



SPEAKER DIRECTORY

Beth A. Brinly

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Beth Brinly serves as the Chief of Workforce Investment in the U.S. Department of Labor's Philadelphia Regional Office, providing technical assistance and support regarding the implementation of the Workforce Investment Act in the Mid-Atlantic region. Prior to that, Ms. Brinly served as an Education Program Specialist in the Secretary's Regional Representative Office in the U.S. Department of Education's Philadelphia Regional Office.

Ms. Brinly began her career at the state level for the Commonwealth of Kentucky. During her state government career, she served as a Staff Assistant in the Governor's Office, a Senior Policy and Budget Analyst in the Governor's Office for Policy and Management, the Principal Assistant to the Secretary of Workforce Development, and the Executive Director of the Office of School-to-Work. She has also served as a Project Director at Jobs For the Future, a national non-profit organization making the connection between work and learning.

Ms. Brinly received her undergraduate degree from the University of Louisville and her graduate degree from Pennsylvania State University. She has also served as the President of the Kentucky Junior Chamber of Commerce.

Chris Chmura

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Chris Chmura is the President and Chief Economist for Chmura Economics & Analytics, a quantitative research and economic development and workforce consulting firm located in Richmond, Virginia, founded in December 1999. She is a quoted source on regional and national trends in the media throughout the Mid-Atlantic and Southeast, as well as national publications such as the *Wall Street Journal*. She writes a monthly column on the economy for the *Richmond Times Dispatch*.



Ms. Chmura was Chief Economist at Crestar Financial Corporation, formerly the 30th largest bank holding company in the nation. She currently serves on the Governor's Economic Advisory Board of the Commonwealth of Virginia, and is a past member of the Virginia Commonwealth University Foundation Board of Trustees, the Board of the National Association of Business Economics, and is a past member of the American Bankers Association Economic Advisory Board.

Ms. Chmura received her Ph.D. in Business with a major in Finance and a minor in Economics from Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, Virginia. Her Masters in Economics is from Clemson University, as is her undergraduate degree in Business Administration. Prior to spending eight years in banking, Ms. Chmura was an Associate Economist at the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond for seven years.

Brian Davis

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Brian Davis serves as Director of Workforce Systems in the office of Virginia Governor Tim Kaine's Senior Advisor for Workforce. Prior to joining the Governor's office, he advanced from Senior Planner to Supervisor to Assistant Director for a \$30+ million statewide workforce development and training program and system-building initiative. Combined with his workforce development experience is a background in comprehensive planning and development review, with more than nine years of local government land use and zoning experience in rural, suburban, and urban communities in two states. Mr. Davis also gained some private sector experience working with the firm of Chmura Economics and Analytics in Richmond, Virginia.

Mr. Davis earned his Bachelor of Science in Urban Studies and Planning from Virginia Commonwealth University, and received a completion certificate for the Regional Vision Rural Leadership Development Program from Clarion University of Pennsylvania.



Kit Donahue

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Kit Donahue is currently Director of the Office of State Systems for the Employment and Training Administration in the U.S. Department of Labor's Philadelphia Regional Office. In this position, she oversees adult, dislocated worker, and youth programs under the Workforce Investment Act; employment service activities under Wagner Peyser; Trade Act; and Unemployment Insurance.

Ms. Donahue joined the Department of Labor when she was appointed Secretary's Representative in 1986 by then Secretary of Labor Bill Brock. She continued to serve in that position for succeeding Secretaries of Labor, Anne McLaughlin, Lynn Martin, and Elizabeth Dole.

Ms. Donahue began her career as a legislative analyst for E.I. Dupont. She subsequently served on the staffs of Congressmen and Senators from Virginia, Oklahoma, and Pennsylvania.

Calvin Edghill

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As the Senior Community Planner, Calvin Edghill helps to support implementation of \$5 million planning/technical assistance programs for the Philadelphia Regional Office. He reviews, monitors, and supports strategic planning for Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, Virginia, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. Over the last seven years he participated in disaster recovery efforts for five catastrophic events (Hurricanes Charlie, Floyd, Ivan, Katrina, Rita, and 9/11-Northern Virginia). Three of these projects involved developing long-term recovery strategies and the fourth provided assessment of storm damage. He also conducted a class in Planning Mitigation for natural disasters and serves as lead mitigation planner for the Philadelphia Regional Office.



Mr. Edghill also served as the Senior Community Planner for the State of New Jersey, overseeing planning and capital programs of the New Jersey Department of Transportation and three Metropolitan Planning Organizations in New Jersey. This included the annual delivery of \$8 million in planning funds contained in Unified Planning Work Programs and \$9.8 billion in capital transportation programs.

Kenneth Ender, Ph.D.

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Dr. Kenneth Ender's positive influence as President of Cumberland County College (CCC) reaches beyond the college's campus. During his nine years at CCC, he has successfully positioned the college as a vibrant institution that enhances the community's quality of life. He has led a comprehensive reform project involving CCC and the public school districts it serves. The college and high schools are putting in place career/academic pathways in grades 9-16 to prepare residents for family-sustaining careers in healthcare, law and public safety, education and training, hospitality and retail, and construction and engineering.

One of Dr. Ender's most notable achievements is the college's *School Counts!* program, which offers area high school students the chance to earn CCC scholarships by meeting certain criteria including regular school attendance and above-average grades. Hundreds of area employers offer *School Counts!* graduates priority status for job interviews, and the CCC Foundation has raised nearly \$3 million for scholarships.

Dr. Ender serves on New Jersey Chamber of Commerce Board, and the Executive and Facilities Committees and Academic Affairs Council of the New Jersey Council of County Colleges. He is immediate past chair of the New Jersey Community College Presidents. He is a member of the boards of Cumberland County Economic Development, the Cumberland County Intermunicipality Empowerment Zone, South Jersey Healthcare and the Greater Vineland, Millville and Bridgeton Chambers of Commerce.



Juliet Fox

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Juliet Fox has been working with communities for the past 10 years in community development efforts. She has served her community for two terms as a Dunn County Board Supervisor, and continues as the Chair of the Board of Adjustments. Currently, Ms. Fox is the Executive Director for the Dunn County Community Visioning (DCCV) initiative for engaged citizen community development. Her work with DCCV has earned national and regional awards for collaboration and citizen centered work. Recently DCCV was recognized by The Case Foundation "Make IT Your Own Awards" by being chosen top 20 nationally for exemplary community engaged efforts.

Ms. Fox was also chosen as a Bush Leadership fellow to work with communities to prepare for the effects of globally and technologically changing societies – specifically for rural areas. She has been teaching technology and media courses at the University of Wisconsin-Stout for the last eight years, and often works with communities to understand technological change and the effects on rural areas.

Daryl G. Hardy

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Daryl Hardy began his workforce development career with the District of Columbia Department of Employment Services in 1980, and in 1991 began one of two terms as the agency's Deputy Director for federal and local workforce development programs.

During his tenure, the Department was routinely recognized by the Department of Labor and federal workforce development associations for program excellence. Among numerous accomplishments included the transformation of employment service centers to state of the art one stop facilities; placing more than 300,000 youth in summer jobs; initiating electronic card payments for workforce development programs; integrating Unemployment Insurance, Wagner-Peyser and Workforce Investment Act programs; and directing the District's efforts as the nation's pioneer State for the "Virtual One Stop" operating system. Mr. Hardy retired from the District government in March 2007.



In October 2007, Mr. Hardy accepted a temporary appointment to the U.S. Department of Labor's Region 2 office to serve as the Administrative Officer for the Division of Financial Management and Administrative Services.

Lenita Jacobs-Simmons

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Lenita Jacobs-Simmons serves as Regional Administrator for the Employment and Training Administration in Region 2, Philadelphia. In this capacity, she is responsible for oversight of ETA's Philadelphia region which includes Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia. Programs administered in the region by ETA and its State and grantee partners include the Workforce Investment Act, Unemployment Insurance, and the Wagner Peyser Act. Ms. Jacobs-Simmons is responsible for the oversight of almost \$2 billion in Federal grants administered by more than 120 grantee organizations.

Prior to coming to Philadelphia, Ms. Jacobs-Simmons was the ETA Deputy Assistant Secretary for Field Operations. She has a distinguished history of public service in South Carolina where she served as the Grants Administrator for the Charleston County government, and Executive Director of the Trident Workforce Investment Board. In these capacities, she was responsible for unifying a tri-county area and implementing the first One-Stop Delivery System in the State of South Carolina. A Philadelphia native, Ms. Jacobs-Simmons is a graduate of Temple University and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Mike Lawrence

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Prior to his appointment as the Director of Workforce Development Initiatives with the Office of Economic and Workforce Development, Mike Lawrence was Deputy Director for Workforce Development for the North Central Pennsylvania Planning and Development Commission. He is vice president of the National Workforce Association and is on the Board of Directors of the Northwest Pennsylvania Industrial Resource Center.



With 23 years of workforce development experience, Mr. Lawrence has established industry partnerships in manufacturing, oil and gas production, and healthcare. Mr. Lawrence also has extensive experience assisting and integrating projects and activities with Workforce Investment Boards (WIBs) across the Nation and Commonwealth. Mr. Lawrence also has extensive experience with collaborative projects with Workforce Investment Boards including assisting with WIB technical assistance to transition from the Job Training Partnership Act to the Workforce Investment Act.

Richard D. Maher

President & CEO
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Rick Maher is a veteran of the human resources industry and a recognized leader in the fields of managing organizational change and the strategic management of human capital. He has been a featured conference speaker and author focusing on what he calls the “The Transformation Imperative” – the need for workers and managers to become transformational leaders – better coping with and adapting to changing workplace conditions.

Maher & Maher is a specialized change management and workforce development firm based in New Jersey. It services clients in the communications, healthcare and government services markets. The firm recently led an effort to develop a new information portal, Workforce³ One, for the US Department of Labor’s Education and Training Administration, and has consulted widely in support of the Agency’s Workforce Innovation in Regional Economic Development (WIRED) initiative. They work widely with state and local workforce agencies within the United States, and internationally. Significant private sector clients include many of the world’s most prominent firms including: AOL, Comcast, Cox Communications, Goldman Sachs, Merck, Merrill Lynch, Time Warner, and Yahoo!



Edward J. McCann

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Edward McCann is Director of Workforce Development for Berks County, Pennsylvania and Chief Operating Officer for the Berks County Workforce Investment Board (WIB). In these capacities, he leads and represents the Board of County Commissioners in the development of partnerships, alliances, and working relationships to improve workforce development services in the County. He also provides and coordinates staff services for the WIB and manages the staff, which performs planning, fiscal management, monitoring, and other administrative functions relative to Workforce Investment Act and related funding.

Mr. McCann also serves as a member of the Governmental Affairs Committee of the Berks County Chamber of Commerce, the CareerLink Employer Advisory Council, the Educator-Internship Committee, the Berks Advisory Board for the Ben Franklin Technology Partners of Northeastern PA, the Berks Career and Technology Centers Joint Executive Committee, the Greater Reading Economic Development Professionals, and various other community, education, and training groups. Mr. McCann is a charter member of the National Association of Workforce Development Professionals (NAWDP), served on NAWDP's Board of Directors for 18 years and as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Association from July of 1998 to January of 2002. He is a Certified Workforce Development Professional (CWDP).

He is a graduate of Lehigh University, with additional graduate work at Pennsylvania State University, and has more than 35 years of experience in the Workforce Development industry.

Jerry McCarthy

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Jerry McCarthy is the Bioscience Industry Coordinator for the Denver Metro WIRED Initiative and the founder, along with Dr. Keith Gary of the Kansas City Life Sciences Institute, of the WIRED Bio Interest Group community of practice. He has been an independent consultant in medical IT systems, wide area network technology, infrastructure development, networked information systems, and interactive distance learning, primarily for government, non-profit organizations, schools, libraries and health care organizations. He was a reviewer, proposal



writer, and principal investigator for Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) projects with the National Cancer Institute and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (Rural Economic Development).

Mr. McCarthy has also worked for the American Medical Association, Presbyterian/St. Lukes Medical Center, CliniCom Inc., and Ciba-Geigy Pharmaceuticals in a number of communication, systems, and management positions. His recent work has included establishing interactive video distance learning and telemedicine networks for 30 rural Colorado school districts and completion of a statewide survey of science education resources and distance learning capabilities of Colorado school districts for the Denver Museum of Nature and Science. Mr. McCarthy has a Master of Arts in Mass Communication from the University of Delaware, where he also was a lecturer in the Department of Communication.

Eric Nelson

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Eric Nelson has served as the Philadelphia Workforce Investment Board (PWIB) Executive Vice President since 2002. In this key leadership role, he is responsible for all aspects of the PWIB's work as it relates to optimizing the impact of the local workforce system's multiple funding streams, representing an aggregate investment of more than \$250 million annually. Mr. Nelson represents the PWIB at local, state, and national meetings. He fosters and maintains partnerships with key stakeholders in an effort to advance the PWIB's work. He provides leadership and sets strategic priorities for the Public Investments and CareerLink Committees of the PWIB.

A native Philadelphian, Mr. Nelson has held many leadership positions within the public workforce system, focusing on direct services to individual customers and employers. Previously, he developed a skills-enhancement program that provided open access to city residents, and in another executive capacity, managed a program that resulted in over 1,000 job seekers receiving assistance with securing employment while simultaneously improving relationships with area employers.

Mr. Nelson received his B.A. from Temple University.



Leslie Peterson

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Leslie Peterson brings to Chmura a passion for rural economic development, a disciplined scientific approach to research and applications, a heightened sense of customer care, and a sharpened desire to straightforwardly communicate. One of her main focuses at Chmura is the management of workforce and economic development products. Ms. Peterson is currently a member of the 2007 LEAD Virginia organization.

Prior to joining Chmura, Ms. Peterson worked in the chemical industry, including ten years at Eastman Chemical Company where she served as a world-wide sales coordinator. Her tenure at Eastman included participation on the innovation subteam that was instrumental in the firm's achievement of the coveted Malcolm Baldrige Award. She also holds a patent for a commercially available waterborne sulfopolyester hybrid latex polymer.

Ms. Peterson's undergraduate studies were in Biology and Chemistry at the University of Virginia, Wise where she was a Darden Society member for Honors Students, a member of Sigma Zeta, and included in *Who's Who Among America's Colleges and Universities*. She completed graduate studies at Clemson University in Marketing and Finance.

Geri Scott

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Geri Scott brings more than 25 years of experience with the workforce development system to Jobs for the Future (JFF), where she manages projects that demonstrate a cadre of best practices for communities to build and implement dual customer workforce intermediaries strategies. At JFF, Ms. Scott manages the National Fund for Workforce Solutions initiative, as well as the Boston-based SkillWorks initiative and Skill Up Rhode Island, all efforts to help communities organize their workforce development resources so that they improve the economic outcomes for low-income residents by helping business to hire, retain and advance their entry-level workforce.



As Director of Vocational Education Programs for the Massachusetts Department of Manpower Development, Ms. Scott re-focused occupational training efforts to incorporate employers' skills standards, nearly doubling the resulting job placement rates. At the Massachusetts Office for Refugees and Immigrants, she managed the Refugee Employment and Education Program, strengthening linkages with the workforce development system to provide access for new Americans to training and job placement.

Ms. Scott received her B.A. in history from Emmanuel College and Master's in psychology from the University of Massachusetts.

Eileen M. Walsh

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Eileen Walsh was named the Chief Learning Officer for the U. S. Department of Labor (DOL), Employment and Training Administration (ETA) in May 2007. In this role, she provides strategic leadership to talent development in ETA, and support to the significant change initiatives to engage business, education, and the workforce system in developing the talent of American workers to be competitive in the 21st century global economy.

Ms. Walsh is a mission-driven executive with expertise and achievement in transformational leadership and building organizational capacity to achieve positive societal impact. She is an innovative and strategic leader who has been successful in linking mission to community/market needs to organizational capabilities and financial viability with measurable outcomes. She has demonstrated strength in building and motivating high performance teams and leading organizations through productive change in both the private and non-profit sectors.

Prior to her position at DOL, Ms. Walsh served as both Chief Executive Officer and Chief Operating Officer for Experience Works, Inc. where she led the national non-profit community-based organization in the successful delivery of innovative community service, employment and training services to empower older Americans to improve their quality of life. Ms. Walsh graduated from the University of Delaware with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration and received her Master's degree in Business Administration from Seton Hall University.



Elizabeth M. Walsh

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Elizabeth Walsh serves as the Executive Director of the Bucks County Workforce Investment Board (BC-WIB). The BC-WIB was established as a non-profit organization in June 2007; Ms. Walsh is the first Executive Director of the corporation.

Ms. Walsh has been employed in the workforce development field since 1984, having worked under Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA), Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA), and Workforce Investment Act (WIA) regulations. Her background includes positions in the full range of workforce services from administrative entities and fiscal agents to for-profit services sub-recipients and education partners. Ms. Walsh is a graduate of the University of Scranton.

Barry F. Williams

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Barry Williams was appointed the Director of the Baltimore County Office of Workforce Development (BCOWD) in June 2003. He comes to BCOWD from the Baltimore City School System where he served in different years as principal; Managing Director of Pupil Services; and Area Executive Officer in charge of 22 schools. Prior to his tenure in Baltimore City, Barry spent 22 years in the Baltimore County School System. He served in several positions including EEO Specialist; Personnel Specialist, Manager of Community Relations; and Principal.

Mr. Williams serves on numerous Workforce and Economic Councils and is an active participant on several boards, including Boy Scouts, Concert Artists of Baltimore, and the Walter's Art Museum Audience Participation Committee. He is a guest columnist for the *Catholic Review* and serves on a number of local philanthropic and social committees.

Mr. Williams began his professional career in Baltimore County during the 1970's working in Drop-out Prevention and Juvenile Offender Work Study programs. He earned a Master of Education from Loyola College and completed his undergraduate degree from the University of Maryland.