Postsecondary Pathways for Out-of-School Youth
Kisha Bird, Director of Youth Policy, CLASP and Project Director, Campaign for Youth–CLASP seeks to improve the lives of low-income people. We develop and advocate for federal, state and local policies to strengthen families and create pathways to education and work. CLASP's youth policy work aims to advance policy and practice that will improve the education, employment, and life outcomes for youth in communities of high youth distress. a national coalition chaired by CLASP. The Campaign for Youth is a group of leading national youth serving and policy organizations dedicated to elevating the needs of youth who are out of work, out of school, and out of the mainstream and the policy and practice solutions needed to help them thrive.

Nick Mathern, Associate Vice President, Policy & Partnership Development, Gateway to College National Network - Nick Mathern is Associate Vice President of Policy & Partnership Development for Gateway to College National Network. Since 2005 he has brokered agreements between colleges, school districts, and state education agencies for training, professional development, and evaluation to implement the Gateway to College program. He has directed the award of $20M in grants and contracts to programs serving opportunity youth. Nick is also responsible for the National Network’s policy agenda, which aims to provide reengagement and supportive post-secondary pathways for opportunity youth.

Heather Ficht, Director of Youth Workforce Services, Worksystems, Inc. - Heather manages Worksystems' youth workforce programs and investments and ensures coordination and alignment with other systems including the Department of Human Services, K-12 schools, Community Colleges, and local governments. She serves on the Cradle to Career Steering Committee and the Oregon Career Information Systems' Board. Heather joined Worksystems in 2005. Heather has 12 years experience working with youth who are homeless and/or have a criminal background and she served as a school social worker in East Multnomah County.
Agenda

• Welcome and WIOA Highlights
• Postsecondary Pathways for Out-of-School Youth: Local Workforce Board Perspective
• Gateway to College National Network
• Open Discussion (Q & A)
WIOA and Youth: Highlights
Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act

- Passed with wide bipartisan majority in Congress
  - Senate voted 93-5; House voted 415-6
- WIOA was signed into law by President Obama on July 22, 2014
  - Many provisions take effect July 1, 2015; others July 1, 2016
- First reauthorization of national workforce programs in 16 years
  - Updates the law for changes in the economy
  - Emphasizes newer, proven strategies in workforce development
New Opportunities for Low-Income and Low-Skilled Adults and Youth

- Increases the focus on serving the most vulnerable workers—low-income adults and youth
- Expands proven education and training options to help participants access good jobs and advance in their careers
- Helps disadvantaged and unemployed adults and youth earn while they learn
- Aligns planning and accountability policies across core programs to support more unified approaches
WIOA Expands and Improves Services to Disadvantaged Youth

- **75%** of Youth funds required to be spent on out-of-school youth
- New **16-24** age range for out-of-school youth eligibility
- Requires at least **20 percent** of Youth Formula Funds be spent on paid and unpaid work experiences (including Summer Jobs programs)
- Adds youth “living in a high-poverty area” to the low-income criterion for youth activities
- In-school youth eligibility includes low-income individuals ages 14 to 21 who are English language learners and those who have a disability
- Encourages Career Pathways for adults and youth
Strategic Plan Goal

Ensure that youth and the emergent workforce have the academic and core competencies required by employers.

Primary strategy: Enhance work-based learning opportunities and post-secondary transitions and success for disconnected youth.
Oregon’s 40-40-20 Goal

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Education Level</th>
<th>Goal</th>
<th>Need</th>
<th>Have</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor’s degree or higher</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>93,904 more people</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associates degree</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>484,178 more people</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High School diploma</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td></td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No High School diploma</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td></td>
<td>10%</td>
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</table>

26% Have Some College, No Degree
Career Connect Network (CCN)

**CAREER**
- Career exploration
- Work readiness training
- Work experience

**EDUCATION**
- High school completion
- College preparation

**SUPPORT**
- Multi-year case management
College and Career Readiness Competencies

### Pre-College College Exploration
- Secondary Education Completion
- College Readiness Training
- College tours/guest speakers
- College entrance exam preparation
- Financial Education & Planning
- FAFSA/Scholarship applications
- Project Based Learning

### Level 1 College Bridge
- Goal: Completion of Developmental Education coursework
- Highly structured prep in a college environment
- Assessed Basic Skills Deficient
- Academic tutoring
- Ongoing career planning and job-search assistance

### Level 2 Certificate Program
- Goal: Industry-recognized certification or career-pathway certificate
- Highly structured curriculum in a specific career pathway
- Assessed Basic Skills Sufficient
- May need additional technical skills to qualify for credential programs
- Academic tutoring as needed

### Level 3 2 Year College
- Goal: Successful progression in credit bearing coursework toward a degree or transfer
- Increased autonomy and variety of general education coursework
- Assessed Emerging College/Career Ready
- Post-secondary persistence supports
- WEX-4 Placement
- Networking and continued career coaching

### Level 4 4 Year College
- Goal: Successful progression toward a BS/BA degree
- A wide range of courses organized into academic majors
- Assessed College & Career Ready
- Post-secondary persistence supports
- WEX-4 Placement
- Networking and continued career coaching
Career Connect Network

- Disabled/Handicapped
- Juvenile Justice Involved
- Pregnant or Parenting Youth
- Homeless
- Single Head of Household
- Gang Involved or Affected
- Food stamp recipient
- Basic Skills Deficient
- Youth of Color

Percentage chart showing the distribution of different categories.
Future Connect Partnership

Post-Secondary Persistence Rates
*given different levels of supports*

- Future Connect*: 70%
- Financial Assistance ONLY: 30%
- No Supports: 15%

*Future Connect* utilizes a cohort model with financial assistance, career guidance, and personal advising.
Work-based Learning

SummerWorks

a program of Worksystems
Outcomes – 2014 calendar year

- Served 1,370 young people aged 16-24 years
  - 69% attained a degree or certificate
  - 55% achieved at least a two grade level skill gain in literacy or numeracy
  - 76% were placed in jobs or post secondary education

- No longer track
  - Earned 18+ college credits
  - Wage increases
Youth Reengagement through College & Career Readiness
Building a movement

- Communities recognize the value of dual enrollment as a youth reengagement strategy.
- This not only serves a K-12 purpose; it also increases college and career readiness for otherwise struggling students.
We Are Part of a Broader Movement
Opportunity Youth Deserve Robust, Equitable Options

Essential Program Elements

- Significant Dual Credit
- Sustainable Partnerships
- Holistic Student Support
- Innovative Teaching & Learning
- Intentional Collaboration
Student Eligibility Profile

- Between 16 and 21 years old
- Out of school or on the verge of dropping out
- Behind in high school credits (for age and grade level)
- GPA of 2.0 or below
- Lives in an eligible school district

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Network Wide</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Average Age:</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average High School GPA:</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average High School Credits at Entry:</td>
<td>43% of credits needed for a diploma</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Gateway Student Experience

Gateway to College Experience: Up to 3 Years

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gateway Foundation</th>
<th>Gateway Continuation (comprehensive campus)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>One Quarter or Semester</td>
<td>Multiple Quarters or Semesters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Developmental Ed Courses</td>
<td>College Coursework to Meet High School Diploma Requirements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College Skills Course</td>
<td>Advanced Coursework Toward Career Major</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Academic and Personal Support Continues During the Entire Time Students are Enrolled
At 42 colleges in 22 states...

- 4,656 students were enrolled in 2013-14
- Students graduate high school with an average of 28 college credits
- K-12 revenue annually provides more than $5.5M in scholarships for Gateway students (in addition to personnel, books, transportation, and meals)
- A 2012 third-party study showed that 73% of graduates continued to enroll in post-secondary education
Supporting Providers

How do we support our programs?

- Training
- Technical Assistance and Planning
- Data collection and analysis
- Program evaluation and continuous improvement
- Stakeholder engagement
- Recruitment & enrollment services
- Professional Development
QUESTIONS?
Contact Information

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