Employee Post-Travel Disclosure of Travel Expenses

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Post-Travel Filing Instructions: Complete this form within **30 days** of returning from travel. Submit all forms to the **Office of Public Records in 232 Hart Building.**

In compliance with Rule 35.2(a) and (c), I make the following disclosures with respect to travel expenses that have been or will be reimbursed/paid for me. I also certify that I have attached:

☒ The **original** *Employee Pre-Travel Authorization* (Form RE-1), **AND**
☒ A **copy** of the *Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form* with all attachments (itinerary, invitee list, etc.)

Private Sponsor(s) (list all): Jobs for the Future and The Joyce Foundation

Travel date(s): April 19-20, 2022

Name of accompanying family member (if any): _____
Relationship to Traveler: ☐ Spouse ☐ Child

IF THE COST OF LODGING **DID NOT INCREASE** DUE TO THE ACCOMPANYING SPOUSE OR DEPENDENT CHILD, ONLY INCLUDE LODGING COSTS IN EMPLOYEE EXPENSES. (Attach additional pages if necessary.)

Expenses for Employee:

	Transportation Expenses	Lodging Expenses	Meal Expenses	Other Expenses (Amount & Description)
☐ Good Faith Estimate ☒ Actual Amount	$75 (see attachments for more details)	$96 (see attachments for more details)	$86 (see attachments for more details)	NONE

Expenses for Accompanying Spouse or Dependent Child (if applicable):

	Transportation Expenses	Lodging Expenses	Meal Expenses	Other Expenses (Amount & Description)
☐ Good Faith Estimate ☐ Actual Amount				

Provide a description of all meetings and events attended. *See* Senate Rule 35.2(c)(6). (Attach additional pages if necessary.): The visit highlighted Shenandoah Valley region's effective & quality partnerships to ensure regional vitality & economic growth. See attached agenda and pre-travel forms for more detail.

5/20/22 (Date)

Karishma Kelly (Printed name of traveler)

Karishma Kelly (Signature of traveler)

TO BE COMPLETED BY SUPERVISING MEMBER/OFFICER:

I have made a determination that the expenses set out above in connections with travel described in the *Employee Pre-Travel Authorization* form, are necessary transportation, lodging, and related expenses as defined in Rule 35.

5/20/22 (Date)

(Signature of Supervising Senator/Officer)

(Revised 1/3/11)

Form RE-2

PRIVATE SPONSOR TRAVEL CERTIFICATION FORM

This form must be completed by any private entity offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to Senate Members, officers, or employees (Senate Rule 35, clause 2). Each sponsor of a fact-finding trip must sign the completed form. The trip sponsor(s) must provide a copy of the completed form to each invited Senate traveler, who will then forward it to the Ethics Committee with any other required materials. The trip sponsor(s) should **NOT** submit the form directly to the Ethics Committee. Please consult the accompanying instructions for more detailed definitions and other key information.

The Senate Member, officer, or employee **MUST** also provide a copy of this form, along with the appropriate travel authorization and reimbursement form, to the Office of Public Records (OPR), Room 232 of the Hart Building, within thirty (30) days after the travel is completed.

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1. Sponsor(s) of the trip (please list all sponsors): Jobs for the Future (JFF) and the Joyce Foundation.

2. Description of the trip: The CSN site visit to the Shenandoah Valley region of VA will examine high-quality and innovative education, workforce and poverty alleviation programs. See attachments for more

3. Dates of travel: April 19, 2022 - April 20, 2022

4. Place of travel: Harrisonburg, VA

5. Name and title of Senate invitees: See attachments for more detail

6. I *certify* that the trip fits one of the following categories:

☒ (A) The sponsor(s) are not registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal **and** do not retain or employ registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal **and** no lobbyist or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *at any point* throughout the trip.

– OR –

☐ (B) The sponsor or sponsors are not registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal, but retain or employ one or more registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal and the trip meets the requirements of Senate Rule 35.2(a)(2)(A)(i) or (ii) *(see question 9)*.

7. ☒ I *certify* that the trip will not be financed in any part by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal.

– AND –

☒ I *certify* that the sponsor or sponsors will not accept funds or in-kind contributions earmarked directly or indirectly for the purpose of financing this specific trip from a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal or from a private entity that retains or employs one or more registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal.

8. I *certify* that:

☒ The trip will not in any part be planned, organized, requested, or arranged by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal except for *de minimis* lobbyist involvement.

– AND –

☒ The traveler will not be accompanied on the trip by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal except as provided for by Committee regulations relating to lobbyist accompaniment (*see question 9*).

9. **USE ONLY IF YOU CHECKED QUESTION 6(B)**
I *certify* that if the sponsor or sponsors retain or employ one or more registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal, one of the following scenarios applies:

☐ (A) The trip is for attendance or participation in a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and **one** overnight stay) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *on any segment* of the trip.

– OR –

☐ (B) The trip is for attendance or participation in a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and **two** overnight stays) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *on any segment* of the trip (*see questions 6 and 10).*

– OR –

☐ (C) The trip is being sponsored only by an organization or organizations designated under § 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *at any point* throughout the trip.

10. **USE ONLY IF YOU CHECKED QUESTION 9(B)**
If the trip includes two overnight stays, please explain why the second night is practically required for Senate invitees to participate in the travel:

11. ☒ An itinerary for the trip is attached to this form. I *certify* that the attached itinerary is a detailed (hour-by-hour), complete, and final itinerary for the trip.

12. Briefly describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip:

JFF and The Joyce Foundation select sites and topics around which to base site visits depending on the quality of programming and their relationship to education, workforce development and poverty alleviation policy. See attachments for more detail.

13. Briefly describe the stated mission of each sponsor and how the purpose of the trip relates to that mission:

See attachments for both sponsor's mission and how the purpose of the trip relates to that mission.

14. Briefly describe each sponsor's prior history of sponsoring congressional trips:

JFF has planned similar trips for over 13 years. The Joyce Foundation has co-sponsored in recent years, including a similar visit with JFF in August 2019 to Denver CO, in February 2019 to Memphis TN and in August 2018 to Detroit MI. Prior to August 2018, JFF was the sole sponsor. See attachments for detail.

15. Briefly describe the educational activities performed by each sponsor (other than sponsoring congressional trips):

Each sponsor performs additional educational activities outside of sponsoring congressional trips.

See attachments for more detail.

16. Total Expenses for Each Participant:

	Transportation Expenses	Lodging Expenses	Meal Expenses	Other Expenses
☒ Good Faith estimate ☐ Actual Amounts	$75 (see attachments for more details)	$96 (see attachments for more details)	$92 (see attachments for more details)	NONE

17. State whether a) the trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *without regard* to congressional participation **or** b) the trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *specifically with regard* to congressional participation:

B) The trip involves an event that is arranged or organized specifically with regard to congressional participation.

18. Reason for selecting the location of the event or trip

JFF and the Joyce Foundation selected the Shenandoah Valley region of VA due to its strategies to address education, poverty and workforce development challenges. See attachments for more detail.

19. Name and location of hotel or other lodging facility:

Hotel Madison: 710 S. Main Street, Harrisonburg, VA 22801

20. Reason(s) for selecting hotel or other lodging facility:

The hotel is geographically convenient and offers government per diem rates

21. Describe how the daily expenses for lodging, meals, and other expenses provided to trip participants compares to the maximum per diem rates for official Federal Government travel:

The lodging and meal expenses provided to trip participants will equal the government per diem rates for Harrisonburg, VA in April 2022.

22. Describe the type and class of transportation being provided. Indicate whether coach, business-class or first class transportation will be provided. If first-class fare is being provided, please explain why first-class travel is necessary:

The following will be provided: round trip chartered coach bus service to and from DC, as well as a day and a half of ground transportation in the region (see agenda for more detail).

23. ☒ I represent that the travel expenses that will be paid for or reimbursed to Senate invitees do not include expenditures for recreational activities, alcohol, or entertainment (other than entertainment provided to all attendees as an integral part of the event, as permissible under Senate Rule 35).

24. List any entertainment that will be provided to, paid for, or reimbursed to Senate invitees and explain why the entertainment is an integral part of the event:

NONE

25. I hereby *certify* that the information contained herein is true, complete and correct. (For trips involving more than one sponsor, you *must* include a completed signature page for each additional sponsor):

Signature of Travel Sponsor: Maria K. Flynn

Name and Title: Maria Flynn, President and CEO

Name of Organization: Jobs for the Future (JFF)

Address: 122 C Street NW Washington, DC 20001

Telephone Number: 617-728-4446

Fax Number:

E-mail Address: mflynn@jff.org

PRIVATE SPONSOR TRAVEL CERTIFICATION FORM

SIGNATURE PAGE FOR ADDITIONAL SPONSOR

(to be completed by each additional sponsor)

I hereby *certify* that the information contained on pages 1-4 of the certification form and any accompanying addenda, all submitted in connection with the 4/19/2022-4/20/2022 trip
Dates of Travel (Month Day, Year)
to Harrisonburg, VA is true, complete, and correct.
Place of Travel

Signature of Travel Sponsor: Ellen S. Alberding

Name and Title: Ellen Alberding, President

Name of Organization: The Joyce Foundation

Address: 321 North Clark Street, Suite 1500, Chicago, IL 60654

Telephone Number: 312-795-3829

Fax Number:

E-mail Address: lbaumann@joycefdn.org

Attachments
Congressional Staff Network for Economic Advancement
April 19 – 20, 2022, Shenandoah Valley, Virginia

Question #2 Description of the trip:

The Congressional Staff Network for Economic Advancement brings together a bicameral, bipartisan group of senior Congressional staff to focus on policy issues at the core of economic mobility: K-12 education, postsecondary education, workforce development, and poverty alleviation. The purpose of this trip is to examine high quality and innovative education and workforce training programs that focus on the economic needs of the region, its employers, and its people. Staff will see innovative programs that meet the skill needs of the region's critical industries, talk with community college leaders, state and local officials, and employers who are involved in developing and carrying out these programs.

Question #5 Senate staff invitees:

Hannah Berner
Legislative Assistant to U.S. Senator John Hickenlooper
Senate HELP Committee
hannah_berner@hickenlooper.senate.gov

Alaura Ervin
Legislative Assistant
Office of U.S. Senator John Cornyn
Alaura_Ervin@cornyn.senate.gov

Chris Fisk
Policy Advisor
Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
Chris_fisk@help.senate.gov

Katherine Hitchcock
Legislative Assistant
Office of U.S. Senator Todd Young
katherine_hitchcock@young.senate.gov

Brittany Matthews
Senior Policy Advisor for Education & Workforce Office of U.S. Senator Maggie Hassan
Brittany_Matthews@hassan.senate.gov

Karishma Merchant
Senior Education and Workforce Policy Advisor Office of U.S. Senator Tim Kaine
Karishma_Merchant@kaine.senate.gov

Montrel Tennessee
Legislative Fellow
Office of U.S. Senator Tim Kaine
Montrel_Tennessee@kaine.senate.gov

Question #12 Role of Sponsors:

Jobs for the Future (JFF) and the Joyce Foundation work together to select sites and topics of interest around which to base site visits and forums, considering Congressional staff interest, the quality of programming, and whether or not these programs have a relationship to workforce development and education policy. The sponsors develop and execute the agenda and arrange logistics for the trip. JFF serves as the point of contact for staff.

Question #13 Mission of Sponsors:

JFF's mission is to advance education, workforce development and poverty alleviation programs and policies that expand opportunities for youth and adults who are living in poverty and disconnected from school and work to attain the education, training, and credentials necessary to find good jobs and family sustaining careers; The Joyce Foundation's mission is to invest in public policies and strategies to advance racial equity and economic mobility. Both sponsors' work is informed by research, analysis, and best practice. The missions of JFF and The Joyce Foundation support the purpose of the trip, highlighting innovative, evidence-based programs and policies that drive economic mobility.

Question #14 History of Sponsors:

JFF has sponsored trips and events for Congressional staff for over 13 years. Examples of this work includes the following: held numerous DC-based local forums and conducted multiple site visits where senior congressional staff see high quality workforce programs first-hand and learn from experts and practitioners on the ground about the impact of federal policy in their fields. Visits have included programs in: Charlotte, NC; Bridgeport, CT; Cincinnati, OH; Madison, WI; Philadelphia, PA; Detroit, MI, Wichita, KS, Nashville, TN, Seattle, WA, Eastern KY, Fredericksburg, VA, Detroit, MI (again), Memphis, TN, Denver, CO, as well as virtual "visits" to San Diego, CA, and Texas. The purpose of these trips (and the Network) is to provide in-depth learning opportunities for staff on workforce, education, and economic security issues. The Joyce Foundation joined JFF as a sponsor in 2018, playing a substantive role in the planning and development of the Congressional Staff Network site visits to Detroit, MI; Memphis, TN; Denver, CO; San Diego, CA (virtual); Texas (virtual); and now the Shenandoah Valley region of Virginia.

Question #15 Other Educational Activities of Sponsors:

JFF works with partners around the country to design and drive the adoption of education and career pathways leading to college, career readiness and career advancements for those struggling to succeed in today's economy. JFF improves pathways from high school to college to family-sustaining careers through relevant technical assistance, research, reports,

briefs, and blogs, and by hosting events, including national conferences. The Joyce Foundation supports policy research, development, and advocacy – identifying innovative solutions and investing in their success. By funding and convening organizations and partners that focus on issues related to education and economic mobility, the Foundation supports innovative work in these areas. The Foundation also invests in the sharing of lessons learned from these efforts, translating work on the ground to program and policy solutions. The Joyce Foundation is a substantial partner with JFF in the planning of educational activities as part of the Congressional Staff Network, including this site visit.

Question #16 Good Faith Estimates for Senate Travel and Meal Expenses:

Transportation: On the ground transportation, via chartered coach class bus service for travel to Harrisonburg, time in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia and travel back to D.C = **$75.00 per person**.

Lodging: Lodging at the Hotel Madison for one night = **$96.00 per person** ($96.00 per night in line with per diem)

Meals: Meals for one day and one day of travel = **$92.00 per person** (in line with per diem)

Question #18 Reason for Selecting Location:

The sponsors selected the Shenandoah Valley region of Virginia for this site visit because of its innovative workforce development and education efforts, specifically the way the workforce, economic development, social welfare, and postsecondary systems are collaborating to meet the unique needs of a rural area. These efforts are rooted in a deep understanding of why labor market participation rates have dropped in recent decades. The region's leaders are striving to address barriers to education and employment by partnering with community-based organizations to provide critical support services that are tailored to community needs. The visit will also highlight cross-sector partnerships that engage employers in efforts to promote skill development and economic uplift. These models for career- connected learning, sector-based skill development and holistic systems alignment will shed light on K- 12, postsecondary, workforce development, and welfare policy

0000000001738 RECEIVED BY: SECRETARY OF THE SENATE Date: May 20, 2022

CONGRESSIONAL STAFF NETWORK
FOR ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT

Dear Karishma,

The JFF and the Joyce Foundation team is inviting you to participate in an in-person, two-day site visit to the Shenandoah Valley region of Virginia on Tuesday April 19, 2022 – Wednesday April 20, 2022. This visit will present high quality educational opportunities for staff as well as beautiful views and networking time together.

During this visit staff will hear from Blue Ridge Community College, the Shenandoah Valley Workforce Development Board, the Shenandoah Partnership (economic development entity), and regional employers who will discuss how they are meeting todays and tomorrow's talent needs and the unique economic needs of a rural region. Blue Ridge leaders will talk about how they are implementing state workforce programs including FastForward and G3 – aligning postsecondary options to in-demand careers. The Shenandoah Valley Workforce Board will discuss how they are expanding apprenticeships for opportunity youth, and we will hear from economic development and business leaders about how they are developing and sustaining robust partnerships with the education and workforce systems. Additionally, we will delve into the issue of labor market participation, examining why workers are leaving their jobs and how the region is addressing this challenge through comprehensive supports designed to eliminate barriers related to childcare, addiction, and transportation.

The JFF team is getting excited for the visit and the rich discussions that will take place. ***Please respond by Friday, February 25th stating your plans for participation.*** Once your attendance is confirmed our team will share final information for the trip, including an agenda and the necessary Ethics documentation. Thank you and we hope you can join us!

Best,

Mary Clagett
Senior Director for Workforce Policy
JFF

Best,

Chibuzo Ezeigbo
Education & Economic Mobility Program Officer
The Joyce Foundation

February 16, 2022

0000000001739 RECEIVED BY: SECRETARY OF THE SENATE Date: May 20, 2022

CONGRESSIONAL STAFF NETWORK
FOR ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT

Tuesday, April 19, 2022 – Wednesday, April 20, 2022
Site Visit to Shenandoah Valley

Tuesday, April 19th

8:30 – 9:00 AM	Bus Pick Up & Departure *Garfield Circle* *United States Capitol, Washington DC 20016*
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM	Bus Ride to Blue Ridge Community College (BRCC) *1 College Ln, Weyers Cave, VA 24486*
12:30 – 1:30 PM	Lunch Session – An Introduction to the Region and a Cross-Sector Approach to Workforce Development in the Shenandoah Valley Region *Blue Ridge Community College* *Plecker Workforce Center* *1 College Ln, Weyers Cave, VA 24486* Luncheon speakers will provide an overview of the Shenandoah Valley region, discussing the regional economy, demographic characteristics, challenges in addressing poverty and equity issues, education and workforce development efforts, and opportunities that lie ahead. As part of this session, speakers will outline the skill needs of the region and high demand industry sectors. Speakers: • **John Downey,** President, Blue Ridge Community College (BRCC) • **Jay Langston,** Executive Director, Shenandoah Valley Partnership • **Sharon Johnson**, Chief Executive Officer, Shenandoah Valley Workforce Development Board
1:30 – 2:45 PM	How BRCC is Partnering with Other Regional Education Providers to Prepare Student for In-Demand Opportunities in the Shenandoah Valley *Blue Ridge Community College* *1 College Ln, Weyers Cave, VA 24486* Staff will hear from BRCC President John Downey about how they are successfully implementing state programs like FastForward and G3 – helping to provide postsecondary options that tie to in-demand occupations and careers. BRCC leaders will also talk about how they are partnering with James Madison University (JMU), to address the spectrum of workforce needs at a local major pharmaceutical manufacturing plant (Merck) and developing strong transfer pathways and internships that support student progress from college to high-wage careers.

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Speakers:

- **John Downey,** President, BRCC
- **Kathleen Gass**, Regional Manufacturing Liaison, BRCC & JMU
- **Melissa Lubin**, Chief Economic Engagement Officer, and Dean, JMU

2:45 – 3:30 PM

Tour of Bioscience and Advanced Manufacturing Training Facilities at BRCC
Blue Ridge Community College
1 College Ln, Weyers Cave, VA 24486

BRCC's Vice President of Instruction & Student Services will lead staff on a tour of two training facilities at BRCC where students learn technical skills in two high demand industries in the region: Advanced Technology and Biomanufacturing. This tour will demonstrate BRCC's different postsecondary options and allow staff to better understand the student experience in these fields.

Speaker:

- **Bob Young**, Vice President, BRCC

3:30 - 4:00 PM

Drive to Dynamic Aviation
1402 Airport Rd, Bridgewater, VA 22812

4:00 - 5:30 PM

Tour of Dynamic Aviation
1402 Airport Rd, Bridgewater, VA 22812

An employer leader in the region, Dynamic Aviation will provide staff with a tour of their facilities so staff can learn from and see individuals on the job. During this tour staff will also learn about Dynamic Aviation's investment in and commitment to skill development and reaching more people to diversify the aviation workforce pipeline through their NEXTGEN Aviators program. NEXTGEN seeks to help bridge the gap in the nationwide shortage of aviation education and the workforce.

Speaker:

- **Shane Combs,** Director of NEXTGEN Aviators, Dynamic Aviation
- **Michael Stoltzfus**, President/CEO, Dynamic Aviation
- **Anthony Whitehead**, Relations and Engagement Specialist, Dynamic Aviation

5:30 - 6:00 PM

Drive to Dinner Session
Bella Luna Wood-Fired Pizza
80 W Water St, Harrisonburg, VA 22801
**This dinner was originally located at the Hotel Madison; we had to relocate due to a last-minute conflict at the venue. Price decrease reflected in the post-travel disclosure forms.*

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6:00 - 8:00 PM

Dinner Session: A Conversation with Key Employer Partners
Bella Luna Wood-Fired Pizza
80 W Water St, Harrisonburg, VA 22801
**This dinner was originally located at the Hotel Madison; we had to relocate due to a last-minute conflict at the venue. Price decrease reflected in the post-travel disclosure forms.*

Jay Langston, the economic development leader in the region, will build on the introductory session, discussing how the region is addressing challenges related to skill shortages and fall outs from the COVID-19 crisis by convening a session with two major employers in the area. These industry partners will discuss their work together and how this employer buy-in/coordination is critical to the vitality of Harrisonburg and the Shenandoah Valley region. Panelists will also discuss innovative efforts to support career pathways and key sector initiatives. Lastly, speakers will highlight how they are being intentional about equity as they work to strengthen and diversify talent pipelines.

Speakers:

- **Jay Langston,** Executive Director, Shenandoah Valley Partnership
- **Jon Gass**, Associate Vice President, Elkton Plant Manager, Merck
- **Michael Stoltzfus**, President/CEO, Dynamic Aviation

8:00 - 8:30 PM

Check-in & End of Programming
Hotel Madison
710 S Main St, Harrisonburg, VA 22801

Wednesday, April 20th

8:30 – 9:30 AM

Breakfast Session: The Importance of Supportive & Aligned Services to Ensure That Individuals Economically Advance
Hotel Madison
710 S Main St, Harrisonburg, VA 22801

This session will identify how leaders in the Shenandoah Valley region are coordinating and aligning skill development programs with poverty alleviation strategies. Speakers will explain why this connection is critical to ensure jobseekers and workers are able to persist and complete in training as well as retain employment. Speakers will discuss their efforts in literacy, transportation, access to broadband, child care and other barriers that youth and adults face in their region.

Speakers:

- **Ben Craig,** Executive Director, Way to Go

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- **Victoria Garber**, Regional Specialist and PluggedIn VA Coordinator, Shenandoah Initiative for Adult Education (SHINE)
- **Aline Jackson-Diggs**, Placement Counselor, Department of Aging and Rehabilitative Services (DARS)

9:30 – 9:45 AM — Drive to Shenandoah Valley Workforce Development Board (SVWDB)
Shenandoah Valley Workforce Development Board
160 N Mason St, Harrisonburg, VA 22802

9:45 - 10:45 AM — Expanding High-Quality Apprenticeship Opportunities for Youth and Adults
Shenandoah Valley Workforce Development Board
160 N Mason St, Harrisonburg, VA 22802

Staff will hear from leaders at SVWDB that are working to drive and expand apprenticeship opportunities in the region. Staff will learn about SVWDB's apprenticeship efforts, which serve both adults and youth, and their achievements in reaching more individuals, including opportunity youth. Staff will also hear about challenges in ensuring this impactful programming continues at scale.

Speakers:

- **Scott Carlson,** Employer Network Director, SVWDB
- **Debby Hopkins,** Previous Chief Workforce Officer, and AAI Project Director, SVWDB
- **Sharon Johnson**, CEO, SVWDB

10:45 – 11:00 AM — Tour of SVWDB One Stop
Shenandoah Valley Workforce Development Board
160 N Mason St, Harrisonburg, VA 22802

Staff will get a chance to walk around SVWDB's Harrisonburg one-stop. Staff will get to see the infrastructure of a one-stop and learn about all the different services provided at a high-quality job center.

Speakers:

- **Sharon Johnson**, CEO, SVWDB

11:00 AM – 12:00 PM — Commitment to Skills: Expanding Evidence-Based Skill Development Approaches for Jobseekers and Workers
Shenandoah Valley Workforce Development Board
160 N Mason St, Harrisonburg, VA 22802

For this session, SVWDB leaders will discuss how they are working to deliver on the workforce system's vision of serving both industry and individuals. Speakers

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will discuss SVWDB's business services work and how they leverage their robust employer partnerships to prepare individuals for in-demand and quality jobs. Speakers will also discuss their efforts to develop and sustain career pathways approaches that respond to regional labor market needs as they evolve.

Speakers:

- **Sharon Johnson**, CEO, SVWDB
- **Kathleen Gass**, Regional Manufacturing Liaison, BRCC & JMU
- **Kaystyle Madden**, Director, Employer Network, SVWDB

12:00 – 12:30 PM — Working Lunch – Trip Debrief
Shenandoah Valley Workforce Development Board
160 N Mason St, Harrisonburg, VA 22802

Informal discussion with staff about key take-aways from the trip - reflection on what was learned, and ways federal policymakers can assist states and localities to improve system alignment, programming, and individual outcomes.

Speakers:

- **Sharon Johnson**, President/CEO, Shenandoah Workforce Development Board
- **Bob Young**, Vice President, BRCC
- **Jay Langston,** Executive Director, Shenandoah Valley Partnership

12:30 – 3:30 PM — Bus Ride from Shenandoah Valley back to DC

3:30 PM — Arrive Back in DC - Programming Ends

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CONGRESSIONAL STAFF NETWORK

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SHENANDOAH VALLEY, VA FULL PARTICIPANT LIST

Congressional Staff Participants

Caitlin Burke
Professional Staff
House Education & Labor Committee
Caitlin.burke@mail.house.gov

Adam Edgerton
Analyst in Education Policy
CRS
aedgerton@crs.loc.gov

Agatha Gucyski
Economic Policy Advisor
Office of U.S. Representative Lisa Blunt Rochester
Agatha.Gucyski@mail.house.gov

Katherine Hitchcock
Legislative Assistant
Office of U.S. Senator Todd Young
katherine_hitchcock@young.senate.gov

Brittany Matthews
Senior Policy Advisor for Education & Workforce
Office of U.S. Senator Maggie Hassan
Brittany_Matthews@hassan.senate.gov

Karishma Merchant
Senior Education and Workforce Policy Advisor
Office of U.S. Senator Tim Kaine
Karishma_Merchant@kaine.senate.gov

Bowen Peard
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Office of U.S. Representative Susie Lee
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Montrel Tennessee
Legislative Fellow
Office of U.S. Senator Tim Kaine
Montrel_Tennessee@kaine.senate.gov

Shenandoah Valley Participants

Scott Carlson
Employer Network Director
Shenandoah Valley Workforce Development Board

Shane Combs
Director of NEXTGEN Aviators
Dynamic Aviation

Ben Craig
Executive Director
Way to Go

John Downey
President
Blue Ridge Community College

Victoria Garber
Regional Specialist and PlugggedIn VA coordinator
Shenandoah Initiative for Adult Education (SHINE)

Kathleen Gass
Regional Manufacturing Liaison
Blue Ridge Community College & James Madison University

Jon Gass
Associate Vice President, Elkton Plant Manager
Merck

Debby Hopkins
Previous Chief Workforce Officer
Shenandoah Valley Workforce Development Board

Aline Jackson-Diggs
Placement Counselor, Department of Aging and Rehabilitative Services (DARS)

Sharon Johnson
CEO
Shenandoah Valley Workforce Development Board

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FOR ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT

SHENANDOAH VALLEY, VA FULL PARTICIPANT LIST

Jay Langston
Executive Director
Shenandoah Valley Partnership

Melissa Lubin
Chief Economic Engagement Officer & Dean
James Madison University

Kaystyle Madden
Employer Network Director
Shenandoah Valley Workforce Development Board

Jeff Stapel
Human Resources and Safety Manager
Shickel Corporation

Michael Stoltzfus
President/CEO
Dynamic Aviation

Anthony Whitehead
Relations and Engagement Specialist
Dynamic Aviation

Bob Young
Vice President
Blue Ridge Community College

The Joyce Foundation Participant

Chibuzo Ezeigbo
Program Officer
The Joyce Foundation

Jobs for the Future Participants

Vanessa Bennett
Associate Director
vbennett@jff.org

Mary Clagett
Senior Director for Workforce Policy
mclagett@jff.org

Meredith Hills
Senior Program Manager
mhills@jff.org

Taylor Maag
Associate Director
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Susannah Rodrigue
Policy Manager
srodrigue@jff.org

0000000001746 RECEIVED BY: SECRETARY OF THE SENATE Date: May 20, 2022

Date/Time Stamp:

EMPLOYEE PRE-TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION

Pre-Travel Filing Instructions: Complete and submit this form at least 30 days prior to the travel departure date to the **Select Committee on Ethics** in **SH-220**. Incomplete and late travel submissions will **not** be considered or approved. This form **must** be typed and is available as a fillable PDF on the Committee's website at ethics.senate.gov. Retain a copy of your entire pre-travel submission for your required post-travel disclosure.

Name of Traveler: Karishma Merchant Kelly

Employing Office/Committee: Office of U.S. Senator Tim Kaine

Private Sponsor(s) (list all): Jobs for the Future (JFF) and the Joyce Foundation

Travel date(s): 4/19/2022 - 4/20/2022

*Note: If you plan to extend the trip for any reason you **must** notify the Committee.*

Destination(s): Harrisonburg, VA

Explain how this trip is specifically connected to the traveler's official or representational duties:

As the Senior Education and Workforce Policy Advisor, I am Senator Kaine's lead staffer on his assignment to the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions. In this capacity, I cover policy issues related to workforce development, education and poverty alleviation. This particular site visit located in Senator Kaine's state will highlight the Shenandoah Valley region's successes and challenges in these policy areas and inform policy recommendations for Senator Kaine.

Name of accompanying family member (if any): _____

Relationship to Employee: ☐ Spouse ☐ Child

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete and correct to the best of my knowledge:

3/31/22
(Date)

Karishma Kelly
(Signature of Employee)

TO BE COMPLETED BY SUPERVISING SENATOR/OFFICER (President of the Senate, Secretary of the Senate, Sergeant at Arms, Secretary for the Majority, Secretary for the Minority, and Chaplain):

I, Senator Tim Kaine hereby authorize Karishma Merchant Kelly
(Print Senator's/Officer's Name) *(Print Traveler's Name)*

an employee under my direct supervision, to accept payment or reimbursement for necessary transportation, lodging, and related expenses for travel to the event described above. I have determined that this travel is in connection with his or her duties as a Senate employee or an officeholder, and will not create the appearance that he or she is using public office for private gain.

I have also determined that the attendance of the employee's spouse or child is appropriate to assist in the representation of the Senate. (*signify "yes" by checking box)* ☐

3/31/22
(Date)

Tim Kaine
(Signature of Supervising Senator/Officer)

(Revised 10/19/15)

Form RE-1

0000000001747 RECEIVED BY: SECRETARY OF THE SENATE Date: May 20, 2022

Print This Form... Clear Form

Date/Time Stamp:

EMPLOYEE PRE-TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION

Pre-Travel Filing Instructions: Complete and submit this form at least 30 days prior to the travel departure date to the **Select Committee on Ethics** in **SH-220**. Incomplete and late travel submissions will **not** be considered or approved. This form **must** be typed and is available as a fillable PDF on the Committee's website at ethics.senate.gov. Retain a copy of your entire pre-travel submission for your required post-travel disclosure.

Name of Traveler: Karishma Merchant Kelly

Employing Office/Committee: Office of U.S. Senator Tim Kaine

Private Sponsor(s) (list all): Jobs for the Future (JFF) with a grant from the Joyce Foundation

Travel date(s): 4/19/2022 - 4/20/2022

*Note: If you plan to extend the trip for any reason you **must** notify the Committee.*

Destination(s): Harrisonburg, VA

Explain how this trip is specifically connected to the traveler's official or representational duties:

As the Senior Education and Workforce Policy Advisor, I am Senator Kaine's lead staffer on his assignment to the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions. In this capacity, I cover policy issues related to workforce development, education and poverty alleviation. This particular site visit located in Senator Kaine's state will highlight the Shenandoah Valley region's successes and challenges in these policy areas and inform policy recommendations for Senator Kaine.

Name of accompanying family member (if any): _____

Relationship to Employee: ☐ Spouse ☐ Child

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete and correct to the best of my knowledge:

3/17/22
(Date)

Karishma Kelly
(Signature of Employee)

TO BE COMPLETED BY SUPERVISING SENATOR/OFFICER (President of the Senate, Secretary of the Senate, Sergeant at Arms, Secretary for the Majority, Secretary for the Minority, and Chaplain):

I, Senator Tim Kaine *(Print Senator's/Officer's Name)* hereby authorize Karishma Merchant Kelly *(Print Traveler's Name)*

an employee under my direct supervision, to accept payment or reimbursement for necessary transportation, lodging, and related expenses for travel to the event described above. I have determined that this travel is in connection with his or her duties as a Senate employee or an officeholder, and will not create the appearance that he or she is using public office for private gain.

I have also determined that the attendance of the employee's spouse or child is appropriate to assist in the representation of the Senate. (*signify "yes" by checking box*) ☐

3/17/22
(Date)

Tim Kaine
(Signature of Supervising Senator/Officer)

(Revised 10/19/15)

Form RE-1

PRIVATE SPONSOR TRAVEL CERTIFICATION FORM

This form must be completed by any private entity offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to Senate Members, officers, or employees (Senate Rule 35, clause 2). Each sponsor of a fact-finding trip must sign the completed form. The trip sponsor(s) must provide a copy of the completed form to each invited Senate traveler, who will then forward it to the Ethics Committee with any other required materials. The trip sponsor(s) should **NOT** submit the form directly to the Ethics Committee. Please consult the accompanying instructions for more detailed definitions and other key information.

The Senate Member, officer, or employee **MUST** also provide a copy of this form, along with the appropriate travel authorization and reimbursement form, to the Office of Public Records (OPR), Room 232 of the Hart Building, within thirty (30) days after the travel is completed.

---

1. Sponsor(s) of the trip (please list all sponsors): Jobs for the Future (JFF) and the Joyce Foundation.

2. Description of the trip: The CSN site visit to the Shenandoah Valley region of VA will examine high-quality and innovative education, workforce and poverty alleviation programs. See attachments for more

3. Dates of travel: April 19, 2022 - April 20, 2022

4. Place of travel: Harrisonburg, VA

5. Name and title of Senate invitees: See attachments for more detail

6. I *certify* that the trip fits one of the following categories:

☒ (A) The sponsor(s) are not registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal **and** do not retain or employ registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal **and** no lobbyist or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *at any point* throughout the trip.

– OR –

☐ (B) The sponsor or sponsors are not registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal, but retain or employ one or more registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal and the trip meets the requirements of Senate Rule 35.2(a)(2)(A)(i) or (ii) *(see question 9)*.

7. ☒ I *certify* that the trip will not be financed in any part by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal.

– AND –

☒ I *certify* that the sponsor or sponsors will not accept funds or in-kind contributions earmarked directly or indirectly for the purpose of financing this specific trip from a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal or from a private entity that retains or employs one or more registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal.

8. I *certify* that:

☒ The trip will not in any part be planned, organized, requested, or arranged by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal except for *de minimis* lobbyist involvement.

– AND –

☒ The traveler will not be accompanied on the trip by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal except as provided for by Committee regulations relating to lobbyist accompaniment (*see question 9*).

9. **USE ONLY IF YOU CHECKED QUESTION 6(B)**
I *certify* that if the sponsor or sponsors retain or employ one or more registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal, one of the following scenarios applies:

☐ (A) The trip is for attendance or participation in a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and **one** overnight stay) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *on any segment* of the trip.

– OR –

☐ (B) The trip is for attendance or participation in a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and **two** overnight stays) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *on any segment* of the trip (*see questions 6 and 10*).

– OR –

☐ (C) The trip is being sponsored only by an organization or organizations designated under § 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *at any point* throughout the trip.

10. **USE ONLY IF YOU CHECKED QUESTION 9(B)**
If the trip includes two overnight stays, please explain why the second night is practically required for Senate invitees to participate in the travel:

11. ☒ An itinerary for the trip is attached to this form. I *certify* that the attached itinerary is a detailed (hour-by-hour), complete, and final itinerary for the trip.

12. Briefly describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip:
JFF and The Joyce Foundation select sites and topics around which to base site visits depending on the quality of programming and their relationship to education, workforce development and poverty alleviation policy. See attachments for more detail.

13. Briefly describe the stated mission of each sponsor and how the purpose of the trip relates to that mission:
See attachments for both sponsor's mission and how the purpose of the trip relates to that mission.

14. Briefly describe each sponsor's prior history of sponsoring congressional trips:
JFF has planned similar trips for over 13 years. The Joyce Foundation has co-sponsored in recent years, including a similar visit with JFF in August 2019 to Denver CO, in February 2019 to Memphis TN and in August 2018 to Detroit MI. Prior to August 2018, JFF was the sole sponsor. See attachments for detail.

15. Briefly describe the educational activities performed by each sponsor (other than sponsoring congressional trips):

Each sponsor performs additional educational activities outside of sponsoring congressional trips.

See attachments for more detail.

16. Total Expenses for Each Participant:

	Transportation Expenses	Lodging Expenses	Meal Expenses	Other Expenses
☒ Good Faith estimate ☐ Actual Amounts	$75 (see attachments for more details)	$96 (see attachments for more details)	$92 (see attachments for more details)	NONE

17. State whether a) the trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *without regard* to congressional participation **or** b) the trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *specifically with regard* to congressional participation:

B) The trip involves an event that is arranged or organized specifically with regard to congressional participation.

18. Reason for selecting the location of the event or trip

JFF and the Joyce Foundation selected the Shenandoah Valley region of VA due to its strategies to address education, poverty and workforce development challenges. See attachments for more detail.

19. Name and location of hotel or other lodging facility:

Hotel Madison: 710 S. Main Street, Harrisonburg, VA 22801

20. Reason(s) for selecting hotel or other lodging facility:

The hotel is geographically convenient and offers government per diem rates

21. Describe how the daily expenses for lodging, meals, and other expenses provided to trip participants compares to the maximum per diem rates for official Federal Government travel:

The lodging and meal expenses provided to trip participants will equal the government per diem rates for Harrisonburg, VA in April 2022.

22. Describe the type and class of transportation being provided. Indicate whether coach, business-class or first class transportation will be provided. If first-class fare is being provided, please explain why first-class travel is necessary:

The following will be provided: Round trip chartered coach bus service to and from DC, as well as a day and a half of ground transportation in the region (see agenda for more detail).

23. ☒ I represent that the travel expenses that will be paid for or reimbursed to Senate invitees do not include expenditures for recreational activities, alcohol, or entertainment (other than entertainment provided to all attendees as an integral part of the event, as permissible under Senate Rule 35).

24. List any entertainment that will be provided to, paid for, or reimbursed to Senate invitees and explain why the entertainment is an integral part of the event:

NONE

25. I hereby *certify* that the information contained herein is true, complete and correct. (For trips involving more than one sponsor, you *must* include a completed signature page for each additional sponsor):

Signature of Travel Sponsor: Maria K. Flynn

Name and Title: Maria Flynn

Name of Organization: Jobs for the Future (JFF)

Address: 122 C Street NW Washington, DC 20001

Telephone Number: 617-728-4446

Fax Number:

E-mail Address: mflynn@jff.org

PRIVATE SPONSOR TRAVEL CERTIFICATION FORM

SIGNATURE PAGE FOR ADDITIONAL SPONSOR

(to be completed by each additional sponsor)

I hereby *certify* that the information contained on pages 1-4 of the certification form and any accompanying addenda, all submitted in connection with the 4/19/2022-4/20/2022 trip
Dates of Travel (Month Day, Year)
to Harrisonburg, VA is true, complete, and correct.
Place of Travel

Signature of Travel Sponsor: Ellen S. Alberding

Name and Title: Ellen Alberding, President

Name of Organization: The Joyce Foundation

Address: 321 North Clark Street, Suite 1500, Chicago, IL 60654

Telephone Number: 312-795-3829

Fax Number:

E-mail Address: lbaumann@joycefdn.org

Attachments

Congressional Staff Network for Economic Advancement
April 19 – 20, 2022, Shenandoah Valley, Virginia

Question #2 Description of the trip:

The Congressional Staff Network for Economic Advancement brings together a bicameral, bipartisan group of senior Congressional staff to focus on policy issues at the core of economic mobility: K-12 education, postsecondary education, workforce development, and poverty alleviation. The purpose of this trip is to examine high quality and innovative education and workforce training programs that focus on the economic needs of the region, its employers, and its people. Staff will see innovative programs that meet the skill needs of the region's critical industries, talk with community college leaders, state and local officials, and employers who are involved in developing and carrying out these programs.

Question #5 Senate staff invitees:

Hannah Berner
Legislative Assistant
Office of U.S. Senator John Hickenlooper
hannah_berner@hickenlooper.senate.gov

Alaura Ervin
Legislative Assistant
Office of U.S. Senator John Cornyn
Alaura_Ervin@cornyn.senate.gov

Chris Fisk
Policy Advisor
Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
chris_fisk@help.senate.gov

Katie Hitchcock
Legislative Assistant
Office of U.S. Senator Todd Young
katherine_hitchcock@young.senate.gov

Brittany Matthews
Senior Policy Advisor for Education & Workforce
Office of U.S. Senator Maggie Hassan
Brittany_Matthews@hassan.senate.gov

Karishma Merchant
Senior Education and Workforce Policy Advisor
Office of U.S. Senator Tim Kaine
Karishma_Merchant@kaine.senate.gov

Montrel Tennessee
Legislative Fellow
Office of U.S. Senator Tim Kaine
Montrel_Tennessee@kaine.senate.gov

Question #12 Role of Sponsor:

Jobs for the Future (JFF) and the Joyce Foundation work together to select sites and topics of interest around which to base site visits and forums, considering Congressional staff interest, the quality of programming, and whether or not these programs have a relationship to workforce development and education policy. The sponsors develop and execute the agenda and arrange logistics for the trip. JFF serves as the point of contact for staff.

Question #13 Mission of Sponsors:

JFF's mission is to advance education, workforce development and poverty alleviation programs and policies that expand opportunities for youth and adults who are living in poverty and disconnected from school and work to attain the education, training, and credentials necessary to find good jobs and family sustaining careers; The Joyce Foundation's mission is to invest in public policies and strategies to advance racial equity and economic mobility. Both sponsors' work is informed by research, analysis, and best practice. The missions of JFF and The Joyce Foundation support the purpose of the trip, highlighting innovative, evidence-based programs and policies that drive economic mobility.

Question #14 History of Sponsor:

JFF has sponsored trips through the Congressional Staff trips and events for over 13 years. Examples of this work includes the following: held numerous DC-based local forums and conducted multiple site visits where senior congressional staff see high quality workforce programs first-hand and learn from experts and practitioners on the ground about the impact of federal policy in their fields. Visits have included programs in: Charlotte, NC; Bridgeport, CT; Cincinnati, OH; Madison, WI; Philadelphia, PA; Detroit, MI, Wichita, KS, Nashville, TN, Seattle, WA, Eastern KY, Fredericksburg, VA, Detroit, MI (again), Memphis, TN, Denver, CO, as well as virtual "visits" to San Diego, CA, and Texas. The purpose of these trips (and the Network) is to provide in-depth learning opportunities for staff on workforce, education, and economic security issues. The Joyce Foundation joined JFF as a sponsor in 2018, playing a substantive role in the planning and development of the Congressional Staff Network site visits to Detroit, MI; Memphis, TN; Denver, CO; San Diego, CA (virtual); Texas (virtual); and now the Shenandoah Valley region of Virginia.

Question #15 Other Educational Activities of Sponsor:

JFF works with partners around the country to design and drive the adoption of education and career pathways leading to college, career readiness and career advancements for those struggling to succeed

in today's economy. JFF improves pathways from high school to college to family-sustaining careers through relevant technical assistance, research, reports, briefs, and blogs, and by hosting events, including national conferences. The Joyce Foundation supports policy research, development and advocacy – identifying innovative solutions and investing in their success. Through this work, The Joyce Foundation funds organizations that focus on education and economic mobility, convenes coalitions focused on a specific education or workforce strategy and promotes findings through distribution of materials (i.e., policy briefs or reports).

Question #16 Good Faith Estimates for Senate Travel and Meal Expenses:

Transportation: On the ground transportation, via chartered coach class bus service for travel to Harrisonburg, time in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia and travel back to D.C = $75.00 per person. Totally transportation expenses = **$75.00 per person**.

Lodging: Lodging at the Hotel Madison for one night = **$96.00 per person** ($96.00 per night in line with per diem)

Meals: Meals for one day and one day of travel = **$92.00 per person** (in line with per diem)

Question #18 Reason for Selecting Location

The sponsors selected the Shenandoah Valley region of Virginia for this site visit because of its innovative workforce development and education efforts, specifically the way the workforce, economic development, social welfare, and postsecondary systems are collaborating to meet the unique needs of a rural area. These efforts are rooted in a deep understanding of why labor market participation rates have dropped in recent decades. The region's leaders are striving to address barriers to education and employment by partnering with community-based organizations to provide critical support services that are tailored to community needs. The visit will also highlight cross-sector partnerships that engage employers in efforts to promote skill development and economic uplift. These models for career-connected learning, sector-based skill development and holistic systems alignment will shed light on K-12, postsecondary, workforce development, and welfare policy.

0000000001756 RECEIVED BY: SECRETARY OF THE SENATE Date: May 20, 2022

CONGRESSIONAL STAFF NETWORK

FOR ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT

Dear Karishma,

The JFF team is inviting you to participate in an in-person, two-day site visit to the Shenandoah Valley region of Virginia on Tuesday April 19, 2022 – Wednesday April 20, 2022. This visit will present high quality educational opportunities for staff as well as beautiful views and networking time together.

During this visit staff will hear from Blue Ridge Community College, the Shenandoah Valley Workforce Development Board, the Shenandoah Partnership (economic development entity), and regional employers who will discuss how they are meeting today's and tomorrow's talent needs and the unique economic needs of a rural region. Blue Ridge leaders will talk about how they are implementing state workforce programs including FastForward and G3 – aligning postsecondary options to in-demand careers. The Shenandoah Valley Workforce Board will discuss how they are expanding apprenticeships for opportunity youth, and we will hear from economic development and business leaders about how they are developing and sustaining robust partnerships with the education and workforce systems. Additionally, we will delve into the issue of labor market participation, examining why workers are leaving their jobs and how the region is addressing this challenge through comprehensive supports designed to eliminate barriers related to childcare, addiction, and transportation.

The JFF team is getting excited for the visit and the rich discussions that will take place. ***Please respond by Friday, February 25th stating your plans for participation.*** Once your attendance is confirmed our team will share final information for the trip, including an agenda and the necessary Ethics documentation. Thank you and we hope you can join us!

Mary Clagett

Mary Clagett, Senior Director for Workforce Policy, JFF

February 16, 2022

0000000001757 RECEIVED BY: SECRETARY OF THE SENATE Date: May 20, 2022

CONGRESSIONAL STAFF NETWORK

FOR ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT

Tuesday, April 19th, 2022 – Wednesday, April 20th, 2022
Site Visit to Shenandoah Valley

Tuesday April 19th

9:00 – 12:00 PM

Bus Ride to Blue Ridge Community College (BRCC)
1 College Ln, Weyers Cave, VA 24486

12:30 – 1:30 PM

Lunch Session – An Introduction to the Region and a Cross-Sector Approach to Workforce Development in the Shenandoah Valley Region
Blue Ridge Community College
Plackard Workforce Center
1 College Ln, Weyers Cave, VA 24486

Luncheon speakers will provide an overview of the Shenandoah Valley region, discussing the regional economy, demographic characteristics, challenges in addressing poverty and equity issues, education and workforce development efforts, and opportunities that lie ahead. As part of this session, speakers will outline the skill needs of the region and high demand industry sectors.

Speakers:

- **John Downey,** President, Blue Ridge Community College (BRCC)
- **Jay Langston,** Executive Director, Regional Economic Development Partnership
- **Sharon Johnson**, President/CEO, Shenandoah Workforce Development Board

1:30 – 2:45 PM

How BRCC is Partnering with Other Regional Education Providers to Prepare Student for In-Demand Opportunities in the Shenandoah Valley
Blue Ridge Community College
1 College Ln, Weyers Cave, VA 24486

Staff will hear from BRCC President, John Downey about how they are successfully implementing state programs like FastForward and G3 – helping to provide postsecondary options that tie to in-demand occupations and careers. BRCC leaders will also talk about how they are partnering with James Madison University (JMU), to address the spectrum of workforce needs at a local major pharmaceutical manufacturing plant (Merck) and developing strong transfer pathways and internships that support student progress from college to high-wage careers.

Speakers:

- **John Downey,** President, BRCC
- **Kathleen Gass**, Regional Manufacturing Liaison, BRCC & JMU

CONGRESSIONAL STAFF NETWORK

FOR ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT

- **Melissa Lubin**, Dean/CEEO, JMU

2:45 – 3:30 PM

Tour of Bioscience and Advanced Manufacturing Training Facilities at BRCC
Blue Ridge Community College
1 College Ln, Weyers Cave, VA 24486

BRCC's Vice President of Instruction & Student Services will lead staff on a tour of two training facilities at BRCC where students learn technical skills in two high demand industries in the region: Advanced Technology and Biomanufacturing. This tour will demonstrate BRCC's different postsecondary options and allow staff to better understand the student experience in these fields.

Speaker:

- **Bob Young**, Vice President, BRCC

3:30 - 4:00 PM

Drive to Dynamic Aviation
1402 Airport Rd, Bridgewater, VA 22812

4:00 - 5:30 PM

Tour of Dynamic Aviation
1402 Airport Rd, Bridgewater, VA 22812

An employer leader in the region, Dynamic Aviation will provide staff with a tour of their facilities so staff can learn from and see individuals on the job. During this tour staff will also learn about Dynamic Aviation's investment in and commitment to skill development and reaching more people to diversify the aviation workforce pipeline through their NEXTGEN Aviators program. NEXTGEN seeks to help bridge the gap in the nationwide shortage of aviation education and the workforce.

Speaker:

- **Shane Combs,** Director of NEXTGEN Aviators, Dynamic Aviation
- **Michael Stoltzfus**, President/CEO, Dynamic Aviation
- **Anthony Whitehead**, Training and Development Specialist, Dynamic Aviation

5:30 - 6:00 PM

Drive to Dinner Session
Hotel Madison
Montpelier Restaurant and Bar
710 S Main St, Harrisonburg, VA 22801

6:00 - 8:00 PM

Dinner Session: A Conversation with Key Employer Partners
Hotel Madison
Montpelier Restaurant and Bar
710 S Main St, Harrisonburg, VA 22801

CONGRESSIONAL STAFF NETWORK

FOR ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT

Jay Langston, the economic development leader in the region will build on the introductory session, discussing how the region is addressing challenges related to skill shortages and fall outs from the COVID-19 crisis by convening a session with two major employers in the area. These industry partners will discuss their work together and how this employer buy-in/coordination is critical to the vitality of Harrisonburg and the Shenandoah Valley region. Panelists will also discuss innovative efforts to support career pathways and key sector initiatives. Lastly, speakers will highlight how they are being intentional about equity as they work to strengthen and diversify talent pipelines.

Speakers:

- **Jay Langston,** Director, Regional Economic Development Partnership
- **Jon Gaas**, Plant Manager, Merck
- **Michael Stoltzfus**, President/CEO, Dynamic Aviation

8:00 - 8:30 PM — Check-in & End of Programming
Hotel Madison
710 S Main St, Harrisonburg, VA 22801

Wednesday, April 20th

8:30 – 9:30 AM — Breakfast Session: The Importance of Supportive & Aligned Services to Ensure That Individuals Economically Advance
Hotel Madison
710 S Main St, Harrisonburg, VA 22801

This session will identify how leaders in the Shenandoah Valley region are coordinating and aligning skill development programs with poverty alleviation strategies. Speakers will explain why this connection is critical to ensure jobseekers and workers are able to persist and complete in training as well as retain employment. Speakers will discuss their efforts in literacy, transportation, access to broadband, child care and other barriers that youth and adults face in their region.

Speakers:

- **Ben Craig,** Executive Director, Way to Go
- **Victoria Garber**, Regional Specialist and PluggedIn VA coordinate, SHINE
- **Nelly Shenk,** Executive Director, Skyline literacy

9:30 – 9:45 AM — Drive to Shenandoah Valley Workforce Development Board (SVWDB)
Shenandoah Valley Workforce Development Board
160 N Mason St, Harrisonburg, VA 22802

0000000001760 RECEIVED BY: SECRETARY OF THE SENATE Date: May 20, 2022

CONGRESSIONAL STAFF NETWORK

FOR ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT

9:45 - 10:45 AM

Expanding High-Quality Apprenticeship Opportunities for Youth and Adults
Shenandoah Valley Workforce Development Board
160 N Mason St, Harrisonburg, VA 22802

Staff will hear from leaders at SVWDB that are working to drive and expand apprenticeship opportunities in the region. Staff will learn about SVWDB's apprenticeship efforts, which serve both adults and youth, and their achievements in reaching more individuals, including opportunity youth. Staff will also hear about challenges in ensuring this impactful programming continues at scale.

Speakers:

- **Scott Carlson,** Employer Network Director, SVWDB
- **Debbie Hopkins,** Previous Chief Workforce Officer, and AAI Project Director, SVWDB
- **Sharon Johnson**, President/CEO, SVWDB

10:45 – 11:00 AM

Tour of SVWDB One Stop
Shenandoah Valley Workforce Development Board
160 N Mason St, Harrisonburg, VA 22802

11:00 – 12:00 PM

Commitment to Skills: Expanding Evidence-Based Skill Development Approaches for Jobseekers and Workers
Shenandoah Valley Workforce Development Board
160 N Mason St, Harrisonburg, VA 22802

For this session, SVWDB leaders will discuss how they are working to deliver on the workforce system's vision of serving both industry and individuals. Speakers will discuss SVWDB's business services work and how they leverage their robust employer partnerships to prepare individuals for in-demand and quality jobs. Speakers will also discuss their efforts to develop and sustain career pathways approaches that respond to regional labor market needs as they evolve.

Speakers:

- **Sharon Johnson**, President/CEO, SVWDB
- **Kathleen Gass**, Regional Manufacturing Liaison, BRCC & JMU
- **Kaystyle Madden**, Employer Network Director, SVWDB
- **Jeff Stapel**, Human Resources and Safety Manager, Shickel Corporation

12:00 – 12:30 PM

Working Lunch – Trip Debrief
Shenandoah Valley Workforce Development Board
160 N Mason St, Harrisonburg, VA 22802

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CONGRESSIONAL STAFF NETWORK

FOR ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT

Informal discussion with staff about key take-aways from the trip - reflection on what was learned, and ways federal policymakers can assist states and localities to improve system alignment, programming, and individual outcomes.

Speakers:

- **Sharon Johnson**, President/CEO, Shenandoah Workforce Development Board
- **Bob Young**, Vice President, BRCC

12:30 – 3:30 PM Bus Ride from Shenandoah Valley back to DC

3:30 PM Arrive Back in DC - Programming Ends

0000000001762 RECEIVED BY: SECRETARY OF THE SENATE Date: May 20, 2022

CONGRESSIONAL STAFF NETWORK

FOR ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT

SHENANDOAH VALLEY, VA FULL PARTICIPANT LIST

Congressional Staff Participants

Hannah Berner
Legislative Assistant
Office of U.S. Senator John Hickenlooper
hannah_berner@hickenlooper.senate.gov

Caitlin Burke
Professional Staff
House Education & Labor Committee
Caitlin.burke@mail.house.gov

Adam Edgerton
Analyst in Education Policy
CRS
aedgerton@crs.loc.gov

Alaura Ervin
Legislative Assistant
Office of U.S. Senator John Cornyn
Alaura_Ervin@cornyn.senate.gov

Chris Fisk
Policy Advisor
Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
chris_fisk@help.senate.gov

Agatha Gucyski
Economic Policy Advisor
Office of U.S. Representative Lisa Blunt Rochester
Agatha.Gucyski@mail.house.gov

Katie Hitchcock
Legislative Assistant
Office of U.S. Senator Todd Young
katherine_hitchcock@young.senate.gov

Brittany Matthews
Senior Policy Advisor for Education & Workforce
Office of U.S. Senator Maggie Hassan
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Karishma Merchant
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Kaitlyn Montan
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Lorin Obler
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Heather Painter
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Bowen Peard
Legislative Assistant
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Montrel Tennessee
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Montrel_Tennessee@kaine.senate.gov

Shenandoah Valley Participants

Scott Carlson
Employer Network Director
Shenandoah Valley Workforce Development Board

Shane Combs
Director of NEXTGEN Aviators
Dynamic Aviation

CONGRESSIONAL STAFF NETWORK
FOR ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT

SHENANDOAH VALLEY, VA FULL PARTICIPANT LIST

Ben Craig
Executive Director
Way to Go

John Downey
President
Blue Ridge Community College

Victoria Garber
Regional Specialist and PlugggedIn VA coordinator
SHINE

Kathleen Gaas
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