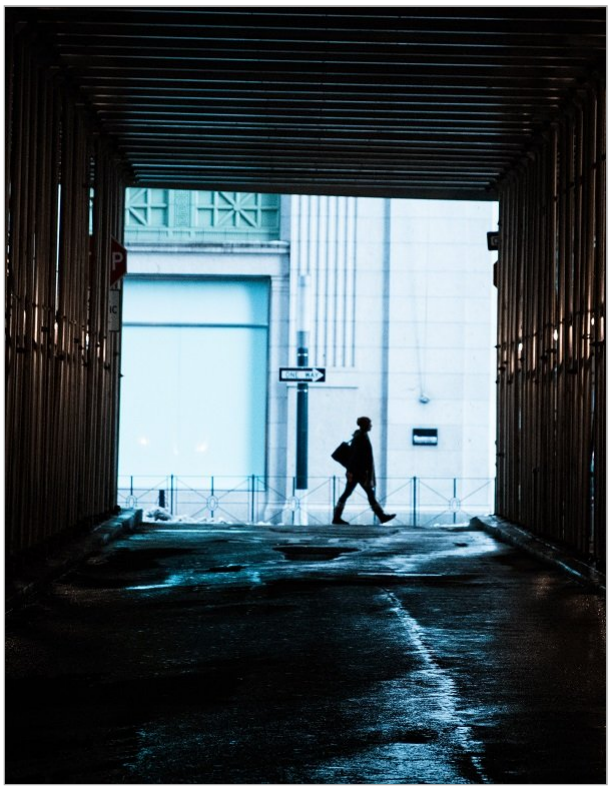


Commentary/Op-Ed - May 2017

Op-Ed: To Keep His Promises, Trump Should Invest in Human Capital

Although the Trump administration continues to tout its support for American workers, workforce development and job training programs are conspicuously absent from the White House's list of accomplishments in the first 100 days. If President Trump and Congress are serious about putting more Americans on the path to the middle class, then Washington should be investing in a 21st century human capital system.

by Christian González-Rivera

Although the Trump administration continues to tout its support for American workers, workforce development and job training programs are conspicuously absent from the White House's list of accomplishments in the first 100 days. Trump was elevated to the presidency on a rising tide of frustration among voters who feel that the economic and political system in this country no longer serves them. For these Americans struggling to reach the middle class, flexible and effective job training programs can provide the best shot at increased economic opportunity.

In this *The Hill* op-ed, published on May 3, 2017, Center for an Urban Future Senior Researcher Christian Gonzalez-Rivera assets that if President Trump and Congress are serious about putting more Americans on the path to the middle class, then Washington should be investing in a 21st century human capital system.

Read the op-ed here.

This op-ed is a continuation of nearly two decades of research the Center for an Urban Future has done on workforce development and human capital. This piece and other recent work on these subjects has been made possible through generous support from the Altman Foundation, the Clark Foundation, and the Bernard F. and Alva B. Gimbel Foundation. We are also grateful for support from Fisher Brothers for the Center for an Urban Future's Middle Class Jobs Project, and ongoing support from a number of other philanthropic funders.

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Center for an Urban Future (CUF) is an independent, nonprofit think tank that generates innovative policies to create jobs, reduce inequality and help lower income New Yorkers climb into the middle class. For 20 years, CUF has published accessible, data-driven reports on ways to grow and diversify the economy and expand opportunity that are anchored in rigorous research, not preconceived notions about outcome. Our work has been a powerful catalyst for policy change in New York City and serves as an invaluable resource for government officials, community groups, nonprofit practitioners and business leaders as they advocate for and implement policies to address some of New York's biggest challenges and opportunities.

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