



Working for Change

The *Working for Change* forum is an effort to mobilize a core group of advocates, practitioners, philanthropists and public officials to act in concert to increase workers' wages and improve workplace benefits. The series is sponsored by the **Community Service Society of New York (CSS)** in collaboration with the **Coalition on Human Needs**. We invite you to visit our website – www.cssny.org – for further information on the forum and to learn about efforts in New York City to raise the quality of life of low-wage workers. You may also contact Walter Fields, CSS Vice President for Government Relations and Public Affairs, at (212) 614-5453 to determine how you can be an active participant in the *Working for Change* forum.

David R. Jones
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Working For Change

Advancing an Economic Mobility Agenda

for Low Wage Workers in
Urban America



What Works?
The Need to Evaluate Programs
Targeting Out of School Youth

Friday, July 18, 2008

U.S. Capitol
Room H-137
12:00 p.m.—1:30 p.m.

July 18, 2008

Dear Friends:

When we started the "**Working for Change**" forum series, we knew one of the focal points of the forums would be "disconnected youth." With more than four million disconnected youth across the nation, we know we can only move forward as a country if we address issues associated with this extraordinary number of young people that are out of school and out of work.

As we continue to explore this topic this month, one important subject we have yet to discuss is strategies and programs for disconnected youth with outcomes that *are making a difference in the lives of young people and outcomes that have not proven successful.*

Evaluating programmatic effectiveness is essential to developing a national agenda to address disconnected youth. Today's topic, "***What Works? Evaluating Programs Targeting Disconnected Youth,***" will take a close look at programs that have worked in supporting young adults who are out of school and out of work. Our aim is to better target our resources and efforts toward strategies proven effective, through testing and implementation, in supporting the needs of this population.

Today's presenters have extensive experience and expertise in evaluation research; including quantitative methods and impact and outcome studies. They will help us further define our next steps in creating a policy consensus on programs that will improve the lives of disconnected youth.

Thank you for your participation in the **Working for Change** forum. I encourage you to think creatively about what you can do on a local and state level, and what we can do collectively to bring about change in our nation and make the promise of prosperity real for Americans living in poverty. We will take a break in August but look forward to seeing you in September. Have a great summer!

Sincerely,

David R. Jones
President & CEO

Working for Change Forum

What Works?

The Need to Evaluate Programs Targeting Out of School Youth

Welcome

Walter Fields

Vice President, Government Relations & Public Affairs
Community Service Society

Deborah Weinstein

Executive Director

Coalition on Human Needs

Introduction of Panelist

Margy Waller, Director The Mobility Agenda
CSS Senior Fellow

Panel

Dan Bloom

Director

Welfare and Barriers to Employment Policy Area
MDRC
New York, NY

Wendy S. McClanahan
Vice President for Research
Public/Private Ventures
Philadelphia, PA

Q & A

Final Remarks

Walter Fields