

SPEAKER INFORMATION

Congressional Forum
Putting America Back to Work: Direct Job Creation in Local Communities
May 25, 2010

Mandy Alvar

Community Health Partnership
Eau Claire, WI



Mandy Alvar is a Certified Nursing Assistant and has worked for the Community Health Partnership for eight years. CHP is a long-term managed care program that provides in-home care to frail elderly people and individuals with physical and development disabilities who would otherwise be forced to live in a nursing home or alternative care facility. She enjoys working with a diverse clientele. Mandy learned in May that her entire division will be closing and she will be laid off in the near future. While she is concerned about finding her next job, she is particularly concerned for her clients, to whom she has provided consistent care over long periods of time.

Dr. Bernard E. Anderson

National Urban League President's Council of Economic Advisors



Bernard E. Anderson, a nationally respected economist, has held leadership positions in academia, public service, and civic life. He is former Whitney M. Young, Jr. Professor of Management at the Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania, and Chairman of the National Urban League President's Council of Economic Advisors. After earning a Ph.D. in Business Economics at the University of Pennsylvania, he was appointed to the faculty, where he pursued a productive career in teaching, research and publication. He is the author of six books and numerous scholarly and popular articles on employment policy, economic performance, and community reinvestment. He was appointed by President Clinton and confirmed by the Senate to serve as Assistant Secretary of Labor for Employment Standards Administration.

Reverend George Cummings

Imani Community Church & PICO-Oakland Community Organizations
Oakland, CA



Reverend George Cummings is co-chair of the PICO national network steering committee, board co-chair of Oakland Community Organizations, and founding pastor of the Imani Community Church in Oakland. Prior to the Imani Community Church, he served six years as pastor of The Church By The Side of the Road in Berkeley, California. He also served for 20 years as Professor of Theology and Academic Dean at the American Baptist Seminary of the West. A native of Brooklyn, New York, Reverend Cummings studied at Gordon College in Wenham, Massachusetts (Bachelor of Arts, Religion), Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary in Hamilton, Massachusetts, (Master of Divinity) and Union Theological Seminary in New York City (Master of Sacred Theology, Master of Philosophy, Doctor of Philosophy, Systematic Theology).

Kerry Doi

Pacific Asian Consortium in Employment



Kerry Doi has been a leader in the Asian and Pacific Islander community for 40 years. He has been the President and CEO of the Pacific Asian Consortium in Employment (PACE) since he helped found the organization in 1976. PACE programs serve more than 50,000 low income residents annually, with an operating budget in excess of \$31 million and 385 staff. He serves on the board of the Asian Pacific Community Fund, the Asian Pacific Revolving Loan Fund of Los Angeles and the California Community Economic Development Association. He is also the co-chair of Coalition for Asian Pacific American Community Development (CAPACD), the national trade association of

API community development professionals. He received a BS degree from California State University, Long Beach. Recently, he completed the prestigious Fannie Mae/Neighborhood Reinvestment Excellence in Community Development Program, at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government.

Christian Dorsey

Economic Policy Institute



Christian Dorsey is the Director of External and Government Affairs at the Economic Policy Institute in Washington DC. EPI is a progressive, non-partisan think tank that conducts ongoing research of our nation's economy and develops policy proposals to increase economic growth and broadly shared prosperity. Christian directs the Institute's work in building awareness of economic policy matters with a goal of educating and mobilizing communities to advocate more effectively on their economic behalf and to advance EPI's policy initiatives with Congress and the Obama administration. Christian is a frequent commentator on cable news networks having

appeared on CNN, CNBC and Fox among others.

Mayor Laurent F. Gilbert, Sr.

City of Lewiston, ME



Mayor Laurent Gilbert has served as Mayor of Lewiston, Maine since February 2007. He was born in Lewiston and grew up partly in Southern California. After serving in the Vietnam War from 1966 to 1967, he worked briefly for Continental Airlines in Los Angeles before returning to Lewiston. He then served in the Lewiston Police Department for 25 years, including five years as Chief of Police. For eight years, Laurent served as the United States Marshal for the District of Maine under an appointment by President Bill Clinton. He also served for five years as the Associate Director of the Maine Community Policing Institute at the University of Maine at Augusta. Mayor Gilbert received a Bachelor of Science Degree with Distinction in the

Administration of Justice and an Associate of Science Degree with Distinction in Criminal Justice, both from The University of Maine at Augusta. He is married to the former Patricia Rodrigue of Augusta and they have three children, Karen, Karla & Laurent (Larry) Jr.

Wade Henderson

President, Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights



Wade Henderson is the president and CEO of The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights and The Leadership Conference Education Fund. Mr. Henderson is also the Joseph L. Rauh, Jr., Professor of Public Interest Law at the David A. Clarke School of Law, University of the District of Columbia. He currently serves on the National Quality Forum Board of Directors, FDIC Advisory Committee on Economic Inclusion and the Center for Responsible Lending, and Education Testing Service. Prior to his role with The Leadership Conference, Mr. Henderson was the Washington Bureau director of the NAACP. He is a graduate of Howard University and the Rutgers University School of Law.

Rosemary Hicks

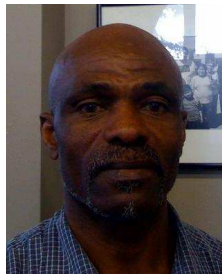
Tuskegee Youth Safe Haven
Holly Springs, MS



When **Rosemary Hicks** graduated from Tuskegee University in early May, she became the first member in her family to finish college. She held leadership roles while in college, including NAACP Community Service Chairperson and Student Government Association Vice President. Despite graduating Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Sales and Marketing, she has not been able to find employment. Ms. Hicks is anxious to start a career, in part so she can begin paying back student loans and to help support her family financially.

Charles Jenkins

Chicago Coalition for the Homeless
Chicago, IL



Charles Jenkins was born and raised in Chicago. In June 2009, Charles was hospitalized due to a severe illness. Due to his company's policy on seniority, he was terminated, and in July 2009, he began receiving unemployment benefits. Recently, he has begun working as a Community Organizer in Training for the Chicago Coalition on Hunger through the TANF ECF subsidized employment program. Mr. Jenkins is 55 years old, a hard worker, and a loving father of seven.

Melissa McClure

Community Voices Heard
New York, NY



Melissa McClure lives in New York City and has been unemployed since November 2006, one of the 4.4 million "missing workers." She has worked for over 15 years in retail management and before that, in the fashion industry. She holds a Bachelors degree in Fine Arts. However, in this economic environment, she has not been able to find work.

Melissa Nieves

Union Settlement Association
New York, NY



Melissa Nieves is Director of Adult Education at Union Settlement Association in New York City. Union Settlement is one of the oldest and largest social service providers in East Harlem, established in 1895. Prior to joining Union Settlement in 2006, she served as Director of the Harlem Center for Education's Educational Opportunity Center and as Director of ESL, Literacy & Computer Services at University Settlement. Ms. Nieves has a Bachelor's degree from Long Island University and is fluent in Spanish, French and Italian. She brings 18 years of teaching, counseling and adult education experience. She was raised in Brooklyn and is a first-generation college graduate.

Nadina Patterson

Philadelphia Unemployment Project
Philadelphia, PA



Nadina Patterson brings 20 years of experience in human services and has been looking for work in that field since she became unemployed in February 2009. She was laid off after working for 2 years as a health outreach worker, helping families secure timely immunizations. Despite conducting an extensive job search, it has been very difficult to find a new position due to competition. She currently volunteers with the Philadelphia Unemployment Project, which has been organizing poor and unemployed people for the past 35 years.