

Vickie Choitz

EXPERIENCE

Consultant, 2017-present

- Conduct research, qualitative analysis, writing (research reports, case studies, etc.), technical assistance coaching, meeting and event curation and facilitation, and strategic planning for clients. Specialize in policy and practice topics in workforce development, adult education, higher education, career pathways, and job quality. Current projects include working with the Mayor's Office of Detroit to improve the city's adult education system, facilitating a learning community of adult education providers in Dallas, TX, managing a state policy project for the Gates Foundation at Jobs for the Future (JFF), and serving as interim project director for JFF's \$1 Billion Wage Gain Challenge.

Economic Opportunities Program, the Aspen Institute, Associate Director, 2014-2017

- Provided strategic research and leadership for several program initiatives to identify and advance strategies to improve the quality of jobs for low-income workers. Conducted qualitative research; wrote research reports, policy briefs, and background briefs for events; curated and implemented large public lunch panel discussion events in the [*Working in America*](#) series on the changing nature of work in today's dynamic economy; delivered presentations to diverse audiences on the importance of improving job quality and approaches for doing so; managed communications staff; assisted with team development and strategic planning; and assisted with fundraising and reporting.

Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP), 2009-2014

Interim Director, Workforce and Postsecondary Education Team, January-August 2014

Led a team of six staff across areas of workforce, postsecondary, and adult education policy analysis, development and advocacy, including the Workforce Investment Act and the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act. Managed team budget of \$2 million. Led and coordinated fundraising across multiple funders and initiatives.

Senior Policy Analyst and Director, Alliance for Quality Career Pathways, 2009-2014

From 2012 to 2014, directed CLASP's signature career pathways initiative, facilitating a group of 10 leading states and local/regional partnerships through a consensus-based process to develop and implement a framework for what constitutes quality career pathways and systems. Represented CLASP and the Alliance at meetings with White House staff, with Administration officials, at state meetings, and at national conferences. 2010-2012, led the team's federal postsecondary education federal policy work primarily focused on student financial aid. Managed the technical assistance team in the *Shifting Gears* adult and postsecondary

education state policy and systems change initiative and provided policy technical assistance to two states.

Jobs for the Future (JFF), Senior Policy Analyst, 2007–2009

- Managed projects for the Building Economic Opportunities team; provided technical assistance to states and regions; researched and authored briefs, reports, and case studies; and presented on various workforce issues. Policy areas included federal and state postsecondary education for low-income, lower-skilled workers and federal and state workforce development. Managed projects within several of JFF’s large-scale national initiatives, including *Breaking Through* and the *National Fund for Workforce Solutions*.

Council for Adult and Experiential Learning (CAEL), LiLA State Policy Director, 2006–2007

- Directed CAEL’s multi-state policy campaign to establish Lifelong Learning Account (LiLA) initiatives. Worked with a variety of stakeholders to build support for LiLAs, including state policy makers, employers, educational and workforce leaders, policy experts, foundations, and workers. Provided technical assistance to state leaders in developing LiLA initiatives. Managed the communications and public relations components of the LiLA campaign and presented at national conferences.

FutureWorks, LLC, Senior Policy Analyst (half-time), 2001-2006

- Conducted research, analysis, and evaluation of workforce programs and policy. Authored reports, briefs, evaluation studies, and policy recommendations. Presented at state meetings and national conferences.

Workforce Learning Strategies (half-time), Research Associate, 2001-2006

- Assisted principals with research, evaluation, and technical assistance for workforce development programs.

EDUCATION and AWARDS

- Master’s Degree in Public Policy, Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, 2001
- White House Intern, Summer 2000
- B.A., Political Science and Secondary Education, with a minor in Women’s Studies, Kansas State University, 1998, McNair Scholar, Phi Beta Kappa, graduated *cum laude*, 1997 Harry S. Truman Public Service Award recipient
- Young Alumni Award, Kansas State University, 2012
- Somerville (MA) Urban Agriculture Ambassador, 2016