



## SPRING CCRY MEETING

*Protecting Investments and Sharing Effective Practice for Opportunity Youth*

**MARCH 23—24, 2017**

FHI 360, 1875 Connecticut Avenue, NW  
Greeley Hall 3<sup>rd</sup> floor  
Washington, D.C. 20009

### PRELIMINARY AGENDA

#### **DAY ONE—March 23<sup>rd</sup>**

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*Continental Breakfast begins at 8:30 AM*

**9:00AM — 9:45AM Welcome, Introductions, and Agenda Overview**

*Bob Rath, CEO, Our Piece of the Pie*

*Andrea Amaechi, Policy Analyst, Youth Policy, CLASP*

**9:45AM — 10:45AM National Policy and Legislative Update**

Our meeting will occur during the final days of the Trump Administration's first 100 days in office. We will discuss priorities and initiatives they have engaged in thus far, as well as the outlook for the remainder of the year and our role in advocacy. On the legislative front, we can expect budget and appropriations to be at the forefront, with some reauthorizations in the pipeline. What opportunities and threats can we foresee in federal labor, education, justice, and health and human services policy impacting opportunity youth?

*Kisha Bird, Director, Youth Policy, CLASP*

*Andrea Amaechi*

**10:45AM — 11:00AM BREAK**

**11:00AM — 12:30PM Realizing Youth Justice**

Realizing youth justice must begin with a set of principles based on empowering young people, providing alternatives to incarceration, and supporting reentry for those who were justice involved. For example, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals is a signature policy from the Obama Administration that has helped hundreds of thousands of

undocumented immigrant youth live and work in this country, but its future is under question. What can states and local communities do to ensure access to education, training, and employment for youth of color and undocumented youth?

*Clarence Okoh, Research Assistant, Youth Policy, CLASP*

*Wendy Cervantes, Senior Policy Analyst, Immigration and Immigrant Families, CLASP*

*Robert Sainz, Assistant General Manager, City of Los Angeles Economic & Workforce Development Department*

*Alice Prince, Division Manager, Young Adult Workforce Division, St. Louis Agency on Training and Employment*

**12:30PM — 1:30PM**     **WORKING LUNCH: Meeting the Mental Health/Behavioral Health Needs of Opportunity Youth**

We will share findings from CLASP's focus groups with youth, in which they discussed their mental health challenges, the barriers they face to getting help, and the services and supports that did help them.

*Nia West-Bey, Senior Policy Analyst, Youth Policy, CLASP*

**1:30PM — 2:45PM**     **Postsecondary and Employment Pathways for Opportunity Youth**

Over the past year CLASP has engaged in a project to document best practices in developing pathways to postsecondary education and employment for opportunity youth. Several CCRY Network communities were engaged in this work, so we will discuss the keys to effective systems-building to put these pathways into action. We will also have an overview and discussion of FHI 360's College and Career Readiness: A Guide for Navigators.

*Andrea Amaechi*

*Hector Rivera, COO, Our Piece of the Pie*

*Ivan Charner, Director, National Institute for Work and Learning, FHI 360*

**2:45PM — 3:00PM**     **BREAK**

**3:00PM — 4:00PM**     **Conversation with National Policy Makers and Federal Agencies**

This session is designed as a moderated panel discussion with federal agency partners and Congressional staff to learn more about their priorities and share ideas, challenges, and solutions on supporting opportunities for youth, with a focus on opportunity youth and youth of color.

*Kisha Bird*

**4:00PM — 6:00PM**     **Informal Reception and Debrief**

## **DAY TWO—March 24<sup>th</sup>**

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*Continental Breakfast begins at 8:30 AM*

**9:00AM — 9:30AM      Recap of Yesterday's Discussions, Actions, and Next Steps**

*Lisa Johnson, Associate Director of Workforce Programs, National Institute for Work and Learning, FHI 360*

**9:30AM — 11:00AM      Defending the Federal Budget and Key Investments for Youth**

The federal government's FY2017 budget is currently running on a continuing resolution through April 28. That leaves two major budget tasks for Congress this spring: both FY17 and FY18, and past precedent by the majority party and rhetoric from the administration have not been encouraging for the outlook. We know that damaging and draconian cuts to the budget are a serious possibility. In this session we will review the particular investments that have benefited our youth, from departments ranging from labor and justice to health and human services, and discuss the national and local efforts in place to fight to defend what we have.

*Kisha Bird*

*Thomas Showalter, Director, National Youth Employment Coalition*

**11:00AM                      5-MINUTE BREAK**

**11:05AM — 12:00PM      Advocacy Strategy and Focus on Congressional Education**

Having just heard background from federal and legislative staff, we will have a conversation about how we can be supportive of their efforts and influence their work, along with successful advocacy strategies at the local level. How should we engage our champions on the Hill and where should we develop new ones?

*Kisha Bird*

*Stephanie Gambone, Executive Vice President, Philadelphia Youth Network*