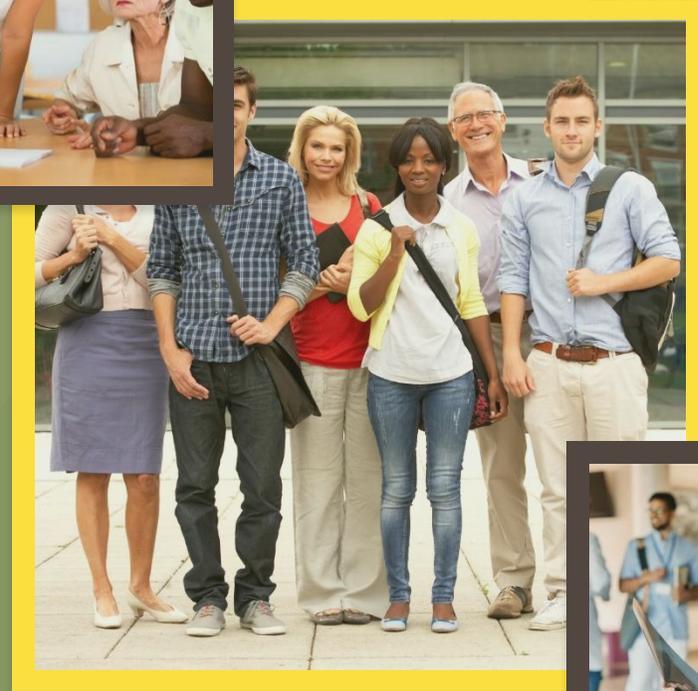




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Rural Pathways Project Institute 3 *Advancing DEEP K12 Pathways*

Day 1 – March 11, 2026



WiFi Information

Network: Omni Meeting

Password: NCII2026

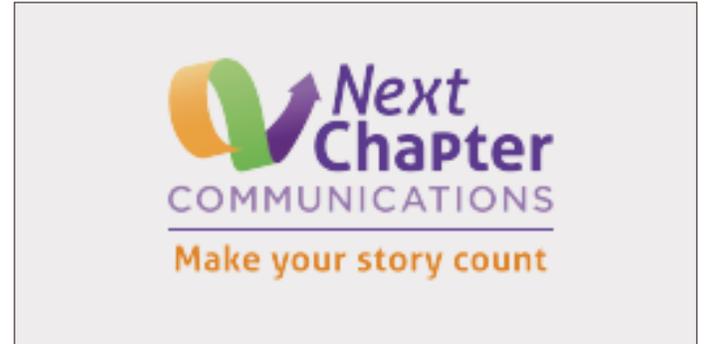
Rural Pathways Project Overview

This is a three-year project (2025-2028) with a national cohort of 28 rural community colleges who will work with each other — and with community partners in their regions — to implement pathways to economic prosperity. The goals of the project are to support participating colleges as they:

- 1. Design and implement a better student experience at their colleges.**
- 2. Collaborate with key local stakeholders to increase economic opportunity and partner on a cross-sector approach to implement guided pathways.**
- 3. Adopt evidence-based reforms that will address inequities and lead to improved educational and workforce outcomes.**

<https://ruralguidedpathways.org/>

Funders & Partners



Rural Guided Pathways Project Colleges

28 Colleges across 16 states serving over 95,000 students

- › Bay de Noc Community College (MI)
- › Central Carolina Community College (NC)
- › Central Texas College (TX)
- › Colorado Mountain College (CO)
- › Columbia Gorge Community College (OR)
- › Davidson-Davie Community College (NC)
- › Edison State Community College (OH)
- › Grays Harbor College (WA)
- › John Wood Community College (IL)
- › Kilgore College (TX)
- › Linn-Benton Community College (OR)
- › Marion Technical College (OH)
- › Missoula College (MT)
- › McLennan Community College (TX)
- › Montcalm Community College (MI)
- › Mountain Gateway Community College (VA)
- › North Central State College (OH)
- › Northeast Community College (NE)
- › Patrick & Henry Community College (VA)
- › Reedley College (CA)
- › San Juan College (NM)
- › Southwestern Oregon Community College (OR)
- › Temple College (TX)
- › Tillamook Bay Community College (OR)
- › University of Arkansas CC – Batesville (AR)
- › Washington State College of Ohio (OH)
- › West Virginia Northern CC (WV)
- › White Mountain Community College (NH)

Rural Pathways Institutes & Curriculum



Institute #3 Objectives

- Learn about the Community College Research Center (CCRC)'s DEEP dual enrollment research and practices
- Collaborate with your team to apply the CCRC research and applied examples to your region's context
- Interact with institutions and K-12 partners who have developed field-leading models of K-12-community college collaboration
- Investigate evolved models for your current K-12 partnerships
- Develop an action plan for future K-12-community college collaboration in your region

Institute # 3 Agenda – Advancing DEEP K-12 Pathways

Day 1 – Wednesday, March 11th

- › 2:00 – 2:15pm Welcome and Institute Overview
- › 2:15 – 2:45pm What I Learned while Supporting This Work
- › 2:45 – 4:00pm A Regional Partnership that Has Transformed the College Going Culture
- › 4:00 – 4:15pm Table Discussion
- › 4:15 – 4:45pm Refresher on DEEP Pathways (followed by 15 mins to transition to Team Time)
- › 4:45 – 6:00pm Team Time #1 – Page 10 of the Agenda
- › 6:00 – 7:00pm Opening Reception – Urban (17th Floor)
- › 7:00pm Dinner on your own

Room Locations – Team Time Sessions

- **17th Floor**
 - **Allegheny, Monongahela and Sky**
- **Conference Level**
 - **Conference B**
- **William Penn**
 - **Riverboat, Sternwheeler and Three Rivers**

Institute Norms

- **All events will start on time and end on time**
- **These institutes are working meetings -- and require active engagement from all participants in all sessions**
- **This project values the diverse range of participants that will be attending each institute -- all voices need to be valued and heard**
- **The ultimate success of this project will be measured by scaled changes to the student experience resulting in increased outcomes and goal attainment**
- **The rural focus of this project requires a much more intentional focus on the communities in which the colleges operate; it's our collective responsibility to engage the community partners and integrate their perspectives**
- **Evaluations are important and used; PLEASE complete them**



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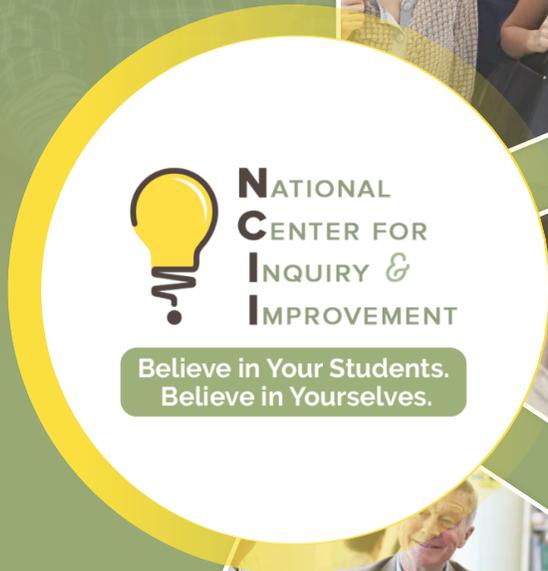
What I Have Learned So Far

Abner Oakes, Rural Pathways SME



A Regional Partnership that has Transformed the College Going Culture

Imperial Valley College Panel





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DEEP Pathways Refresher

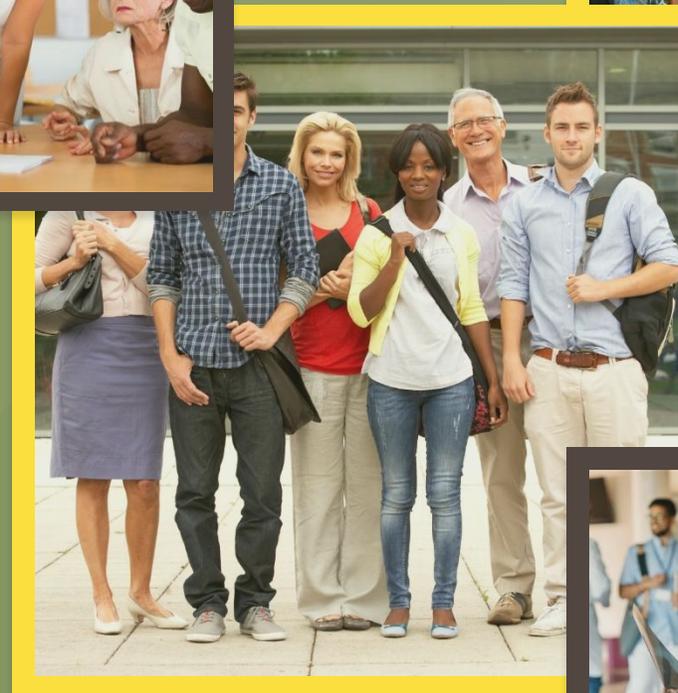
John Fink & Davis Jenkins, CCRC



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Rural Pathways Project Institute 3 *Advancing DEEP K12 Pathways*

Day 2 – March 12, 2026



Institute # 3 Agenda – *Advancing DEEP K-12 Pathways*

Day 2 – Thursday, March 12th

- › **8:00 – 8:45am** **Breakfast**
- › **8:45 – 10:00am** **Keynote Address: The Injustice of Place**
- › **10:00 – 10:30am** **Table Discussion**
- › **10:15 – 10:30am** **Networking Break**
- › **10:30 – 12:15pm** **Scaling and Sustaining Purposeful Dual Enrollment Workshop**
- › **12:15 – 1:15pm** **Lunch (followed by 15 mins to transition to Breakout Sessions #1)**
- › **1:30 – 2:30pm** **Breakout Sessions #1 (followed by 15 mins to transition to Team Time #2)**
- › **2:45 – 4:00 pm** **Team Time #2 (followed by 15 mins to transition to Breakout Sessions #2)**
- › **4:00 – 5:00pm** **Breakout Sessions #2**
- › **5:00pm** **Dinner on your own**

Institute # 3 Agenda – Advancing DEEP K-12 Pathways

Day 2 – Thursday, March 12th

CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS (repeated twice @ 1:30-2:30 pm and 4:00-5:00 pm):

- 1. Investing Human and Fiscal Resources into K-12 Partnerships**
- 2. Developing Model CTE Dual Enrollment Pathways Starting with Health Care**
- 3. From Birth to College Completion – An Approach to College-Going that Starts with a Piggy Bank**
- 4. Leveraging State and Local Policies to Deepen K-12 to Community College Pathways**
- 5. People Matter: Cultivating Partnerships that Make a Difference for Dual Credit Students**
- 6. A State and Local Approach for Expanding CTE Pathways that Lead to Living Wage**
- 7. CollegeLyft: Postsecondary Access for All Through Early Intervention & Holistic Support**
- 8. DEEP in Action: Relationships, Rural Partnerships, and the Long Work of Building Pathways**
- 9. Using Labor Market Data to Align Dual Enrollment Pathways to Living Wage Jobs (for K-12 partners)**



The Injustice of Place: Uncovering the Legacy of Poverty in America

Luke Shaefer Keynote Address



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Scaling and Sustaining Purposeful Dual Enrollment Workshop

John Fink & Davis Jenkins, CCRC



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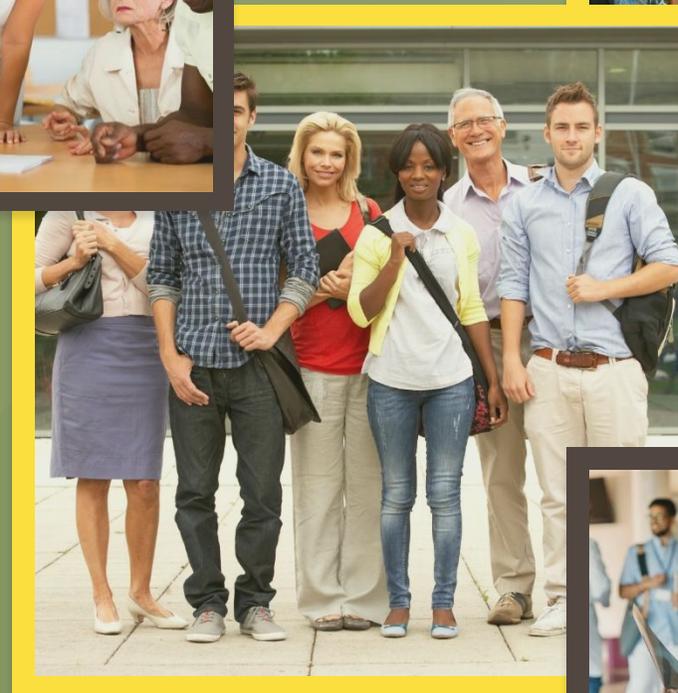
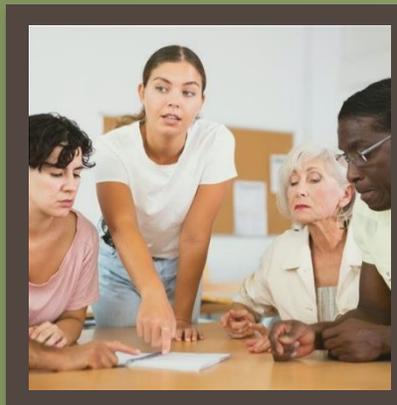




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Rural Pathways Project Institute 3 *Advancing DEEP K12 Pathways*

Day 3 – March 13, 2026



Institute # 3 Agenda – *Advancing DEEP K-12 Pathways*

Day 3 – Friday, March 13th

- › 7:30 – 8:30am Breakfast (Concurrent with CEOs and Superintendents-only breakfast)
- › 8:30 – 9:30am Creating High Quality Dual Enrollment Partnerships
- › 9:30 – 9:45am Transition to Team Time #3
- › 9:45 – 10:45am Team Time #3
- › 10:45 – 11:00am Break and Transition to Main Room
- › 11:00 – 11:50am The Student Voice
- › 11:50 – 12:00pm Closing Thoughts, Next Steps and Evaluation



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Creating High Quality Dual Enrollment Partnerships

John Fink, CCRC & Amy William, NACEP



Elevating the Voices of Students to Guide Dual Enrollment Reforms

Aurely Garcia Tulloch, CCRC



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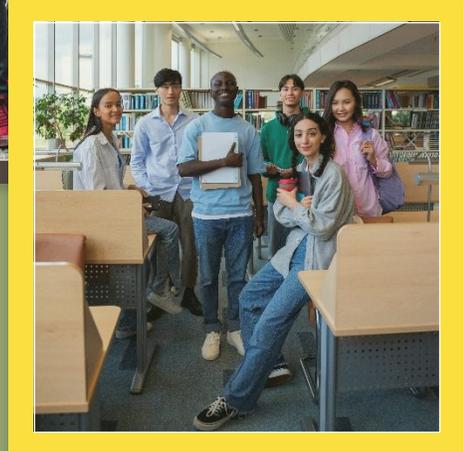
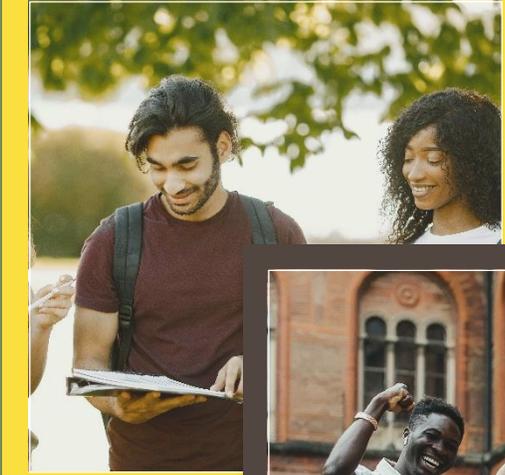
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Next Steps

- **All team time docs due to Sarah Cale by April 24th (sarah@ncii-improve.com)**
- **Next round of KPIs and self-assessments are due by June 1st to Sarah Cale**
- ***More Essential than Ever* Book Club (Optional)**
 - Five monthly webinars on key chapters will start in April
 - A college sign-up link will be shared next week
- **Summer 2026 Virtual Consultancies**
 - Overview webinar for college leads is scheduled for Wednesday, May 20th
- **2026 Implementation Coach Site Visits**
- **Next Aspen Leadership Teams Virtual Sessions – Thursday September 3rd**
- **Institute #4 – October 28-30, 2026 – Renaissance Dallas Addison Hotel**
 - Team Composition and advance work info to be shared in the Next Steps memo
 - Institute #4 Preview Webinar – Monday, October 5th 2:00-3:30pm ET

Contact



- gretchen@ncii-improve.com
- chris@ncii-improve.com