MYBESTBETS

The education and career platform that **works with you**

Angelo is one of 6.7 million 16- to 24-year-olds in America who are not in school and not working. Like so many of these young adults, he has had limited guidance on how to link his interests and skills to an education pathway, and little to no information about potential careers. Young people like Angelo need help when it comes to answering some of the most important questions of their lives: *Where should I go to school? What career path should I pursue? What is my best bet for a good future?*

MyBestBets is a unique web and mobile application that supports low-income young adults in answering these important questions by guiding them to the right choices when it comes to postsecondary education and training pathways—choices that will lead to high-demand and high-growth careers.

By using **MyBestBets,** young people like Angelo can:

- Identify their interests, talents, and aspirations;
- Utilize sophisticated and visually dynamic data sets to investigate potential careers;
- Organize and track progress towards their postsecondary goals;
- Stay connected to staff and career coaches that care;
- Develop skills and social capital through real-world experiences; and
- Take ownership of and actively shape their own best-bet education and career pathway.

MyBestBets is cutting edge—both in combining and presenting personal and labor market data in highly engaging ways and in supporting a blended learning approach that deepens their relationships with their advisors or counselors.

MyBestBets will support professionals who are responsible for providing the support and guidance that we know these young people must have in order to succeed.

MyBestBets will be far-reaching. There are more than 14 million US jobs requiring postsecondary degrees that will go unfilled in the next 10 years unless our country's young people are guided to make the right education and career choices.

MyBestBets gives the most disenfranchised of young adults the opportunity to make informed decisions that will bring them into the economic mainstream and help secure their financial well-being.

MyBestBets is a joint venture of Jobs for the Future and YouthBuild USA. JFF has 30 years of experience fixing "leaks" along the education-to-career pipeline and a proven track record of ensuring employers have the skilled workers they need to succeed in today's economy. YouthBuild USA has 35 years of experience working directly with low-income young people to help them earn their GEDs/HS diplomas while learning construction trades by building affordable housing in their communities. Our collective experience and years of innovative work in the education and career sectors uniquely qualifies us to move effective solutions like **MyBestBets** forward.

With seed funding from the Noyce Foundation to build the platform, MyBestBets is seeking additional support and partners to complete our initial pilot and evaluation work scheduled for the fall of 2014 in four communities. National scaling opportunities to follow.