

Fresh Finds

The Collaborative on Economic Mobility Newsletter

March 2026

Lessons Learned

Watch the Collaborative on Economic Mobility's recent webinar training and uncover any insights you may have missed!

Equipping the Journey: Exploring the Resources from the Collaborative on Economic Mobility

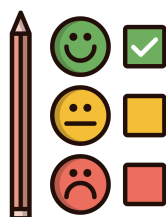
This webinar training offered a practical overview of tools and resources available through the Collaborative on Economic Mobility that are designed to help support individuals, families, and communities on the journey to economic mobility. Participants explored the curated selection of resources that address common challenges to economic mobility and gained insight into actionable strategies for implementation with local community initiatives.



[Click here](#) to access the webinar.

We Want to Hear From You!

Evaluation



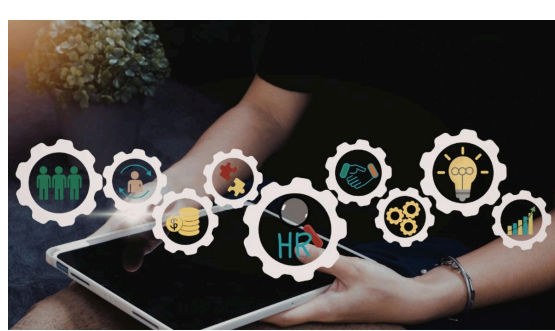
Are these newsletters helpful for you? Please take the time to complete this brief evaluation survey to let us know your feedback. We value your opinion and will use the insight to help make improvements moving forward.

[Share Your Feedback!](#)

Workforce Development

Article: *Short-Term Credentials*

Short-term credentials such as industry-recognized certificates, micro-credentials, and competency-based training represent a shift in the evolving landscape of workforce development and provide a pathway to economic mobility. These programs are typically designed in partnership with local employers, allowing participants to gain in-demand skills that can lead directly to living-wage job opportunities. Shorter training periods also reduce time commitment and financial barriers that often prevent participants from completing traditional degree programs. This article from Seattle Jobs Initiative provides an explanation of what short-term credentials are and how they can be a powerful tool for Community Action Agencies working to advance economic mobility. It includes emerging trends, including current challenges and opportunities, as well as steps to consider when identifying and implementing short-term credential programs.



[Click here](#) to read the full article.

Report: 2025 State of Credentialing

Accredible's 2025 State of Credentialing report provides a comprehensive look at the current state of credential programs, highlighting digital credentials, program management, and trends shaping engagement and growth. Drawing on data from education and workforce leaders, the report offers practical guidance for organizations seeking to strengthen credentialing programs and better support learners and employers. Learn how your organization can leverage these insights to enhance workforce development initiatives and maximize the value of earned credentials.

86% of hiring professionals would be more likely to interview a candidate with a digital credential showing proof of a key skill.

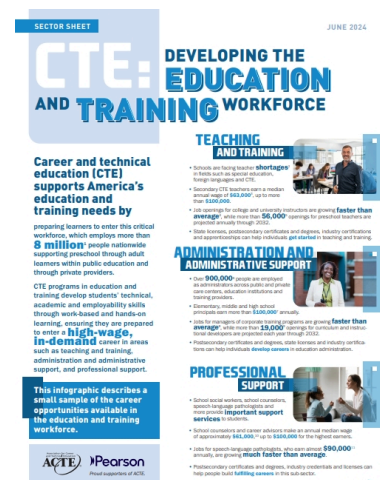
[Click here](#) to access the report.

High-Quality Education

The Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE): Job Sector Advocacy Sheets

ACTE Sector Sheets highlight the critical role Career and Technical Education (CTE) plays in developing a skilled workforce for key industry sectors. Community Action Agencies can utilize these sheets when designing and planning workforce development initiatives that are responsive to community needs. The sector sheets showcase the education and training needs of growing workforce industries such as energy, health care, hospitality, education, manufacturing, and more.

[Click here](#) to access.



Community-Asset Building

Homegrown Tools for Economic Development

Homegrown Tools is an online resource from NCGrowth at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill that shares real-world examples of successful small-town economic development. They offer case studies, practical strategies, and insights that communities have used to stimulate investment, create jobs, and strengthen local economies. Discover actionable ideas and approaches that can inspire your community's growth and success.

[Click here](#) to learn more.



Two-Generation & Whole Family Approaches

Database: *Federal Funding Streams for Children and Youth*

This resource from the Children's Funding Project provides a comprehensive database of 300+ federal funding streams that support children and youth services across the country. The database identifies available funding opportunities, outlines eligibility requirements, and tracks funding and policy changes. Explore the tool to learn more about how your community or organization can expand funding opportunities to strengthen programs and services for children and youth.



[Click here](#) to access the database.

Newsletter: *Whole Family Approach Quarterly Digest*

This quarterly newsletter highlights tools and resources to help support the Community Action network in implementing a Whole Family Approach. Each edition features a rotating selection of toolkits, case studies, funding opportunities, and more. Resources are available for every phase of the journey - whether you are interested in learning more about the Whole Family Approach framework, exploring the process of designing and implementing a Whole Family Approach, or seeking to strengthen and improve your existing Whole Family Approach.

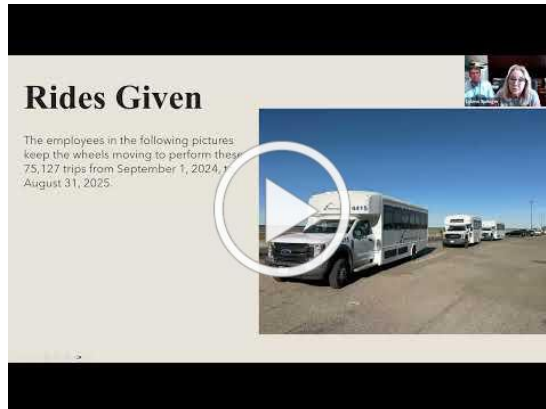


[Click here](#) to sign up.

Cross-Cutting Opportunities

Community Action Transit Forum: *Connecting Models, Communities and Community Action Agency Practice*

Community Action Agencies are coordinating and operating a wide range of transit solutions that help people and families stay connected to work, education, health care, and daily needs. This session features Community Action transit providers showcasing how volunteer driver programs, fixed-route services, non-emergency medical transportation, coordinated transit efforts, and on-demand models function in real communities, with insights and resources from the Coordinating Council on Access and Mobility Technical Assistance Center (CCAM-TAC).



[Click here](#) to access the recording and slides.

Upcoming Learning Opportunities

Don't miss out on these upcoming learning opportunities available from the Collaborative on Economic Mobility!

Turning Ideas into Impact: Implementing Innovative Approaches to Advance Economic Mobility

Part 1 - Wednesday, April 15, 2026 at 2pm ET | 1pm CT | 12pm MT | 11am PT

Part 2 - Wednesday, May 20, 2026 at 2pm ET | 1pm CT | 12pm MT | 11am PT

Advancing economic mobility requires Community Action leaders to implement innovative solutions to address complex challenges. This two-part webinar series explores practical strategies for transforming innovative ideas into measurable community impact. Participants will gain insight and advice from peers in the Community Action network, along with tools and resources to foster innovation, align resources, build capacity to adapt and scale approaches over time. Part 1 of the series will focus on establishing a shared culture of innovation, leveraging resources, and developing collaborative partnerships that support innovation across sectors. Part 2 of the series will focus on intentionally designing, implementing, and evaluating innovative initiatives for long-term sustainability.



[Click here](#) to register.

If you have any questions, contact us at:
[**cem@communityactionpartnership.com**](mailto:cem@communityactionpartnership.com).

This newsletter is supported by Grant Number 90ET0502 from the ACF Office of Community Services, Community Services Block Grant within the Administration for Children and Families, a division of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Neither the Administration for Children and Families nor any of its components operate, control, are responsible for, or necessarily endorse this newsletter (including, without limitation, its content, technical infrastructure, and policies, and any services or tools provided). The opinions, findings, conclusions, and recommendations expressed are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Administration for Children and Families and the ACF Office of Community Services, Community Services Block Grant.



Try email marketing for free today!