

ATLANTA CareerRise

Atlanta CareerRise builds employer-led workforce partnerships in high-growth industries to fill jobs, close the skills gap, and move underemployed individuals up the career ladder.

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Atlanta CareerRise Winter Training Calendar

Goodwill Flooring Installation Training: Jan. 30th and May 3rd

Construction Ready at TCWFI: Jan. 16th

Contact hevans@unitedwayatlanta.org for more information.

Atlanta CareerRise in the News

CareerRise Named "Partner of the Year" by Atlanta Aerotropolis



Left to right: Jeremy Stratton, Cinda Herndon-King, Dyan Matthews, & Carmenlita Scott

Atlanta CareerRise received the first ever "Partner of the Year" award from Aerotropolis Atlanta at the inaugural State of the Aerotropolis event on December 13, 2016. The award recognizes Atlanta CareerRise's leadership and commitment to advancing workforce capacity of the Aerotropolis Atlanta region. CareerRise advocated for the formation of a Workforce Collective affiliated with Aerotropolis Atlanta in 2016 and has led its launch and early development. The award was presented by the

Clayton Chamber of Commerce, South Fulton Chamber of Commerce, and Airport Area Chamber of Commerce on behalf of the Alliance.

At the State of the Aerotropolis event, business and community leaders cited the recent transformational development and numerous projects currently underway including the \$6 billion, 20 year airport expansion, new four-star hotels, the Georgia International Convention Center arena expansion and the “Airport City’ office-hotel and travel plaza adjacent to the airport.



ACR Welcomes New Investor MUFG Union Bank

MUFG Union Bank, a member of the Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group, has joined the collaborative philanthropic investors in Atlanta CareerRise.

The MUFG Union Bank Foundation provides charitable investment targeting resources to benefit low- to moderate-income populations in



Affordable Housing, Community Economic Development, Education, Human Services, and the Environment. MUFG Union Bank, N.A. and its foundation, have corporate headquarters in New York City.

Beth Gilroy, Atlanta region representative for the MUFG Union Bank Foundation, will join the Leadership Council. MUFG joins sustaining investors Annie E. Casey Foundation, Bank of America, Community Foundation of Greater Atlanta, JPMorgan Chase, National Fund for Workforce Solutions, SunTrust Foundation, and managing partner United Way of Greater Atlanta.

Regional Project Updates

International Trade Training Pathway: A Win-Win for Students & Employers



Graduates With Program Instructor & Staff

The fourth International Trade Training cohort of 12 job seekers and incumbent students, graduated in early November. The "ABCs of Customs Brokerage" curriculum provides entry-level workers with the skills and knowledge equivalent to one year of experience as a customs specialist, and the opportunity to earn national certification as a Certified Customs Specialist (CCS). This course is a foundational step that can start an individual toward significant career advancement in customs brokering and international trade.



Ellen Chance & Dominique Mason

This program has been a win-win for job candidates/employees and the participating employers—graduate Dominique Mason joined **Jean D. Duncan Customs Brokers** just after becoming a CCS; and Dominique's Supervisor and company Chief Financial Officer, Ellen Chance, **says this has saved two years of training** with a new hire.

A few months ago, Dominique Mason decided to take a chance that would change her life. Dominique discovered the ABCs of Customs Brokerage program and found that her previous experience working in the retail, customer service, and tax preparation industries, as well as her exposure to cultures around the world at an early age, made her a great fit for a career in international trade.

In class, Dominique sought to truly comprehend, retain, and apply the material in context with the day-to-day demands of the industry. The material was tough, but Dominique focused on listening and taking it one day at a time. Despite the challenges of the classroom, Dominique also faced struggles that no one knew about. Dominique juggled a full-time job and full-time course with a heavy study-load, and without transportation, that often meant spending 4 hours on a bus each day. A self-dubbed “bootstrapper”, Dominique’s life before Customs Brokerage had never been easy: “Life has been hard. It has been a struggle, but I’ve kept faith in myself and wanted something more, so I didn’t give up. I just kept pushing forward.” Dominique’s perseverance and positivity paid off—she was hired by Jean D. Duncan Customs Brokers immediately after she successfully passed her Customs Specialist Certification test.

Dominique notes that the class provided a clear picture of how her career could evolve within the industry, and that was something that previous entry-level, seasonal and temporary jobs simply didn’t adequately provide. Her new supervisor, Ellen



Dominique Mason

Chance, is grateful for the program too: “We need people on our team who can hit the ground running. This program has saved us at least 2 years of training—I don’t have to constantly train because the ABCs class has enabled employees to solve problems right away”. Dominique is looking forward growing with the company and expanding her industry knowledge; in fact, Dominique is already studying to take the Customs Broker license exam later this year!

Democracy Collaborative Issues Healthcare Toolkit Featuring CareerRise Best Practices

Atlanta CareerRise’s work connecting local residents to career pathways in the Atlanta BeltLine Healthcare Partnerships is featured among best practices in The

Democracy Collaborative's new Hospitals Aligned for Healthy Communities toolkit series. With support from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the Democracy Collaborative has released the series, which provides resources to help hospitals and health systems build community wealth through inclusive hiring, investment, and purchasing. Find out more, and learn how inclusive, local hiring drives community health at <http://hospitaltoolkits.org/workforce/>.

National Fund for Workforce Solutions Launched With Expanded Mission



The National Fund's expanded mission will be to drive practices, policies, and investments that enable workers to succeed in good jobs, provide employers with a skilled workforce, and build more prosperous communities. The organization will build upon its past successes working with more than 30 regional funder collaboratives and 85 active industry partnerships, which have generated \$285 million in local investments, served more than 78,000 workers, and supported 2,300 employers. To learn more about the new National Fund, visit: <http://www.nationalfund.org/>.

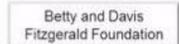
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