

# ATLANTA CareerRise

## In This Issue

- [First Hospitality Program Trainees Graduate](#)
- ["Construction Ready" for Atlanta's Future](#)
- [Congratulations to Shelley Lamar](#)
- [Georgia Employer Roundtable on Employment and Individuals with Criminal Records](#)
- [Atlanta CareerRise Seeks Consultant Experts](#)
- [Please Welcome Helen Slaven, PhD](#)



## First Hospitality Program Trainees Graduate

Through generous funding from the IHG® Foundation – and following an intensive five-week training course – 23 hospitality program participants graduated during a ceremony hosted by the Crowne Plaza Atlanta Airport Hotel on September 8.

This first-ever hospitality cohort in the Aerotropolis area was implemented by partners including Atlanta

Airport Hotel Council (AAHC), Atlanta CareerRise, Chris180, Generation and WorkSource Aerotropolis. The training program was created and taught through Generation, a McKinsey Social Initiative that has graduated more than 500 students from similar customer service-oriented programs so far.

"The students really grew between Day 1 and graduation," said Roshni Chengappa, Generation's Program Coordinator for the training. "They became family and their stories become so personal to me."

That closeness was apparent during the graduation ceremony, which was buoyed by laughter and hugs. The ceremony also featured words of inspiration from Dr. Alie Redd of Chris180 and Mark Spanka, General Manager of the Marriott Atlanta Airport Hotel and Chair of the AAHC.

With an 88 percent completion rate and more than 20 job offers so far from a range of Aerotropolis-area hotels, the initial hospitality program has been a great success. Plans are underway for a second cohort that will begin in late November, as well as subsequent programming in this critical local sector.

---



## "Construction Ready" for Atlanta's Future

On August 25, 13 trainees – seven women and six men – graduated from a month-long construction training program created by the Aerotropolis Atlanta Alliance, the Construction Education Foundation of Georgia, HB NEXT and WorkSource Georgia – Aerotropolis. The majority of the program graduates live in the Aerotropolis region, and represent the cities of Atlanta, College Park, Jonesboro, Riverdale, Morrow, Lake City, Union City, and Forest Park.

The training program was designed to provide trainees with the skills and certifications needed to begin careers in Atlanta's dynamic construction industry.

“The Aerotropolis Atlanta Alliance is proud to provide a proven job-training program for workers who will now be able to participate in the economic boom happening around the world’s busiest airport,” said Shelley Lamar, Executive Director of the Aerotropolis Atlanta Alliance. “And we are enormously proud of our graduates.”



## Congratulations to Shelley Lamar

One of our most frequent and dedicated partners, Aerotropolis Atlanta Alliance Executive Director Shelley Lamar, was recently honored by the Atlanta Business League as one of their 100 Black Women of Influence.

Since her appointment in March 2017, Shelley’s leadership has resulted in a wide range of training programs, partnerships and other initiatives that have greatly advanced workforce development, as well as brought much-needed attention and resources, to Atlanta’s Aerotropolis region. Please join us in congratulating Shelley!

Visit the Aerotropolis Atlanta website: <https://aeroatl.org>



## Georgia Employer Roundtable on Employment and Individuals with Criminal Records

Across the state of Georgia, more than four million individuals have a record of an arrest or conviction. As a result, many of them have significant challenges to finding employment, even years after the case is

dismissed or they've served their sentence.

They represent a significant percentage of our state's available workforce – but their potential is often unrealized. Over the last several months, a group of advocates, service providers and other stakeholders has met to develop strategies to improve employment opportunities and realize the value of this vast untapped talent pool.

The goal of this working group organized and led by Georgia Justice Project is to generate recommendations and proposals for the Council on Criminal Justice Reform and other legislators in the 2018 session. Discussions have keyed on current employer practices and needs with regard to hiring individuals with criminal records.

This topic will be further explored at the upcoming Dave's Killer Bread Foundation Second Chance Summit, which will take place in Atlanta on October 31 and feature speakers including Sir Richard Branson and Van Jones. More information can be found on the event website:

<http://www.dkbfoundation.org/second-chance-summit-atlanta.html>.

---

## Atlanta CareerRise Seeks Consultant Experts in Health, IT and Transport, Distribution and Logistics

We are actively looking for subject-matter experts (SMEs) in each of our three High Demand Career Initiative (HDCI) sectors. These SMEs will assist in launch phase activities on a consulting basis, and will complete work under the direction of the HDCI Metro Atlanta Sector Partnership Director, in close connection with local workforce development boards.

[Click here for more information.](#)



### Please Welcome Helen Slaven, PhD

Many of you are already familiar with the work of Helen Slaven through the CHAMP healthcare partnership. We are excited to announce that Helen recently joined the Atlanta CareerRise team on a full-time basis as HDCI Metro Atlanta Partnership Director.

“Sector partnerships are a proven way of pulling together all elements of workforce development,” Helen said. “By putting employers and their needs first, we can understand how to work together to create a seamless system that builds a skilled workforce, economic growth and strong communities.”

Helen has more than 15 years of experience in workforce and organization development and change management. In her new

role, she organizes and facilitates alignment across the workforce development community helping employers build dependable pipelines of skilled employees and job seekers find career opportunities.

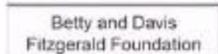
Helen holds a doctorate degree in Leadership and Adult Learning with a specialization in Human Resource Development from Barry University in Miami Shores, Florida. Please join us in welcoming Helen and wishing her success in her new role!

*[Click here to download the HDCI Metro Atlanta one-pager.](#)*

## Our Supporters



JPMORGAN CHASE & CO.



The Wilbur and Hilda  
GLENN FAMILY FOUNDATION

Atlanta CareerRise increases regional prosperity by creating and strengthening partnerships and systems that meet employer needs for skilled talent and connect Metro Atlanta residents to sustainable-wage careers.

Copyright © 2017 Atlanta CareerRise, All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails?  
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

