



transformative change

Innovative Strategies

Does your college have the right partners? Are you fully tapping their potential?

Community colleges across the nation are enhancing partnerships by finding new ways to engage both existing and potential partners who can contribute to their students' success. These efforts include building new and strengthening existing relationships across the P-20 education pipeline as well as with workforce partners, industry leaders, employers, and community-based organizations. TCI is featuring four TAACCCT consortia that use intentional partnerships to strengthen their career pathways, programs of study, and support student success. We encourage you to read the two-page briefs described below and consider how adopting and adapting any of these strategies will benefit your students.



Building Intentional Partnerships to Sustain Student Success. The Oregon CASE Management Team collaborated with Oregon's Employment Department to hire a TAA liaison to the community colleges and support improved processes and communication for TAA-eligible students participating in the TAACCCT grant-funded programs of study.

Business and Industry Leadership Teams (BILTs). The National Information, Security, and Geospatial Technology Consortium's (NISGTC) BILTs are comprised of national and local teams of business and industry leaders who meet quarterly

and provide leadership in the development of curriculum in their specialty area. Podcast: Ann Beheler (NISGTC) talks about employer engagement enhanced by the BILTs strategy.

Just Released! Leveraging Community College and Business Partnerships to Expand Training and Employment Opportunities in the Biosciences. The Community College Consortium for Biosciences Credentials (c3bc), a national consortium led by Forsyth Technical Community College, received a Round Two TAACCCT grant from the U.S. Department of Labor to increase education and training for biosciences jobs. The twelve colleges in eight states in the consortium worked to strengthen existing and build new collaborations with biosciences employers, industry associations, and workforce agencies.

Partnership Trifecta: Education, Workforce, and Industry. Throughout program design and implementation, the Florida TRADE Consortium sought broad engagement from numerous stakeholder groups, including college presidents, academic deans, and corporate college directors; state and local workforce board representatives; and small and large manufacturers and industry associations.

Transforming Delivery of Education and Training across the State. The Massachusetts Community College Workforce Development Transformation Agenda consortium brought together the higher education, economic development, adult basic education (ABE), and workforce development systems with industry stakeholders to transform the delivery of education and training programs in six key sectors: Advanced Manufacturing; Information Technology; Biotechnology and Life Science; Healthcare; Clean Energy; Entrepreneurship and Financial Services.

TCI Featured Evaluators

These posts is part of a blog series called **TCI Featured Evaluators** series that featured members of **TCI's Evaluation Collaborative**. This community of evaluators has a wealth of knowledge, experience and insights into evaluation of the TAACCCT grants that are being implementation throughout the United States.



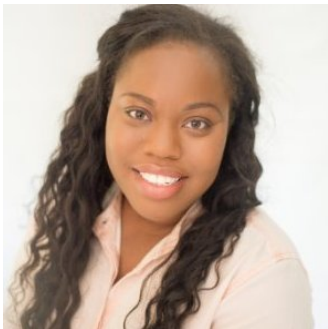
Sarah Stewart

Tara Donahue

Managing Evaluator

Tara Donahue, Ph.D., managing evaluator, performs a variety of functions at McREL International. She conceptualizes, manages, and conducts research and evaluation projects on several different education-related programs. Examples of her work at McREL include managing the external evaluation of an Investing in Innovation (i3) grant focused on improving college and career readiness in six high schools in Jefferson County Public Schools (Louisville, KY), overseeing two Teacher Quality Partnership evaluation projects in Kentucky and Virginia, and leading the evaluation of two Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training (TAACCCT) grants in Missouri and Tennessee. Tara holds a B.A. in English and psychology from Vanderbilt University and a Ph.D. in educational policy from Michigan State University.

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Derek V. Price

Tashera Bolds

Syracuse University STEM Fellow

Ms. Bolds' research interest is STEM education within the context of urban education settings. She is interested in understanding characteristics of STEM instructional environments, both formal and informal in nature, and how they contribute to the experiences of youth participating in those spaces. She has engaged in various STEM research projects relating to instructional design, instructional learning environments, identity cultivation, career pathways, and culturally relevant pedagogy. Recently, Ms. Bolds led her research team's investigation and documentation of the instructional practices engaged by middle school teachers implementing a STEM initiative. She has also worked with the Museum of Science and Technology (MOST) in Syracuse, NY to understand how informal learning environments can help to stimulate interest and participation of urban youth participating in those spaces. As a Research Assistant at Hezel Associates, Ms. Bolds contributed to research efforts by performing data collection and analysis activities.

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Heather Lewis-Charp

Senior Associate at Social Policy Research Associates (SPR)

Heather Lewis-Charp has an M.A. in Education from the University of California, and over 17 years of experience evaluating workforce and education programs. She coordinates Social Policy Research Associates' community college research area and is currently leading the Evaluation of the Michigan Coalition for Advanced Manufacturing (M-CAM), a round 3 TAACCCT grant. Her research interests include the role of community colleges and community-based organizations in creating career pathways and opportunities for low-income youth and adults.

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Upcoming Presentations

Workforce Boards and Community Colleges: Best Practice in Collaboration and Partnership

March 12, 2016, The Forum 2016 presented by the National Association of Workforce Boards, Washington DC



The Impact of Enhanced Retention Services on Students' College and Careers Outcomes

March 31 - April 02, 2016, Council for the Study of Community Colleges, Plano, TX

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