



White House Summit on Working Families

In Spring of 2014, the White House, the Department of Labor (DOL) and the Center for American Progress (CAP), will host a Summit on Working Families to set an agenda for a 21st century workplace that works for all Americans, with a special focus on women and their families.

A growing number of working Americans – both men and women – struggle to balance the needs of their families with the responsibilities of their jobs. Yet while studies show that family-friendly workplace policies can actually enhance businesses' profitability, many companies report that they lack the tools and expertise to redesign their workplaces to capture this competitive advantage.

This Summit will explore how, as the demographics of our workforce change, our workplaces can change with them to support working families, boost businesses' bottom lines, and ensure America's global economic competitiveness in the coming decades.

The Summit will convene businesses, economists, labor leaders, legislators, advocates and the media for a discussion on issues facing the entire spectrum of working families – from low-wage workers to corporate executives; from young parents to baby boomers caring for their own aging parents.

Through panel discussions, research presentations and hands-on workshops, we will explore the challenges facing working families; make the business and economic case for policies that support working families; showcase companies doing exemplary work in this space; and highlight model laws and policies from cities and states across the country. The Summit will focus on key issues such as workplace flexibility, equal pay, workplace discrimination, worker retention and promotion, and childcare/early childhood education.

In the months leading up to the Summit, the White House, CAP, and DOL will engage groups and individuals across the country to identify initiatives that benefit America's working families, American businesses and the American economy. These discussions will be highlighted at the Summit, which will serve as a pivotal, catalyzing moment to begin building momentum around key policy goals and best practices.

For more information, please contact workingfamilies@americanprogress.org