



The Newsletter of the Ray Marshall Center for the Study of Human Resources

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Recent Publications

Issue 11

July 2012

Center News

**Prince Shares Strategies for Improving Access to Postsecondary Education for Non-Traditional Students**

**Heath Prince**, associate director of the Center, delivered the keynote presentation at the Ohio Transfer Council and the Ohio Articulation and Transfer Network's event, **Professional Development: Serving Adult Learners in Ohio**

held on July 20 at Ohio University's Pickert on campus. Event participants discussed strategies for improving postsecondary and adult education outcomes. Prince's **presentation** gave an overview of noncredit education, growing demand for occupational credentials, returns on investment on postsecondary education, and recommendations for creating a national competency-based qualifications framework.



Audience Members of the Ohio Conference

**Two-Generation Policy Approaches Convening**

On July 23-24, the Ray Marshall Center co-hosted the "Two-Generation Policy Approaches: State and Local Government Convening" with the **Foundation of Child Development** and the Aspen Institute's **Ascend**

## Increasing College Attainment in the United States: Variations in Returns to States and Their Residents

*published in (Change: The Magazine for Higher Learning), 44:4. July 2012. By Matt Crellin, Patrick Kelly, and Heath Prince.*

Developed by NCHEMS. The authors present evidence that the social and economic benefits of college attainment to the state economy varies from state to state.

## RMC in the Press

### Austin-American Statesman

[Many midlevel jobs go missing as employment market changes](#) June 24 issue, Dr. Chris King comments on emerging opportunities for midlevel employment as baby boomers retire.

[In Texas, working poor families struggle to get ahead](#), June 17, Dr. Chris King comments on how the labor market has changed. The same issue also profiles participants in a local workforce intermediary in [A closer look at Capital IDEA participants](#).



King Speaks at the Two-Generation Conference

## Program for Family and Eco at the University of Texas' AT&T economic Security

Center. Participants came from a variety of sectors, including representatives of foundations, nonprofits, academia, and the government. This meeting builds on the activities and strategies developed during the October 2011

**Two-Generation Roundtable.** Meeting participants discussed strategies for developing a more coherent framework for two-generation models that included a workforce component, as well as potential tools and resources needed to advance action and establish conditions that will enable these approaches to work.

## King Discusses the Economy on Fox Austin's 'Good Day' Show

On July 17, **Dr. Chris King**, director of the Ray Marshall Center and lecturer at the LBJ School of Public Affairs, was interviewed by Greg Kerr on Fox Austin's "Good Day" morning show. King discussed the stagnating unemployment rate in the U.S. and how Texas' economy fared compared to other states. According to King, the ongoing loss of public sector jobs is holding back a stronger economic recovery. In

contrast to national trends, Texas was able to add more jobs last year than any other state, mainly due to its increasing population growth. King argues that the direction of U.S. economic recovery rests on increasing consumer confidence as well as supporting Europe's recovery.



King on Fox's 'Good Day' Show

## Center Researchers Presenting at 2012 APPAM Conference

Several Ray Marshall Center researchers will be presenting papers at the **2012 fall research conference** of Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM) to be held November 8 - 10 in Baltimore, Maryland. The papers cover a range of important policy topics, including workforce development, postsecondary education, early childhood education, and dual generation strategies, among others.

## The American Prospect

[School for Success](#) June 20, Dr. Chris King provides findings from an outcomes evaluation and return-on-investment analysis of Capital IDEA's programs.

[Soros.org New Ascend Fellows Fight Poverty in Tulsa](#), June 12, Mimi Corcoran blogs about Ascend Fellows Steven Dow, Lindsay Chase-Lansdale, and Chris King's two-generation anti-poverty initiative in Tulsa.

[KTBC Fox 7 Employment in the U.S.](#), segment on the July 17 "Good Day" show, Dr. Chris King was interviewed by Greg Kerr on why the U.S. employment rate has been stagnant and where Texas' economy compares to the rest of the nation.

## Upcoming Events

**Sept 27:** Early Childhood Education Evaluation Dissemination Event.

## Education and Workforce Research Presented at Ohio Conferences

On June 28, Dr. Chris King made the keynote presentation at the [Ohio Education Research Center Conference](#). His presentation, entitled [Putting Research into Action for Student, School, and System Success](#), highlighted how findings from the multi-sector, multifaceted [Central Texas Student Futures Project](#) contributed to the Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce's larger effort to increase postsecondary enrollment. King also spoke at the annual Policy Summit on Housing, Human Capital, and Inequality hosted by Federal Bank of Cleveland. King gave a presentation on workforce development programs and the disconnect that exists between perceived ineffectiveness and actual positive impacts of such programs. The presentation was based on a paper King coauthored with LBJ School of Public Affairs professor Dr. Carolyn Heinrich.

## Education Research Shared with Texas Principals

On June 13th, center researcher Greg Cumpton shared research findings from the [Central Texas Student Futures Project](#) at the annual summer workshop for the [Texas Association of Secondary School Principals](#) which works to enhance leadership quality and professional development of principals. Mr. Cumpton's presentation highlighted the need for bundling interventions and activities aimed at increasing postsecondary enrollment, as well as carrying out activities specifically targeted at under represented populations, students who go to college and minority groups.

## Ascend Fellows Convene Second Forum

Dr. Chris King participated in the second convening of the Ascend Fellows Forum at the Aspen Institute's Wye River (MD) Conference Center June 6 - 8, 2012. King is part of the [inaugural class](#) of Ascend Fellows, a group of 20 advocates, experts, and practitioners spearheading two-generation anti-poverty programs in the United States.

## Innovative Workforce Development for Youth in Vietnam

Dr. Chris King traveled to Hanoi, Vietnam and visited [KOTO](#), a nonprofit focused on training and employment for street and homeless youth. KOTO, or "Know One, Teach One," provides opportunities for



KOTO Training Session

street youth ages 16 to 22 for skills training, social support, and jobs in the hospitality sector. KOTO's two year training curriculum goes beyond on-the-job training in its nonprofit restaurants to include English language training,

life skills, educational advancement, and job placement outside of KOTO. KOTO CEO and founder, Jimmy Pham, a Vietnamese-Australian, started the organization in 1999 after seeing the number of youth living in the streets and the cycle of poverty they endure. Today, KOTO operates two training restaurants, one in Hanoi and the other in Saigon, and since its inception, has helped over 400 young people graduate to sustainable careers in hospitality and is currently training 200 young people.

## Project Updates

### **Expanding the Border Initiative Evaluation**

In partnership with **Jobs for the Future**, the Ray Marshall Center will conduct an evaluation of the three-year project "Growing Regional Opportunity for the Workforce" or GROW, a regional workforce and economic development initiative led by the **Border Workforce Alliance**, a consortium of five workforce investment boards in the Texas-Mexico border region. The evaluation will collect and analyze data for key educational and employment outcomes, as well as select indicators of systems change and employer engagement. The evaluation will also incorporate cost data associated with the intervention strategies and their related impacts to estimate a return-on-investment (ROI) from the initiative and explore the over economic impacts in the region.

### **Early Childhood Education in Texas**

The Ray Marshall Center and the **Hobby Center** at Rice University are nearing completion of the **Texas Early Education Needs Assessment** for the **Texas Early Learning Council**. This **research effort** is the most comprehensive review and evaluation of Texas early care and education needs and capacity in 40 years. The final report on this project will discuss current and expected demographic changes among young children for various regions within the state, the capacity of the existing formal supply of early care and education, and the share of providers that meet quality standards.



### **Save the Date:**

On September 27, the Ray Marshall Center will host a dissemination event at the University of Texas Bass Lecture to present findings from this research and discuss the policy implications of these findings with policy makers throughout Texas. Registration information will be forthcoming.

The Ray Marshall Center is a research unit of the LBJ School of Public Affairs  
at The University of Texas at Austin

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