

Great Cities Commitment Programs at UIC

Workforce Development

Accessing the World of Work

Description: Survey of African Americans with disabilities to determine how personal factors and characteristics of the vocational rehabilitation service system interact to affect employment status.

Dates active:

Category: Rehabilitation and disability studies
Workforce development

UIC Partners: Liberal Arts and Sciences

Contacts: **Comer, Christopher M.**

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Partners: N/A

ADA Training for Staff of the Illinois Employment Training Centers (IETC) in Chicago

Description: Providing training and technical assistance to staff and partners within the One-Stop employment delivery systems funded through the Chicago Workforce Development Board regarding serving customers with disabilities. Training includes disability awareness, facility accessibility planning and effective communication.

Dates active:

Category: Rehabilitation and disability studies
Workforce development

UIC Partners: Applied Health Sciences

Contacts: **Tate, Charlotte**

Dean, College of Applied Health Sciences

Phone: 312.996.6695

Email: tate@uic.edu

Partners: Chicago Workforce Development Board

City of Chicago

Mayor's Office for Workforce Development

Health and Disability Advocates

United States Department of Labor

Bridge to Advanced Technological Education and Employment

Description: Develop, evaluate and disseminate instructional materials for "adult tech prep bridge" training programs. Prepares educationally disadvantaged adults for career path employment as technicians and post-secondary technical education in advanced technical fields

Dates active: 1998 --

Category: Workforce development

UIC Partners: Urban Planning and Public Affairs

Contacts: **Hambleton, Robin**

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Partners: Academy for Educational Development (AED)
Chicago Manufacturing Center
City of Chicago
Mayor's Office of Workforce Development
Detroit Hispanic Development Corporation
Henry Ford Community College
Hispanic Manufacturing Center
Illinois Institute of Technology
Bachelor of Manufacturing Technology Program
Instituto del Progreso Latino
Richard J. Daley College
Wayne State University

Career Building for Nurse Retention and Care Excellence

Description: Implement and test a model to improve quality of the nurse work environment through: individualized career consultation, access to learning opportunities for professional development, developing and strengthening nursing shared governance, and the use of activity-based management so that staff nurses can re-shape nursing practice.

Dates active:

Category: Workforce development

UIC Partners: Nursing

Contacts: **Shaver, Joan**

Dean and Professor, College of Nursing

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Partners: Advocate Good Samaritan Hospital
Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center
Advocate Trinity Hospital
Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)

Career Ladders (Mentored BSN Program)

Description: The UIC Mentored BSN Program highlights our involvement in training community workers, and addresses both concerns by working with community based organizations and individuals to identify and introduce ethnic minorities to career opportunities in nursing. The program is designed to offer career advancement opportunities to individuals who are currently working in the health field as community workers, peer health educators, medical assistants, and technicians among other similar roles.

Dates active: 2003 -- ?

Category: Workforce development

UIC Partners: Nursing

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Dean and Professor, College of Nursing

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Email: jshaver@uic.edu

Partners: Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)
Illinois Department of Human Services

Changes in Urban Information Technology Labor Markets

Description: Labor market research examining key IT labor markets in the US.

Dates active:

Category: Workforce development

UIC Partners: Urban Planning and Public Affairs

Contacts: **Hambleton, Robin**

Dean, College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs

Phone: 312.413.3375

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Partners: Ford Foundation

Washington Alliance of Technology Workers

Chicagoland Provider Leadership Network

Description: The CPLN is a collaboration of key stakeholders who enhance the employment of people with disabilities, the majority of which provide direct employment services. The mission of the CPLN is to establish partnerships with employers which result in people with disabilities successfully filling the employment needs of the Chicagoland labor market, and to enhance the provider's capacity to deliver services to their target markets.

Dates active:

Category: Workforce development
Rehabilitation and disability studies

UIC Partners: Applied Health Sciences

Contacts: **Tate, Charlotte**

Dean, College of Applied Health Sciences

Phone: 312.996.6695

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Partners: AbilityLinks

Chicago Lighthouse

Chicago Workforce Development Board

Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce

City of Chicago

Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities

Mayor's Office for Workforce Development

Community Support Services, Inc.

EmployAlliance WSCCI

Goodwill Industries International, Inc.

Guild for the Blind

Illinois Council on Developmental Disabilities

Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity

Illinois Department of Human Services

Department of Rehabilitation Services

Illinois Department of Labor

Jewish Vocational Service Chicago

National Able Network

Partners for Inclusive Employment

Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago

Thresholds Psychiatric Rehabilitation Center

United States Social Security Administration

Community Technology Center: Computer Training Courses at Instituto del Progreso Latino

Description: UICNI, in partnership with Instituto del Progreso Latino, a community-based nonprofit organization, received funding for a one-year program to provide computer training to 570 low-income Latinos and African Americans living in Chicago's Pilsen (Lower West Side), Little Village (South Lawndale), South Deering, and Back-of-the-Yards (New City) communities. The proposed courses are Computers en Espanol (to introduce non-English speakers to computers) and Computers for Careers (to help participants learn how to use a computer to search for and apply for jobs).

Dates active:

Category: Workforce development
Services for the disadvantaged

UIC Partners: Urban Planning and Public Affairs

Contacts: **Gonzalez, Atanacio "Nacho"**

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Partners: Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity
Instituto del Progreso Latino

Community Technology Center: North Lawndale Community News

Description: In partnership with Strategic Human Services (also known as North Lawndale Community News), the Community Technology Center provides basic and intermediate computer skills, Web site design, desktop publishing courses, open computer lab for career-related information, employment opportunities, and internet searches to low-income, primarily African American, residents of the North Lawndale and Garfield Park communities in Chicago.

Dates active:

Category: Workforce development
Services for the disadvantaged

UIC Partners: Urban Planning and Public Affairs

Contacts: **Gonzalez, Atanacio "Nacho"**

Associate Director of Community and Economic Development, UICNI

Phone: 312.996.8700

Email: nacho@uic.edu

Partners: Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity
North Lawndale Community News

Community Technology Center: North Lawndale Employment Network

Description: In partnership with the North Lawndale Employment Network, this Community Technology Center will provide open computer lab for access to career-related information, employment opportunities, internet searches, basic computer literacy classes, and Microsoft Office Specialist Certification training to low-income, primarily African American, residents of the North Lawndale and Garfield Park communities in Chicago

Dates active:

Category: Workforce development
Services for the disadvantaged

UIC Partners: Urban Planning and Public Affairs

Contacts: **Perry, David**

Director, Great Cities Institute

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Partners: Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity
North Lawndale Employment Network

Great Cities Workforce Development Program

Description: These projects seek to advance understanding to increase access to economic opportunity by disadvantaged youths and adults. A key focus of this work is the role of public post-secondary institutions, particularly community colleges, in educating economically educationally disadvantaged individuals for gainful employment in a knowledge economy.

Dates active:

Category: Workforce development

UIC Partners: Urban Planning and Public Affairs

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Partners: Chicago Housing Authority
Chicago Jobs Council
Ford Foundation
Illinois Department of Employment Security
John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation
Joyce Foundation
Women Employed Institute

Illinois Direct Support Professional Workforce Development Initiative

Description: This initiative will create the infrastructure necessary to increase the recruitment and retention of quality direct support professionals throughout the state.

Dates active:

Category: Workforce Development
Rehabilitation and disability studies

UIC Partners: Applied Health Sciences

Contacts: **Tate, Charolotte**

Dean, College of Applied Health Sciences

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Partners: AFSCME Council 31
American Association on Mental Retardation (AAMR)
Illinois Chapter
Arc of Illinois
ARC of Rock Island County
Clearbrook
Coalition of Citizens with Disabilities in Illinois
Community Support Services, Inc.
Cornerstone Services, Inc
Family Support Network of Illinois
Habilitative Systems, Inc.
Human Services Research Institute
Illinois Association of Rehabilitation Facilities (IARF)

Illinois Community College Board
 Illinois Council on Developmental Disabilities
 Illinois Department of Human Services
 Division of Developmental Disabilities
 Division of Rehabilitation Services
 Illinois Health Care Association (IHCA)
 Illinois Network of Centers for Independent Living (INCIL)
 Institute on Community Integration
 Little Friends, Inc.
 New Hope Center, Inc.
 Oak Leyden Developmental Services, Inc.
 Ray Graham Association for People with Disabilities
 Seguin Services, Inc.
 Service Employee International Union (SEIU)
 Local 880
 Southern Illinois University--Carbondale
 SPARC, Inc.
 State of Illinois
 Office of the Governor
 United Cerebral Palsy of Illinois
 United States Department of Labor
 Victor C. Neumann Association

Improving Economic Opportunities for Latino Workers on Chicago's South Side

Description: Neighborhood strategic planning process to identify economic development and workforce development priorities for the Latino Organization of the Southwest.

Dates active:

Category: Workforce development
 Neighborhood revitalization

UIC Partners: Urban Planning and Public Affairs

Contacts: **Hambleton, Robin**

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Partners: Chicago Community Trust

Latino Organization of the Southwest

United States Department of Commerce

Job Training and Economic Development

Description: Evaluation of the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity's Job Training and Economic Development (JTED) program, which supports training for unemployed and low-income workers for high-demand jobs with local employers.

Dates active:

Category: Workforce development

UIC Partners: Urban Planning and Public Affairs

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Partners: Chicago Jobs Council
Joyce Foundation
State Agenda for Community Economic Development (SACED)
United States Department of Commerce

National Day Laborer Survey

Description: Survey of street corner day laborers in 59 metropolitan areas regarding employment, immigration, and incorporation issues.

Dates active:

Category: Services for the disadvantaged
Workforce development

UIC Partners: Urban Planning and Public Affairs

Contacts: **Hambleton, Robin**
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Partners: Campaign for Immigrant Rights in Los Angeles
Ford Foundation
National Day Laborer Organizing Network
New School University
Rockefeller Foundation
University of California--Los Angeles

National Worker Center Survey

Description: Survey of the worker centers that provide services to street corner day laborers. The Survey explores program models, service delivery, funding, and other issues related to organizational capacity.

Dates active:

Category: Workforce development
Services for the disadvantaged

UIC Partners: Urban Planning and Public Affairs

Contacts: **Hambleton, Robin**
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Phone: 312.413.3375 **Email:** robinh@uic.edu

Partners: Ford Foundation
National Day Laborer Organizing Network
New School University
Rockefeller Foundation
University of California--Los Angeles

North Lawndale Employment Network

Description: Five-year old partnership organization that is seeking to improve the employment prospects of the residents of North Lawndale on Chicago's West Side. UIC is providing assistance with labor market research and program planning and evaluation.

Dates active:

Category: Workforce development

UIC Partners: Urban Planning and Public Affairs

Contacts: **Perry, David**

Director, Great Cities Institute

Phone: 312.355.3926

Email: dperry@uic.edu

Partners: North Lawndale Employment Network

Partners for Inclusive Employment

Description: A coalition of various partners working to increase employment of people with disabilities through business, provider, and consumer partnerships.

Dates active:

Category: Rehabilitation and disability studies
Workforce Development

UIC Partners: Applied Health Sciences

Contacts: **Tate, Charlotte**

Dean, College of Applied Health Sciences

Phone: 312.996.6695

Email: tate@uic.edu

Partners:

AbilityLinks

Access Living of Metropolitan Chicago

Anixter Center

Chicago Anti-Hunger Federation

Chicago Lighthouse

City of Chicago

Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities

Mayor's Office for Workforce Development

Coalition of Citizens with Disabilities in Illinois

Easter Seals Metropolitan Chicago

EmployAlliance WSCCI

Goodwill Industries International, Inc.

Illinois Department of Employment Security

Illinois Department of Human Services

Illinois Employment and Training Centers (IETC)

Jewish Vocational Service Chicago

South Austin Coalition Community Council

United States Social Security Administration

Westside Jobs Collaborative

Project Access

Description: Market research for the planning and design of Project Access, a workforce development initiative aimed at preparing workers from disadvantaged communities to enter jobs in high-demand industries and occupations identified by Illinois's Critical Skill Shortage Initiative.

Dates active:

Category: Workforce development
Urban infrastructure improvement

UIC Partners: Urban Planning and Public Affairs

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Partners: Illinois Department of Employment Security

Kennedy King College

United States Department of Commerce

State of Affordable Housing in the Chicago Region in the Next Decade

Description: Research project assessing the state of affordable housing in the Chicago region in the next decade

Dates active:

Category: Neighborhood revitalization
Workforce development

UIC Partners: Urban Planning and Public Affairs

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Partners: Chicago Rehabilitation Network, Inc.

Latinos United

Statewide Housing Action Coalition

Woods Fund of Chicago

Stepping up Chicago

Description: Analysis of career path opportunities for residents of supportive housing.

Dates active:

Category: Workforce development
Services for the disadvantaged

UIC Partners: Urban Planning and Public Affairs

Contacts: **Hambleton, Robin**

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Phone: 312.413.3375

Email: robinh@uic.edu

Partners: Corporation for Supportive Housing

Wilbur Wright College

Successful Transition

Description: Provides for the implementation of innovative services under the Workforce Investment Act. Participants receive skill development, access to mentoring and work-based learning experiences

Dates active:

Category: Workforce development

UIC Partners: Applied Health Sciences

Contacts: **Tate, Charlotte**

Dean, College of Applied Health Sciences

Phone: 312.996.6695

Email: tate@uic.edu

Partners: N/A

Temping and Low-Wage Work: Bridge or Trap?

Description: Examination of the role of temporary staffing agencies in the delivery of public sector welfare-to-work program in urban areas.

Dates active:

Category: Services for the disadvantaged
Workforce development

UIC Partners: Urban Planning and Public Affairs

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Partners: Charles Stewart Mott Foundation

Temporary work agencies and urban labor markets in Europe and the US

Description: Comparative research project examining the growth and diversification of the temporary staffing industry in Europe and the United States

Dates active:

Category: Workforce development
International collaborations

UIC Partners: Urban Planning and Public Affairs

Contacts: **Hambleton, Robin**

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Partners: British Academy

University of Manchester

Under the Radar: Unregulated Work in Chicago and New York City

Description: Comparative research project examining the growth of informal employment arrangements that exist beyond the reach of government regulation. This project aims to identify the drivers behind the growth of unregulated work, both on the demand side (industrial structure, competitive dynamics) and on the supply side (worker characteristics) of local labor markets.

Dates active:

Category: Workforce development
Services for the disadvantaged

UIC Partners: Urban Planning and Public Affairs

Contacts: **Hambleton, Robin**

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Partners: Baruch College (CUNY)
New York University
Rockefeller Foundation
Russell Sage Foundation

Undocumented Workers Research

Description: Center for Urban Economic Development conducted a study that shows that undocumented workers account for a growing 5 percent share of the Chicago labor market and are important contributors to the local economy. Yet, they experience substandard wages and working conditions because they lack legal status.

Dates active:

Category: Workforce development

UIC Partners: Urban Planning and Public Affairs

Contacts: **Hambleton, Robin**

Dean, College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs

Phone: 312.413.3375

Email: robinh@uic.edu

Partners: N/A