The UK Skills Convention 2010

Emerging Directions in Sub-Natio
Workforce Polic

John D. Baker, Presid
Strategies for the Fut

Living in the Age of the Unthinkable

National Workforce/ Industrial Policy in the U.S.
Basically nonexistent

Heavy Reliance on Letting “Locals” Figure It Out

Stimulus funding & Workforce

State WF Boards Establish Broad Policy

City/ County Boards based on labor markets

600 WIBs across the U.S.

No National Board Relating to Workforce

Dislocated/ Laid Off Workers

Adults with Barriers to Employment

At Risk Youth

Incumbent Workers

Oversight of Direct Funding & Programs

Alignment of WF Related Public Resources

Community Leadership around WF Issues

Convening, Connecting, Catalyzing

Problems too complex to have top down solution

need buy in from diverse sectors

everyone needs to own the solution

Community colleges

Associate of Arts Degrees

Training leading to Certification e.g. allied health

Life Long Learning & Basic skills education

1200 community colleges in the u.s.

California CC’s served 2.9 million students from 72 districts, 110 colleges

Consortiums, Collaboratives, Partnerships

Building Sector Approaches (health, logistics, green, etc.)

Regionally Based Projects

Academies (Pre-apprenticeship)

State Strategies

Michigan – no worker left behind

Washington & Pennsylvania – regional skill strategies

California – EDGE Campaign

Over 317,000 Youth Placed in Summer Jobs

Work Readiness Component

Both Public and Private For Profit Work Sites

Meager Resources to Have an Impact

Keeping Focused on Skills Crisis (with 10+% unemployed)

“Competition” between Community Colleges & WIBs

Assuming Broader Policy Role in their Communitie

Positive - shifting focus on sectors & business services, regional cooperation among local WIBs, partnerships with vocational education, more common recognition of the skills crisis

Negative - local WIBs still implementing programs rather than policy, large funding fluctuations, workforce system still not visible and accepted