



Biographies

Sustainable Employment Strategies: A TANF, Workforce, and Child Support Collaboration

Eugene Caso currently serves as Acting Regional Administrator for the Atlanta Region of the Employment and Training Administration (ETA). He oversees almost \$4 billion in federal grant resources to State and local grantees, providing leadership and direction to the workforce system in the States of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee. Mr. Caso also serves as the Regional Director for the Office of Special Initiatives and Demonstrations (OSID), in the USDOL-ETA Regional Office; this office is responsible for Federal Project Officer oversight of multiple discretionary grants. Mr. Caso began his federal career in 1988 with the United States Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration. He has worked as a Program Analyst and Project Officer with a number of programs during his 25 years of service including: the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA), H-2A Temporary Agricultural Labor Certification, the Migrant and Seasonal Farmworker Program, School-to-Work grants, and One-Stop Career Center grants.

Terri Denison serves as the District Director for the Georgia Office of the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA). Ms. Denison started her SBA career in 1987 as a Presidential Management Intern at the Agency's Washington, D.C. District Office. In 1989, she moved to the SBA's Headquarters Office. Here, Ms. Denison worked with the Agency's Minority Enterprise Development and One Stop Capital Shop programs and as a Field Operations Analyst in the Office of Field Operations. In 1994, she served as an SBA representative on the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Empowerment Zone/Enterprise Community Interagency Task Force. In 1996, Ms. Denison became the Deputy District Director of the SBA's Indiana District Office. In the fall of 2000, she was one of seven individuals nationwide selected to participate in the SBA's District Director's Candidate Development Program. Assignments included serving as the Acting Deputy District Director in the Los Angeles District Office and the Acting District Director in Wisconsin.

A native of Corpus Christi, Texas, Ms. Denison holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in American Government from Cornell University and a Master of Arts degree in Urban Studies from Trinity University. She is a member of the Georgia Economic Developers Association and the Georgia Department of Economic Development's Entrepreneurs and Small Business Coordinating Network.

Shawnelea Garvin is the President and Founder of the Airport Employment Training Center (AETC). After spending over 10 years at Hartsfield Jackson Atlanta International Airport as a Consulting, Operations, and Retail Manager, a natural progression was to focus on how to better serve her clients, business owners, and friends in the areas of staffing, customer service training and personal development. Ms. Garvin believes that there needs to be someone to help "mentor" the young persons of today. As a result, Ms. Garvin's aspiration is to give back a little of what she has learned from being in management for over 25 years at JC Penney, Clothworld, Parisians and CA1 Services.

AETC is an independent, privately owned and funded company that provides recruitment, training, and administrative services to clients as well as actively recruiting U.S and International employees, for full-time and part-time positions in airport arenas. AETC's mission is to assist individuals in developing the skills to further self-manage career progress and to build potential and growth in the Airport community through supportive training programs and partnerships.

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Gail Hayes serves as the Director of the Annie E. Casey Foundation's Atlanta Civic Site, and is responsible for providing leadership for the foundation's work in Atlanta, one of the foundation's most important sites. Since 2001, the Atlanta Civic Site has targeted a set of five neighborhoods of highly concentrated poverty near downtown called Neighborhood Planning Unit V or NPU-V. In these historic, disinvested neighborhoods, the Foundation employs a two-generation approach that places children on a path to success in school while simultaneously helping their parents advance on a path to economic success. Ms. Hayes manages a \$3.2 million annual portfolio for the foundation and oversees \$6.7 million in other annual grants from public and private funders. In addition to her responsibilities in Atlanta, Ms. Hayes is responsible for the foundation's Grade Level Reading program in Georgia and supports the foundation's national effort in this initiative. Ms. Hayes is also a member of the Management Committee of the foundation.

Michael Hayes serves as the Deputy for Family Initiatives in the Child Support Division of the Texas Office of the Attorney General (OAG) where he's part of a multi-disciplinary team of project developers, curriculum designers, program specialists, educators, and attorneys. Mr. Hayes' work in child support includes the development of: statewide prevention education programming for teens; perinatal family support service interventions for unmarried couples; court-, workforce-, child support-collaborations to help unemployed non-custodial parents (NCP) find work and pay child support; enhanced child support and parenting legal resources for military and veteran families; co-parenting resources for couples in the child support system; and family violence collaborations to help survivors access the child support system safely.

Immediately prior to his work with the OAG, Mr. Hayes helped create and was director of the Texas Fragile Families Initiative (TFF), a state-wide initiative bringing together more than 30 private foundations, multiple State agencies and community faith-based organizations in 12 sites across Texas to support fragile families.

John Helton is the founding president and CEO of CobbWorks Inc., Cobb County's workforce development agency. Mr. Helton has worked in human services and workforce development in Cobb County and Metro Atlanta for over 20 years. After graduating from Kennesaw State University with a degree in Public and Social Services, he worked in emergency shelter care with abused and neglected children before joining the Department of Family and Children Services (DFCS). At DFCS, Mr. Helton served in several capacities through his tenure including general services coordinator for the PEACH program, emergency child protective services with the Cobb County police department, volunteer coordinator, and supervisor of the community resource development and childcare units during the era of welfare reform and Georgia's transition from AFDC to TANF. In 1999 he was appointed deputy director of Cobb DFCS, an organization with 200 plus employees and responsibility for a variety of economic support and social services programs.

Mr. Helton has served on the boards of directors and advisory boards of several community based and public organizations including Cobb/Marietta Communities in Schools, School to Work, the Cobb County Extension Service, Atlanta Regional Older Worker Advisory Council, and Harmony House Advisory Board (an ex-offender residential program with Turner Chapel). Mr. Helton is also designated a Senior Professional in Human Resources (SPHR).

Rick Henderson serves as an Employment & Training Consultant with The Offender Parolee Probationer State Training Employment Program (T.O.P.S.T.E.P.) and serves as one of six Regional Coordinators with the Georgia Department of Labor (DOL). He has worked with various types of clients with the Georgia Department of Labor including veterans, disabled veterans, the unemployed, employed, youth, employers, and ex-offenders. Mr. Henderson is an accredited Global Career Development Facilitator and a certified Offender Workforce Development Specialist with the National Institute of Corrections; he also is a graduate of the Georgia Department of Labor EXCEL Leadership Program from the Carl Vinson Institute of Government with the University of Georgia.

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Keith Horton serves as the Commissioner for the Georgia Department of Human Services (DHS). In this role, he is responsible for a \$1.5 billion agency that oversees the provision of human services throughout the State of Georgia. These services include the aging, child welfare and child support services, and public assistance programs, including the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program, the Food Stamp program and Medicaid eligibility. Mr. Horton previously served as Deputy Director of the Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA). As Deputy Director, he oversaw the budget, facilities, human resources, IT and legislative services within the agency. He formerly worked at DHS in several capacities, including DHS Rehabilitation Services Transition team leader, Director of the Division of Child Support Services, and Deputy Director of the Office of Child Support Services. In 2006, Mr. Horton retired as a Lieutenant Colonel from the U.S. Army after serving for 20 years. Prior to his tenure in the Army, he served as Deputy Director of Combat Arms Force Management Division at the Pentagon from 2003-2006.

Earl Johnson prior to joining the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) was senior Policy Advisor to Oakland, California Mayor Ron Dellums, where he was responsible for helping set policy and program goals for the city in the areas of workforce, health and urban affairs. Before serving in Oakland he had significant State and non-profit sector experience, having served as Associate Secretary for Planning and Evaluation in the California Health and Human Services Agency; as Associate Director with Working Communities for the Rockefeller Foundation; and as Senior Program Officer for The California Endowment, a private statewide health foundation. Dr. Johnson graduated from the American University in Washington and earned a Master of Arts in Public Policy from the University of Chicago and a Ph.D. in Social Welfare from the University of California. He is widely known for his work in developing programs and policy on matters related to Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and has authored articles on needy family issues. His areas of expertise include poverty and fatherhood, both high priority issues for the Administration and Health and Human Services (HHS).

Patricia Littlejohn serves as the Executive Director of the South Carolina Center for Fathers and Families and has more than ten years' experience in the fatherhood field. The South Carolina Center for Fathers and Families works to address policy issues at the State and federal level; to sustain funding and capacity building for the six local fatherhood programs in 11 locations serving 1500 fathers annually; working with existing systems to integrate fatherhood services and outreach. The Center is an outgrowth of the Sisters of Charity Foundation of South Carolina's Reducing Poverty through Fatherhood Engagement launched in 1997, which Ms. Littlejohn spearheaded in her role as Program Officer. The ten year initiative has resulted in a multi-million dollar investment to establish and sustain community and faith-based fatherhood programs. In 2002 a public-private partnership between the Foundation and the South Carolina Department of Social Services was the catalyst for the Foundation to establish the South Carolina Center for Fathers and Families to provide on-going leadership for the Initiative. Ms. Littlejohn served as the Interim Executive Director of the Center again in 2002-2004 and 2005-2009 when she was named Executive Director of the Center.

Terri L. Lonowski serves as a Federal Project Officer with the U.S. Department of Labor – Employment & Training Administration (ETA), in Atlanta, Georgia. Ms. Lonowski provides technical assistance to States on the Workforce Investment Act and National Emergency Grants. She is also the federal contact for the States of Kentucky and Alabama. Ms. Lonowski has distinguished herself through specialization in the area of innovative leadership, business services, board development, and assessments. She has been involved with a number of national and regional initiatives including serving as; a Career Pathways subject matter expert; Workforce Innovation in Regional Economic Development (WIRED) Co-Lead in Ohio; the Region's Transformational Team Lead; an active member of ETA's Washington D.C. based Business Relations Group; a Talent Inventory project consultant; the Region Co-Lead for Business Services Summits; Information Technology Industry Lead; and a master facilitator and frequent.

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Prior to joining the Department of Labor, Ms. Lonowski held a gubernatorial appointment to the Nebraska State Workforce Investment Board. She also managed the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) Career Exploration Program (a comprehensive career decision-making and guidance program) for the Department of Defense. She oversaw this program in 31 States as the primary technical expert and advisor to top management.

Natalie McLimore serves as the Director of the Families First Program for Workforce Essentials Inc. (WEI) supervising the delivery of the Families First/TANF program in 34 counties served by WEI in Middle and West Tennessee. Ms. McLimore has been with WEI for nine years and has 15 plus years of experience in delivering government grant programs. Under her leadership the Career Coaches of the Families First program have consistently produced some of the highest Work Participation Rates in Tennessee and work to assist participants in finding meaningful jobs in a tough economy. Ms. McLimore is responsible for the continuous, and implementation of new training for her staff to better serve the TANF participants, and works to find new solutions to old issues using solid Career Coaching concepts and proven Job Development outcomes. Ms. McLimore works extensively with meeting employer needs, and serving the community to best serve the TANF participants.

Jacqueline Mull serves as Regional Program Manager with the Federal Office of Child Support. She started her child support career in 1990 in Akron, Ohio after graduating from Hammel College. Her first position was as an Intake Specialist with the Summit County Prosecutors' Office in Akron, Ohio. Ms. Mull has held various positions in child support including: Legal Assistant, Child Support Supervisor, Child Support Administrator and Toledo District Supervisor. She later became a contractor and started work on child support system development projects in Nebraska, Michigan and the District of Columbia. During her contracting days she also worked as a QA Manager on the Mississippi Fully Service Child Support project in Jackson, Mississippi.

Robert Nibbs serves as Director of Strategic Planning and Execution on the Department of Human Services (DHS) Commissioner Keith Horton's executive team. Mr. Nibbs entered the DHS in 2009 serving as the Division of Child Support Service's (DCSS) representative on the federally funded ARRA implementation team. Some of Mr. Nibbs key roles and activities have included: establishing and chairing DCSS's Community Outreach Council; implementing and overseeing of the DCSS-Department of Corrections (DOC) Re-entry Program; and establishing and overseeing critical collaborative partnerships with corporate and non-profit entities. In 2011, Mr. Nibbs was selected to serve as Transition Coordinator for the Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency transition from the Georgia Department of Labor to DHS. In 2012, he was assigned oversight responsibilities for the Georgia Refugee Program, with his responsibilities later expanding to include oversight of all DCSS Strategic Outreach Initiatives including the Georgia Fatherhood Program, Problem Solving Court as well as Collaborative Corporate and Grant Initiatives. Mr. Nibbs also has extensive experience with mergers and acquisitions while managing critical operational areas within the business world and during 2007 served as Senior Director of International Giving for Habitat for Humanity International.

Sophia Oglesby currently serves within the Human Resources Department with UPS. She started her career with UPS in 1986 and has been with the company for 27 years. Ms. Oglesby has worked in the human resources department for 19 years and has a vast knowledge of the needs and agenda of employers and their workings with community organizations.

LaMonica Shelton serves as the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Regional Program Manager with the Administration for Children and Families (ACF), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, working with States and federally recognized Tribes in the Southeast. Prior to joining ACF, she worked at the Corporation for National and Community Service, the umbrella federal agency for programs such as AmeriCorps, VISTA and Senior Corps. There, Ms. Shelton served in multiple positions, including her last position as Acting Director for Research and Evaluation Associate-Director for Policy and Communications in the Office of Strategy. Ms. Shelton has a Bachelor's degree in Government and a Juris Doctor.

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Dean Simpson serves as the Chief of Economic and Family Services for the Division of Social Services (DSS). Ms. Simpson has over 35 years of experience working in the social services field at the local county DSS level and five years at the State Division of Social Services level. Her primary experience has been in the area of Economic Services programs such as Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Food and Nutrition Services Programs, Low Income Energy Assistance Programs, Medicaid Programs, Refugee Services and has recently been assigned to provide leadership for the program areas as the State rolls out a new comprehensive case management system, North Carolina Families Accessing Services through Technology (NC FAST).

Diane Smith serves as the Manager of the Applicant Services Unit at the North Carolina Department of Commerce. This unit is responsible for Reemployment Programs including Reemployment Eligibility and Assessment (REA) and Reemployment Services (RES), Food and Nutrition Services Employment & Training, Former Offender Initiative, Federal Bonding, Limited English Proficiency, Older Workers and Persons with Disabilities. Ms. Smith began her career for the agency formerly known as the Employment Security Commission of North Carolina, which is now the Division of Workforce Solutions, in 1985 as a Clerk I in the Legal Department. After a year, she went to the One Stop in Raleigh where she worked in many different capacities including Food Stamp Specialist, Employment Interviewer, Unemployment Claims Specialist and Placement Supervisor. In 1998, she became the State Coordinator for the Work Opportunity Tax Credit-Welfare-to-Work Tax Credit Program that processed tax credit requests for the entire State of North Carolina.

Michael L. Thurmond, currently on leave from the Butler, Wooten & Fryhofer law firm, serves as the interim superintendent of the DeKalb County School District, the third largest district in the State of Georgia. The district serves nearly 99,000 students with over 13,400 employees. In 1997, before his current tenure, Mr. Thurmond was a Distinguished Lecturer at the University of Georgia's Carl Vinson Institute of Government, followed by an election as Georgia Labor Commissioner, becoming the first non-incumbent African American to be elected to statewide office in Georgia. During his three terms as commissioner, the Georgia Labor Department underwent a major transformation in customer service and efficiency. His Georgia Works program has earned national praise and bi-partisan support. President Barack Obama based part of the American Jobs Act after the Georgia Works model. However, Thurmond's most gratifying accomplishment as a public official was the construction of a \$20 million school for young people with disabilities at the historic Roosevelt Institute in Warm Springs, Georgia.

Winston Tompoe serves as a Federal Project Officer (FPO) with the U.S. Department of Labor – Employment & Training Administration (ETA), in Atlanta, Georgia. He provides technical assistance to States on the Workforce Investment Act (WIA); and serves as the primary federal contact in the Division of Workforce Investment for the States of North Carolina and Georgia. In addition to State assignments, Mr. Tompoe has regional assignments for special programs and initiatives. He serves as Regional Lead for WIA Youth Policy & Programs; Regional Lead for Business Services; serves on the National Business Engagement Committee; and is the Regional Representative on the National Policy Committee for WIA Adult & Dislocated Worker. In addition, Mr. Tompoe is Regional Lead on America Job Center (AJC) Operations-One-Stops and provides technical advice on National Emergency Grants (NEG) for the region, and is the Regional contact on Eligible Training Provider List (ETPL).

Prior to joining the DOL-ETA, Mr. Tompoe worked for Colite Industries, a private manufacturing corporation; Mr. Tompoe also served as staff to the Midlands Workforce Development Board in Columbia, South Carolina, assisting the Director in data analysis, program oversight and management, and policy development. Mr. Tompoe has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Business Administration and a Masters in Public Policy.

Vicki Turetsky serves as the Commissioner for the Office of Child Support Enforcement in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families. As Commissioner, she oversees the child support program operated by each State and by many Tribes. Ms. Turetsky brings more than 25 years of experience as a public administrator and advocate for low-income families. She is a nationally recognized expert

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in family policy, and has been instrumental in efforts to boost child support payments to families and to establish realistic child support policies that encourage fathers to work and play an active parenting role. Prior to her appointment, she served as the Director of Family Policy at the Center for Law and Social Policy, where she specialized in child support, responsible fatherhood and prisoner reentry policies. The author of numerous publications, Ms. Turetsky was a visiting lecturer at the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University and has received several national awards. Ms. Turetsky also has held positions at the U.S. Corporation for National and Community Service, MDRC, Union County Legal Services in New Jersey, and the Minnesota Attorney General's Office. As a division director at the Minnesota Department of Human Services, she received one of the state's first "reinventing government" awards. Ms. Turetsky received her Bachelor of Arts from the University of Minnesota and her Juris Doctor from the University of Chicago Law School.

Carlis V. Williams serves as the Southeast Regional Administrator for the Department of Health and Human Services-Administration for Children and Families (ACF) based in Atlanta, Georgia. The Southeast Region includes eight States: Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, Kentucky, North and South Carolina, Mississippi, and Florida. Ms. Williams provides executive leadership, coordination and direction for ACF human service programs that include: Head Start; Child Welfare; Foster Care; Adoption; Child Care; Developmental Disabilities; Temporary Assistance to Needy Families; Child Support; and Runaway and Homeless Youth. Ms. Williams additionally serves as the lead Regional Administrator for Healthy Marriage programs and is co-lead for the African American Healthy Marriage-Relationships Initiative and the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families Program (TANF). Ms. Williams has also served as Senior Policy Advisor to the ACF Assistant Secretary for Program Integration and Corporate Initiatives in Washington, D.C.



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Michelle Bevans serves as a 2013 Special Project Intern with the North Carolina Head Start State Collaboration Office. She is also a Lead Family Service Associate with Community Action Opportunities Head Start in Asheville, North Carolina. Ms. Bevans has extensive experience in non-profit settings and in education, having worked at every level, from preschool classrooms and special education to the North Carolina Community College System. Ms. Bevans also served two terms as an AmeriCorps*VISTA.

Melissa Duis serves as a TANF Program Specialist in Region IV, Atlanta, joining the Office of Family Assistance (OFA) in 2011. She currently works with States in addition to being the lead for the Tribal TANF and Native Employment Works programs in the region. Prior to joining OFA, Ms. Duis worked as a Program Specialist for the Office of Head Start in Region IV and as a Grants Specialist for the Environmental Protection Agency in Washington, D.C.

Khari Garvin serves as the Director of the North Carolina Head Start State Collaboration Office - one of four federal pre-K programs of the North Carolina Office of Early Learning. Mr. Garvin has been affiliated with Head Start since 1999 in a range of capacities including National Head Start Fellow, grantee program manager, and Assistant Program Director. His current work centers on promoting and building a collaborative early childhood system in North Carolina by coordinating the services of Head Start programs with other early care and education services, providers, and stakeholders across the State. Mr. Garvin earned a Bachelor's degree in Psychology from Emory University and a Master of Science degree in Education from Southern Illinois University.

Nora Gilligan serves as Special Assistant to the Director of Office of Family Assistance (OFA). A graduate of Georgetown University's International Health program in 2006, she first began work with the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services in the Office of Global Health Affairs. Ms. Gilligan transitioned to domestic policy issues after receiving her Master of Public Administration at Baruch College's School of Public Affairs, in New York City. Through this program, Ms. Gilligan worked as a fellow under Oakland, California Mayor Ron Dellums, completing a capstone case analysis of the local workforce investment system as informed by the City's unique demographics and needs.

Within the Office of Family Assistance, Ms. Gilligan's area of interest continues to be jobs, workforce and economic development, especially as relates to public-private partnerships. Additionally, Ms. Gilligan represents OFA on the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness' work group on family homelessness, helping to drive OFA's role in finding solutions for sustainable housing and related issues.

Rosa Maria Matthews serves as a 2013 North Carolina Head Start Collaboration Special Projects Intern. She is also the current Regional Coordinator for Telamon North Carolina Migrant Head Start. In her current role, Ms. Matthews leads the implementation and management of the Telamon Migrant Head Start programs in North Carolina. Ms. Matthews earned her Bachelor of Arts from Campbell University.

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Eniris Riddick serves as a 2013 North Carolina Head Start Collaboration Special Projects Intern. She is also a Family Advocate-Cultural Liaison for Family Services, Inc., Head Start in Winston-Salem. Ms. Riddick earned a Master's Degree in Public Administration and a Bachelor's degree in Political Science from University of Puerto Rico.

Kenneth Robinson serves as a 2013 North Carolina Head Start Collaboration Special Projects Intern, and an Infant-Toddler Specialist at the Durham Early Head Start program. Mr. Robinson is a graduate of Shaw University, where he earned a Master of Science in Early Childhood Education, with a concentration in Curriculum and Instruction.

LaMonica Shelton serves as the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Regional Program Manager with the Administration for Children and Families (ACF), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, working with States and federally recognized Tribes in the Southeast. Prior to joining ACF, she worked at the Corporation for National and Community Service, the umbrella federal agency for programs such as AmeriCorps, VISTA and Senior Corps. There, Ms. Shelton served in multiple positions, including her last position as Acting Director for Research and Evaluation Associate-Director for Policy and Communications in the Office of Strategy. Ms. Shelton has a Bachelor's degree in Government and a Juris Doctor.