

HEARTLAND ALLIANCE

NATIONAL INITIATIVES

National Initiatives on Poverty & Economic Opportunity

Heartland Alliance's National Initiatives on Poverty & Economic Opportunity (NI) is dedicated to ending chronic unemployment and poverty. We believe that every person deserves the opportunity to succeed in work and support themselves and their families. Employment fulfills individuals, strengthens families, builds communities, and is fundamental to a prosperous America.

Through our field building, we provide support and guidance that fosters more effective and sustainable employment efforts. Our policy and advocacy work advances solutions to the systemic issues that drive chronic unemployment. Working at the intersection of practice, policy and research, we catalyze change that is practical, informed by evidence and grounded in experience.

We are home to several initiatives designed to help focus attention on critical populations and solutions:



The **National Center on Employment & Homelessness** (NCEH) is dedicated to ensuring that employment in quality jobs is a key element in the fight to prevent and end homelessness. Through NCEH, we promote employment as a fundamental solution to homelessness; identify and advance evidence-based employment interventions; advance systems change; and connect workforce and homeless service systems. We have launched a competitive process, the **Connections Project**, in which we funded five sites across the U.S. to plan, implement, and strengthen innovative systems collaboration ideas aimed at increasing employment and economic opportunity for homeless jobseekers.



The **National Transitional Jobs Network** (NTJN) is a national coalition that advances employment solutions for chronically unemployed Americans, including Transitional Jobs that combine wage-paid work, job skills training, and supportive services to help individuals facing barriers to employment succeed in the workforce. NTJN supports the work of Transitional Jobs programs through research and evaluation, education and training, and policy advocacy. The NTJN's coalition is made up of city, state, and federal policy makers; community workforce organizations; and anti-poverty nonprofit service providers and advocacy organization.



The **B.MORE Initiative**—Black Men Overcoming Barriers & Realizing Employment—seeks to open doors to employment and economic advancement for low-income black men across the country through policy advocacy, resource creation, and coalition building. We work at the intersections of child support, criminal justice, and employment to promote better policies and to equip providers to run more effective programs.

www.heartlandalliance.org/nationalinitiatives
