Board
 Cuyahoga Community College
 D&H Literacy Center
 Delaware Area Career Center
 Della Lamb Community Services
 DigitalTrack Digital Marketing
 Domitek
 Dorcas International Institute of RI
 Dowsefactor
 Dutchess County Workforce Development Board
 Each One Teach One
 East Cascades Works
 East Tennessee Local Workforce Development Board
 Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board, Inc.
 Eastern Oregon Workforce Board
 EdAdvance
 EDC Warren County
 Education and Workforce Policy LLC
 Education and Workforce Solutions LLC
 EKCEP, Inc.
 El Monte Rosemead Adult School
 El Monte Union High School District
 ELumen
 EmployIndy
 Employment & Employer Services (E&ES)
 EMUHSD

English At Large
English Language Network
Excel, Inc.
Coastal Counties Workforce, Inc.
Fayetteville Adult Education - Fayetteville, Arkansas
Fill My Cup!
Finger Lakes Workforce Investment Board
First Institute
First Planning District Workforce Board
Foothills Adult Education
Former Unemployed
Forum for Youth Investment
Fox Cities Workforce Development Board
Fox Valley Literacy
Franklin Hampshire Employment and Training Consortim
Franklin Township Adult School
FREED Texas
Friends of the Lawton Public Library
Full Employment Council
Garden State Employment and Training Assoc.
Geaux Jobs - LWDA 20
gener8tor
George Washington Institute of Public Policy, GWU
Godman Guild Association
Good Counsel Learning Center Inc.,
Goodwill Industries International, Inc.
Goodwill of Silicon Valley
Goodwill Southern California
Greater Orange Area Literacy Services (GOALS)
Greater Raritan Workforce Development Board
Greater West Town Community Development Project
Guild Education
GuilfordWorks Workforce Development Board
Gulf Coast Workforce Board, Houston, Texas
Hampden County Career Center, Inc.,
Hellenic American Neighborhood Action Committee
Hardee County Adult Education
HCSD Options Adult Education Center
Heartland Workforce Solutions
Hennepin Carver Workforce Development Board
HES Konsult AB
HFM BOCES
Hidalgo County Literacy Program
Horry County Schools
Houston Vital Signs, Inc.
1Huddle
Hudson Valley RAEN
Huntington Beach Adult School
Hutchinson Public Library Adult Education Program
in Hutchinson, Kansas
Indiana Association for Adult and Continuing Education
Impact Equitable Justice Inc
Impact Institute
Indiana Institute for Working Families
Indiana Workforce Board Alliance
Individual Literacy Training
Iowa Association for Career and Technical Education
Jackie's Jams
Jamaica Plain Community Centers Adult Learning
Program
Jefferson-Lewis WDB
Jewish Vocational & Career Counseling Service (JVS)
Jobs for the Future
JobsFirstNYC
JobTrain
Jordahl Academy
Joy Is Free LLC
JVS Boston
JVS SoCal
Kansas WorkforceONE
Kent Intermediate School District
Kentucky Association for Career and Technical Education
Kingsland University
KRA Corporation
Labor Institute for Training, Inc.
Lackawanna County Workforce Development Board
Lake County Workforce Development Board
Lane Workforce Partnership
Lawton Area Literacy Council
LeAnn Duran Consulting
Leclde Literacy Council ALV
Lehman College, CUNY
Leung Consulting
Lewis & Clark Literacy Council
Lewiston Adult Education
Liberated Success, Inc.
Lincoln County Adult Literacy
Lincoln Land Community College Adult Education
Literacy Action
Literacy Action Corps of Columbia MO
Literacy Connects
Literacy Council of Alaska
Literacy Council of Reading-Berks, Inc.
Literacy Delaware
Literacy Lighthouse
Literacy Nassau
Literacy New Jersey

Literacy Pittsburgh
 Literacy Volunteers and Advocates
 Literacy Volunteers at Centenary College
 Literacy Volunteers of Collier County
 Literacy Volunteers of Greater Augusta
 Literacy Volunteers of Greater Waterbury
 Literacy Volunteers of Methuen
 Literacy Volunteers of Rensselaer County
 Literacy Volunteers of South Sarasota County
 Literacy Volunteers of Sullivan County, NY
 Literacy West NY
 Literacy KC
 Don Bosco School of English
 Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)
 LOYOLA Associates
 Magna International Inc.
 Managed Career Solutions, SPC
 Manpower San Diego
 Manufacturing Renaissance
 Mariposa County Adult Literacy Program
 Martinez Adult Education
 MasshireHolyoke
 Maryland Workforce Association
 Mass Workforce Association
 Massachusetts Workforce Association
 MassHire Berkshire Career Center
 MassHire Cape and Islands Career Center
 McHenry County Workforce Network
 Mental Health & Addiction Association of Oregon
 Merete Hotel Management
 Michigan Works! Association
 Michigan Works! Southwest
 Michigan Works! West Central
 Mid-Valley STEM-CTE Hub
 Midwest Urban Strategies, Inc
 Milan Community Education
 Minnesota Association of Workforce Boards
 Mississippi Delta Council for Farmworkers Opportunities
 Moberly Area Community College
 Modestly Cover Diaper Bank of Essex County
 MorrisSussexWarren Workforce Development Board
 MTS Training Academy, Inc.
 Mustard Seed Training
 My American Dream
 Napa County HHSA
 Nashville International Center for Empowerment
 Nassau Community College
 National Alliance for Partnerships in Equity (NAPE)
 National Association of Workforce Boards
 National Coalition for Asian Pacific American
 Community Development
 National Center for Families Learning
 National Fund for Workforce Solutions
 National Job Corps Association
 National League of Cities
 National Partnership for New Americans
 National Skills Coalition
 National Urban League
 National Working Positive Coalition
 National Youth Employment Coalition
 NEMO Workforce Development Board
 Network of Jewish Human Service Agencies
 Neuhaus Education Center
 New Moms
 New Path Consulting, LLC
 New River - Mount Rogers Workforce Development Board
 New York State Department of Labor; America's Career
 Center
 Next Advance, Inc. The Capital Region Workforce
 Development Board
 Niagara County Workforce Development Board
 NMSU Grants Adult Education
 Nurses Association of the Counties of LI
 NY Association of Training and Employment
 Professionals
 NYC Employment and Training Coalition (NYCETC)
 NYCID
 Oakland County Michigan Works!
 Oakland Housing Authority
 Oakland Workforce Development Board
 Office of Workforce Strategy
 Ohio Association for Adult and Continuing Education
 OneFuture Coachella Valley
 Oneida County Workforce Development
 Oneida County Workforce Investment Board
 Opportunity Youth United
 Orange County Workforce Development Board
 Orange County Business Council
 Orange County Workforce Development Board
 Oregon Aero, Inc.
 Oregon Community College Association
 Oregon Tradeswomen
 Oregon Workforce Partnership
 Orleans County Job Development Agency
 Oswego County Opportunities, Inc.
 Oswego County Workforce NY Career Center
 Ouachita Parish Workforce Development Board-81
 PA Workforce Development Association

Pacific Asian Consortium in Employment (PACE)
 PacMtn Workforce Development Council
 Paola Adult Education Center
 Park City School District/Community Education
 Partner4Work
 Pelican Brewing Company/Kiwanda Hospitality
 Per Scholas Greater Boston
 PHI National
 Philadelphia Works
 Philadelphia Youth Network
 PIER 39
 Pima County (AZ) Adult Probation LEARN
 Pima County Community and Workforce
 Placer School for Adults
 Port of Oakland
 Project HIRED
 PROJECT RENEWAL
 ProLiteracy
 Proteus Inc. CA
 Providence Public Library
 Puerto Rican Police Association
 Queens Community House
 Rapides Workforce Development Board 61
 Rboc, Inc. Rebuilding Our Community
 REDF
 Region III Workforce Development Board, Kanawha County
 Region VII Workforce Development Board (WV)
 Regional Adult & Career Education
 Regional Office of Education #33
 Regional Office of Education #45
 Regional Partnership Workforce Development Board
 Regis College Online
 Relatable Learning, Inc.
 RespectAbility
 Restaurant Opportunities Centers United
 Restore Education
 Riverside Community College District
 Rockland BOCES
 ROC United
 Rogue Community College
 Rogue Workforce Partnership
 Rural America Center
 Rural Minnesota CEP, Inc
 Safer Foundation
 Samaritan Health Services
 San Diego City College
 San Diego Council on Literacy
 San Diego Workforce Partnership
 San Patricio County Adult Literacy Council, Inc
 San Ysidro Adult School, High School Diploma Program,
 HiSet and GED
 San Ysidro Health
 Saratoga County Career Center
 Schenectady County Job Training Agency
 Selaco Workforce Development Board
 SEMCA Michigan Works!
 Sequoia Adult School
 SER Metro-Detroit
 ShiftUp
 Shriver Center on Poverty Law
 Siena Literacy Center
 Signature Careers LLC
 Sisters of St. Dominic of Blauvelt, New York
 Sixth Planning District Workforce Development Board
 Area 60
 Skills2Compete- Colorado
 SkillSource
 Southern Maine Community College
 Soft Skills Zone, LLC
 Sound Learning
 Sound Learning Board of Directors, President
 Sound Manufacturing, Inc.
 South Bay Workforce Investment Board
 South Carolina Adult and Continuing Education
 South Central Iowa Local Workforce Development Board
 South Central Iowa Workforce Board
 South Central PA Works
 South Central Region 8 Workforce Board, Inc.
 South Coast Literacy Council
 South Western West Virginia Region 2 Workforce
 Investmen Southeast Community Services
 Southern Indiana Works
 Southern Workforce Board, Inc.
 SOWIB
 St Louis Urban League
 St. Lawrence County Workforce Development Board
 State of Nevada, Employment Security Division
 SUNY Bronx Educational Opportunity Center
 Sweetwater UHSD Adult Education
 SWW Workforce Development Board
 Sylvester Broome Empowerment Village
 Talent Development Coalition(TDC)& CarNav Group
 Texas Conservation Corps
 The Andromeda Community Initiative
 The Boston Foundation
 The Capital Region Workforce Development Board
 The Center for Work Ethic Development

The Community Outcomes Fund at Maycomb Capital
 The Corps Network
 The Doe Fund
 The Education STREaM, Inc.
 The Greenlining Institute
 The Spero Project
 The Westchester County Association, Inc.
 The Workforce Connection
 The Write Stuff-RVA
 Thorn Hill Education Center
 Three Rivers Regional Commission
 Tillamook Bay Community College
 Tipping Point Community
 Topeka Literacy Council, Inc.
 Trenton Area Soup Kitchen
 United States Workforce Associations
 United Way of Buffalo and Erie County
 United Way of Central Iowa
 United Way Worldwide
 United Ways of Texas
 Unitek Learning
 UNITE-LA
 Universal Plastics Corporation
 Upper Peninsula Michigan Works
 Upwardly Global
 Urban League of Metro St. Louis
 US Partnership for Education for Sustainable Development
 Valueusa
 Vermont Technical College
 Vietnamese Social Services of Minnesota
 Virginia Assoc. for Career and Technical Education
 Virginia Association for Adult and Continuing Education
 Virginia Association of Workforce Directors
 Virtual Professionals LLC
 Vista Adult School
 Vista Unified School District
 Volunteers of America of Massachusetts. Inc.
 Waite Consultants
 Walworth County Literacy Council
 Washington Anti-Hunger & Nutrition Coalition
 Washington Association for Career & Technical Education
 Washington Workforce Association
 Wayne Township Adult Education
 Workforce Development Board of Herkimer, Madison
 and Oneida Counties
 West Central Job Partnerships, INC.
 West Central Wisconsin Workforce Development Board
 West Michigan Works!
 Western Indiana Workforce Development Board, Inc.
 Whole Person Learning
 WIB Inc Chautauqua Works
 Willamette Workforce Partnership
 Windsor Adult Education
 Wisconsin Literacy, Inc.
 Wisconsin Workforce Development Association
 Won Community Service Center
 Worcester Public Schools
 Workforce Alliance
 Workforce Board Lehigh Valley
 Workforce Consultant
 Workforce Dev. Council of Seattle-King County
 Workforce Development Board Area 1 (Ohio
 Workforce Development Board HMO & CDO
 Workforce Development Board of Central Ohio
 Workforce Development Board of Oswego County. Inc.
 Workforce Development Board SDA-83, Inc.
 Workforce Development Board/Trumbull County
 Workforce Investment Board of SW MO
 Workforce Midsouth/Greater Memphis Local WB
 Workforce Partnership - Kansas
 Workforce Solutions Group
 Workforce Solutions of West Central Texas Board
 Workforce Southwest Washington
 Workforce-Corning Community College
 WorkNet Solutions LLC
 WorkSource Georgia Mountains
 Worksource Montgomery
 Worksystems
 World Education Services
 World Education, Inc.
 WORTH Center (Lima City Schools)
 WSU Tech
 Wyoming Workforce Development Council
 Yankton Sioux Tribe
 Yavapai County Workforce Development Board
 Year Up, Inc.
 York County Literacy Council
 Youth Action Programs and Homes, Inc.
 Youth Bureau
 Youth Will
 Youth WINS
 YouthBuild Collaborative of Southern California, Inc.
 YouthBuild USA
 YWCA Elgin