



The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation, Inc.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## WEINBERG FOUNDATION, ASPEN INSTITUTE PARTNER TO CREATE NEW WORKFORCE LEADERSHIP PROGRAM FIRST PARTICIPANTS SELECTED FOR WEINBERG SECTOR SKILLS ACADEMY

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BALTIMORE (May 27, 2015) – The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation, one of the largest private foundations in the United States, in partnership with The Aspen Institute’s Workforce Strategies Initiative (AWSI) and with additional support from the Annie E. Casey Foundation and The Abell Foundation, today announced the Weinberg Sector Skills Academy (WSSA) — a year-long learning and leadership experience for senior professionals who provide workforce development services and technical training in the Baltimore metropolitan area.

The Weinberg Sector Skills Academy, which also gets underway today, will consist of nine retreats, meetings, and webinars over the next 12 months. The curriculum is designed to engage participants in developing the skills and strategic perspective to better meet the needs of low-income individuals seeking employment in Baltimore.

“The Weinberg Sector Skills Academy will build on the success of the Baltimore Workforce Funders Collaborative (BWFC), equipping workforce providers with an even broader vision of the opportunities and challenges for the Baltimore region,” said Rachel Garbow Monroe, President and Chief Executive Officer of The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation. “The WSSA can strengthen the workforce development landscape by providing a clearer understanding of best practices in the field and creating a collaborative provider network.”

The following individuals have been selected to take part in the inaugural 2015 program:

- **Steve Bountress**, Vice President, Living Classrooms Foundation
- **Jacqueline Buedel**, Director of Academic and Career Advancement, Caroline Center
- **Wayne Butscher**, Ph.D., Director of BioSTART and Laboratory Associates Program, BioTechnical Institute of Maryland
- **Elaine Carroll**, Program Director, Jane Addams Resource Corporation
- **Jeff Carroll**, Vice President, DETAILS, a social enterprise of Humanim
- **Eric Clay**, Director, Career Development, Bon Secours Community Works
- **Tona Cravioto**, Senior Director, Workforce Development, St. Vincent de Paul of Baltimore
- **Nancy Fenton**, Executive Director, Episcopal Community Services of Maryland
- **Terry Fisher**, Director of Programs, Baltimore Alliance for Careers in Healthcare
- **Gicelle Fundales**, Director of Training and Production, Civic Works
- **Jean Henry**, Director of Workforce Development and Community Education, Baltimore City Community College
- **Rosalind Howard**, Business Services Manager, Baltimore City Mayor’s Office of Employment Development
- **Lois Mitchell**, Director of Programs, Historic East Baltimore Community Action Coalition, Inc.
- **Sara Muempfer**, Director of Workforce Development, Maryland Department of Human Resources
- **Jermaine Peterson**, Culinary Program Manager, Moveable Feast
- **Nii Sowah**, Director of Family Stability and Economic Success Programs, Center for Urban Families
- **Matt Stubbs**, Program Manager, JumpStart, Job Opportunities Task Force
- **Clair Watson**, Program Director, Maryland New Directions

The Baltimore Workforce Funders Collaborative, which includes foundation, corporate, and government funders, assisted in the recruitment and nomination process for this year’s first class. The 2015 Weinberg Sector Skills Academy will conclude in April 2016 with a capstone project, which will be presented to the Weinberg Foundation, BWFC, and the broader community. This may provide an opportunity to move projects toward implementation.

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### **About The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation**

*The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation, one of the largest private charitable foundations in the United States, provides approximately \$100 million in annual grants to nonprofits that provide direct services to low-income and vulnerable individuals and families, primarily in the U.S. and Israel. Grants are focused on meeting basic needs and enhancing an individual’s ability to meet those needs with emphasis on older adults, the Jewish community, and our hometown communities of Maryland, Northeastern Pennsylvania, and Hawaii. The trustees, some of whom also serve as executive officers of the Foundation, are Donn Weinberg, Barry I. Schloss, Robert T. Kelly, Jr., Alvin Awaya, and Chair Ellen M. Heller. Rachel Garbow Monroe serves as the Weinberg Foundation’s President and Chief Executive Officer.*