

Fresh Finds

The Collaborative on Economic Mobility Newsletter

September 2026

New Resource

The Economic Mobility Toolkit: A New Resource for Community Action Agencies

Discover a new comprehensive resource from the Collaborative on Economic Mobility. This toolkit is designed to support Community Action Agencies in planning, designing, and implementing innovative approaches to advance economic mobility. It compiles promising practices, highlights initiatives, and tools and resources for implementation. The toolkit can be used to enhance services, align partnerships, and improve outcomes for individuals, families, and communities.

[Click here](#) to access The Economic Mobility Toolkit.



**THE ECONOMIC
MOBILITY TOOLKIT**

A Collaborative on Economic Mobility (CEM) Resource

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

Conference Opportunity: 2026 National Youth Apprenticeship Summit

The National Youth Apprenticeship Summit, hosted by CareerWise and New America, brings together workforce development, education, and apprenticeship leaders from across the country for three days of learning, collaboration, and action November 17-19, 2026 in Denver, Colorado. As youth apprenticeship gains national momentum, the summit will highlight partnerships, policies, and innovative practices for expanding high-quality career pathways for youth. Learn practical strategies and bring new ideas back to your youth apprenticeship and workforce development efforts!

[Click here](#) to register and learn more.



Podcast: Harnessing Artificial Intelligence (AI) for Economic Opportunity



This podcast episode explores how philanthropy and the social sector can help artificial intelligence (AI) expand economic opportunity. Adam Goldfarb, Executive Director of Opportunity AI, discusses how AI is reshaping jobs, workforce development, and economic mobility. He highlights promising AI opportunities, including career navigation, AI-powered coaching, benefits access, tools for nonprofits, and explores how funders can respond to emerging workforce disruptions.

[Click here](#) to listen to the podcast.

Article: Career Pathways: Translating Economic Mobility from Idea to Action

This article, written by the Seattle Jobs Initiative (SJI), highlights Career Pathways and how Community Action Agencies (CAAs) are well positioned to help students upgrade their skills and advance to better jobs over time through stackable credentials and education for in-demand industries. Learn how CAAs can assist clients in creating an action plan for their upward economic mobility.



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

High-Quality Education

Article: Employer Support Contributes to Credential Completion

Discover how employer support can help working adults overcome barriers to completing short- and long-term credentials. This article and video highlights findings from an evaluation of Ivy Tech Community College's Achieve Your Degree program, which helps working learners navigate employer education benefits and reduce the financial and administrative challenges of pursuing a credential. Learn practical ideas for colleges, employers, and workforce organizations working to support working learners and strengthen pathways to career advancement.



[Click here](#) to access the article and video.

Community-Asset Building

Brief: One of The Greatest Threats to Wealth Transfer May Be All in the Family



Learn how family dynamics can shape the transfer of wealth across generations. This brief focuses on how family conflict, communication challenges, and lack of planning and complicate the transfer process and possibly even diminish the wealth intended for future generations. This brief includes resources and practical strategies to help families navigate estate planning and have open conversations that can help preserve their assets and strengthen their financial security across generations.

[Click here](#) to learn more.

Two-Generation & Whole Family Approaches

Brief: *Rattled: Babies, Families and a Year of Growing Strain*

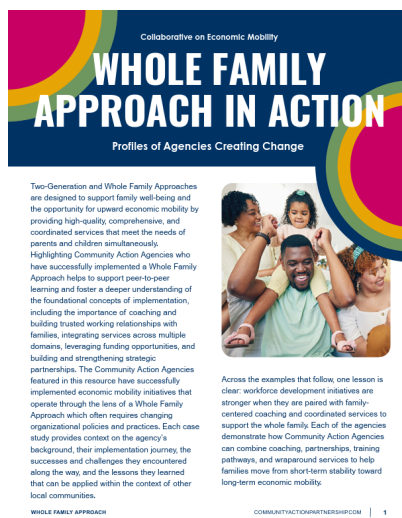
A national snapshot of the economic and emotional pressures facing families with babies and toddlers. Using national data from 2025, this brief highlights challenges families face related to food, housing, childcare, and parental well-being. This brief also highlights how each of these challenges affects families differently and how important it is to strengthen family supports to help families build stability and thrive.

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

44%

of families with infants and toddlers reported difficulty paying for essentials like food and housing in 2025, the highest rate in the past five years.

Case Study: *Whole Family Approach In Action*



This case study features three Community Action Agencies across urban, regional, and rural contexts that have successfully implemented economic mobility initiatives through the lens of a Two-Generation or Whole Family Approach. In each profile, learn more about the agency's background, implementation journey, and the successes and challenges that can be applied to other local communities.

[Click here](#) to read the case study!

Cross-Cutting Opportunities

Funding Opportunity: CCAM-TAC 2027 Community Rides Grant

Coordinating Council on Access and Mobility Technical Assistance Center (CCAM-TAC) is now accepting applications for the **2027 Community Rides Pilot Grant Program**, offering up to **\$100,000** for innovative projects that expand transportation access to healthcare, jobs, education, healthy food, and social services.



Eligible lead applicants include public transit providers, tribal transit, local governments, and nonprofit human service organizations. All proposals must include formal partnerships with community agencies such as healthcare systems, workforce boards, social service organizations, or educational institutions.

Applications are due no later than October 19, 2026

[Click here](#) to view the grant requirements.

If you have any questions, contact us at:
cem@communityactionpartnership.com.

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