



PROGRAMS

- On March 27th, the **Avantus Cleantech Career Academy** kicked off with an event that brought together the Academy's founders, partners, local leaders and the 75 youth that make up our inaugural cohort. Students had the opportunity to network, take professional headshots and meet the innovators of this partnership. Later that week during the first official Avantus session, students heard from a panel of professionals who introduced them to cleantech career pathways and shared tips on essential skills to develop for workplace success.
- More than 470 high school students were interviewed as a part of our in-person **Work Readiness Certification** sessions, held over four days in March at local high schools, and supported by volunteers from Manufacturers Bank, Partnership for Los Angeles Schools, UCLA Health, Kaiser Permanente and more. Students who are Work Ready Certified will be invited to apply for the Summer Kaiser Permanente internship program, among other opportunities.
- In February, UNITE-LA held the first **Health Sector Collaborative** meeting of 2023. This meeting brought together 16 of UNITE-LA's health care partners, including Providence, Futuro Health, LAUSD, Dignity Health, AltaMed, Goodwill and Community Health Councils. They had the opportunity to share information about upcoming programs and events. Attendees heard from Providence and Community Clinics Association of Los Angeles County (CCALAC). The mission of the Health Sector Collaborative is to create and expand innovative partnerships and create alignment between workforce development training providers and businesses to prepare health care workers for high-demand/high-need occupations in the L.A. region.

POLICY

- In March, the policy team held a panel discussion on Child Care & the Economy at the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce's ACCESS D.C. The discussion was facilitated by Alysia and featured Congressman Jimmy Gomez and The National Women's Law Center. The panel emphasized the need for collaboration among various sectors to uplift the early care and education workforce, children, families, and the economy by ensuring access to high-quality childcare options.
- UNITE-LA's policy team held their first in-person advocacy day in Sacramento in early March. They met with key committee chairs in the Assembly and Senate and shared this year's policy priorities and sponsored legislation for cradle-to-career education. They also discussed upcoming activities to continue engaging elected officials in their district.

SYSTEMS

- The L.A. Compact's Postsecondary team developed a digital tool outlining 17 state investments that advance education and economic equity for students. Each investment will close equity and opportunity gaps to better serve students' social well-being and prepare students for college and career success. So far, this tool has been showcased at several convenings. Highlighted investments included The California Regional K-16 Education Collaboratives Grant Program, Dual Enrollment Investments and new initiatives that address longstanding social and economic inequities in higher education and workforce participation.
- In February, the fourth cohort of the **Community Schools Initiative** was welcomed by the L.A. Unified Community Schools Steering Committee after submitting their applications in January. The 21 new schools will start their transformation journey during the 2023-24 school year, with each school receiving a community school coordinator and a community representative. In March, L.A. Unified applied for a 2023 California Community Schools Partnership Program Implementation Grant, which would provide an additional \$33.4 million to support Cohort 4 community schools over five years.

STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

- On January 19th, the National Strategic Partnerships team hosted a webinar on Addressing Post COVID-19 Learning Loss, in collaboration with the ACCE foundation. Emma Dorn, Senior Knowledge Expert at McKinsey & Company, shared the most current data on the pandemic's effect on K-12 student performance, skill development and potential for career earnings. They also explored how the business community can support students and educators. A recording of the webinar can be viewed [here](#).
- UNITE-LA launched a survey in January to learn about Education & Workforce Development (EDWD) goals of nearly 30 key business organization partners, including ECE issues. The survey's aim is to identify opportunities to work together to lend a business voice to EDWD policy issues in our region, tailor collaborative work and aid organizations in identifying focal points for their respective EDWD advocacy strategies. The results will inform our five-year business engagement strategy and help us to amplify an effective business voice. Stay tuned for our upcoming report with survey findings.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

April 21st & 28th

LAYAW Virtual Mock Interviews
LA Youth at Work needs your help! Volunteer and help our students prepare for summer internship opportunities at United Airlines and Cedars-Sinai. Virtual Mock Interviews will be from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. Email Johana Villa, jvilla@unitela.com, if you would like to volunteer.

May 9th

My Pathway to Health
This new program will be connecting youth ages 18-24 with the opportunity to explore careers and educational opportunities in the allied health field. For more information, contact Iliia Lopez at ilopez@unitela.com.

May 18th
Step into Tech

The second cohort of Step into Tech will launch in May, for justice-involved individuals ages 18-35. For more information, contact Iliia Lopez at ilopez@unitela.com.

HIGHLIGHTS:



The Avantus Cleantech Career Academy kicked off in March. The cohort of 75 students will spend 12 weeks learning about essential skills, industry sectors, local employers and career pathways into the emerging, clean energy economy. Through this partnership with Avantus, we are leading the way to developing a diverse, inclusive, local workforce to meet the industry's talent pipeline needs.