



Butler Family Fund Employment Projects

The Butler Family Fund, a member of Funders Together to End Homelessness, has been funding advocacy and policy work to prevent and end homelessness for close to twenty years. In 2010, the Fund began making strategic national, state, and local grants to promote employment for homeless and formerly homeless people. Our grants seek to improve the way the public workforce system serves homeless and formerly homeless people who have high barriers to work. We help identify promising local practices and publicize that work by connecting people and ideas. We encourage the strategic use of the Work Force Investment Act (WIA), Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) and other government dollars, and we support collaborative efforts between the public and the private sector. Throughout our grantmaking, we aim to capitalize and amplify the work of talented and effective practitioners on-the-ground, and to lift up collaboration and innovation.

WAYS FUNDERS CAN GET INVOLVED

Encourage the Work Force System to Serve Homeless or Formerly Homeless People

- ❖ Convene workforce boards with local and state homeless officials to brainstorm how they can better work together.
- ❖ Promote the meaningful participation of workforce boards in Continuums of Care so that homeless and employment providers can access funding together and partner effectively.
- ❖ Support best practices that educate workforce boards on how they can meet their performance outcomes AND serve homeless job seeker.

Support Emerging Best Practices

- ❖ Lift up and promote the best practices outlined by the *Working to End Homelessness Initiative* of the National Transitional Jobs Network. <http://www.heartlandalliance.org/ntjn/projects/weh-project-briefs.html>.
- ❖ Lift up the ideas that were initially in the President's *Pathways Back to Work* proposals and are currently contained in the *Pathways Back to Work Act*, for people who are hard to employ or experiencing long-term unemployment.
- ❖ Help connect homeless providers with employment programs and vice versa through co-locating programs and other means.
- ❖ Promote programs that place clients in jobs that *meet their interests*, not just jobs that are available.

Support Pilot Programs

- ❖ Fund pilot programs that link employment and homelessness solutions.
- ❖ Lift up and promote successful work to engage private sector employers in hiring homeless and formerly homeless people, publicizing how to do this and what works.
- ❖ Promote transitional jobs and career ladder programs, appropriate alternative staffing programs, and social enterprise with built-in social supports for people with high barriers to employment; and identify flexible federal dollars to support such programs (WIA) and other flexible Education and Training Assistance (ETA) dollars.

List of Employment Resources

NATIONAL TRANSITIONAL JOBS NETWORK (NTJN), a project of the Heartland Alliance

Website: <http://www.heartlandalliance.org/ntjn/projects/weh-project-briefs.html> Geography: National
NTJN created a best practice guide on employment programming for people experiencing homelessness to be used throughout the field by both inexperienced and experienced organizations.

CENTER ON BUDGET AND POLICY PRIORITIES (CBPP)

Website: <http://cbpp.org> Geography: National
CBPP has deep expertise in TANF policy, including using TANF funding to support subsidized employment. See e.g., *Creating Subsidized Employment Opportunities for Low-Income Parents, The Legacy of the TANF Emergency Fund*. February 16, 2011. <http://www.cbpp.org/cms/?fa=view&id=3400>

NATIONAL YOUTH EMPLOYMENT COALITION (NYEC)

Website: <http://www.nyec.org/> Geography: National
The NYEC promotes policy and practices that youth workforce development policy and the improvements of youth workforce development and youth development practices.

THE ALTERNATIVE STAFFING ALLIANCE (ASA)

Website: <http://altstaffing.org/> Geography: National
The ASA is a resource for staffing organizations that serve people with high barriers to work.

BAYAUD ENTERPRISES

Website: <http://www.bayaudenterprises.org> Geography: Denver, Colorado
Bayaud has deep experience serving people with high barriers to work. It spearheaded a regional initiative in the seven county Denver Metro area to expand Denver's Road to Work program and increase the number of private employers who would hire homeless and formerly homeless people, including veterans.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL OF SEATTLE-KING COUNTY (WDC)

Website: <http://www.seakingwdc.org> Geography: National
The WDC created the National Advisory Group, a select group of progressive Workforce Investment Boards, to collaborate and share ideas on how best to serve the employment needs of homeless people. See also, *The Navigator Model: Connecting to Employment*, <http://www.seakingwdc.org/pdf/09-10-reports/NavigatorReport11-11.pdf>

THE ROAD HOME

Website: <http://theroadhome.org/> Geography: Salt Lake City, Utah
The Housing Works Employment Program established an employment pilot program in two supportive housing facilities to test and implement the assumption that "everyone is employable."

SUPPORTIVE HOUSING PROVIDERS ASSOCIATION (SHPA)

Website: <http://www.shpa-il.org/> Geography: Illinois
SHPA's extensive research and analysis on ways to support people experiencing homelessness in accessing training and employment led to the creation of the Connect to Work Matrix online website and around Illinois. Link to matrix: <http://www.connecttowork.org/>

COMMUNITY HOUSING PARTNERSHIP (CHP)

Website: <http://www.chp-sf.org> Geography: San Francisco, California
CHP has a long history and culture of employment in its permanent supportive housing facilities. The program tries to place clients in work and work-like activities that meet their interests.

CENTRAL CITY CONCERN AND JOIN

Websites: <http://www.joinpdx.com/> and <http://www.centralcityconcern.org/> Geography: Portland, Oregon
Central City Concern and JOIN are collaborating on a supported employment program which locates a Central City Concern employment specialist at JOIN's offices to serve JOIN's clients.