

Subj: **NVC 051211 US Chamber of Commerce**  
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 NAEPDC  
 News, Views, and Clues  
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Chamber of Commerce

Here is the URL for the US Chamber of Commerce education and the workforce web page. <http://www.uschamber.com/education>

Below are citations from that page.

1. Note the last bullet in their "Facts" references Reach Higher America's citing of the NAAL statistics.
2. However, note in their strategies, there is no mention of adult education.

They have identified the need but they have no strategy. We can help them with that.

We will be meeting with the Chambers staff to offer strategies to strengthen employers support for adult education.

You might want to 1) do the same with your state chamber and 2) in the process ask them to recommend to the US Chamber to include a national strategy to strengthen the adult education system.

Good resources are 1) your report cards, 2) the waiting list survey, and 3) the Adult Education Supporting the Presidents Workforce and Community College Initiatives which is on the our web page.

We could use business support in the coming months.

From their webpage:

#### The Facts

Most U.S. 4th and 8th graders are not proficient in either reading or math.

Thirty percent of U.S. students fail to graduate from high school in four years-and the dropout rate is more than 50% for African-Americans and Hispanics.

Many of those who do graduate from high school are unprepared for postsecondary education or the workforce. Once first in the world, America now ranks 10th in the percentage of young adults with a college degree.

Ninety percent of the jobs in the fastest-growing occupations require some level of postsecondary education and training.

Eighty million to 90 million adults today-about half of the workforce-do not have the skills required to get or advance in jobs that pay a family-sustaining wage.

The U.S. Chambers Plan to Improve Our Nations Education and Workforce Systems

Require a Quality, Rigorous, and Well-Rounded K\*12 Educational System:

\*Reauthorize and strengthen the Elementary and Secondary Education Act to hold all schools accountable and ensure better teaching, higher standards, better data for evaluation, and more innovation in our

classrooms. \* Read our statement on reauthorizing the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA)

\*Support key education reform principles, including strong state charter school laws, evaluation and compensation systems that measure and reward highly effective teachers, and research-based strategies for turning around struggling schools.

\*Strengthen the teaching profession by investing in better recruitment, professional development, and differential pay scales.

Increase Postsecondary Completion Rates Among All Students:

\*Improve public accountability by requiring postsecondary institutions to provide clear and accurate information on the true costs of their programs.

\*Encourage continued private sector investment and innovation in higher education.

Train Workers for Jobs That Meet the Actual Needs of Employers:

\*Collect accurate, timely information on industry and labor market trends to ensure that job recruitment and training systems meet the needs of employers.

\*Eliminate redundant and overlapping federal job training programs and give state and local policymakers flexibility in using funds.

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[http://naepdc.org/news\\_views\\_clues/nvc\\_home.html](http://naepdc.org/news_views_clues/nvc_home.html)

Keep up the good work. Let me know when we can help.

NAEPDC

A Natural Resource For Adult Education State Directors and their Staff Members

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