





September 23, 2020

**Welcome to the Equity Task Force**

We want to welcome and thank you for participating in the Illinois Workforce Innovation Board (IWIB) Equity Task Force. This task force responds to Governor Pritzker’s Executive Order 2019-03 for Workforce Development and Job Creation.

A primary tenant of the Executive Order is to address economic prosperity in underserved communities and create opportunities across the state for all citizens by removing barriers for economically disadvantaged populations.

Through this Task Force, members will develop recommendations for Illinois’ workforce system that align with the education system and establish goals that will reduce inequality for the populations we serve.

As an Equity Task Force member, we will rely on your insight, expertise, and leadership to ensure that all Illinoisans have equity throughout the workforce and education system.

We expect to meet quarterly, with each session consisting of a one-to-two-hour meeting followed up by discussions through email. With your help, we will develop strategies to provide equity to all.

Our first meeting will be on October 28th at 8:30 a.m. further meeting details will follow.

Attached is an overview of the Task Force that includes what we expect to achieve. Thank you again for agreeing to participate and helping develop policy recommendations and identifying best practice solutions. The work done within this Task Force can bring solutions to scale that will address the urgent issue of equity facing our state.

Respectfully,

Equity Task Force Co-Chairs

Elba Aranda-Suh, Executive Director, National Latino Institute and member of the Illinois Workforce Innovation Board

Dr. Lisa Bly-Jones, Executive DIrector, The Workforce Connection and Vice President of the Illinois Workforce Partnership