A briefing for:
Public Library Association

JOBS FOR AMERICA'S GRADUATES

October 28, 2021
Who We Are

National nonprofit with 40+ years of experience

1.5M youth served, ages 12-24, through a variety of Model Applications

Serving students who experience:
- Significant life challenges and/or trauma
- Multiple challenges to graduation and entering the workforce

Currently serving in 1,500 communities across 40 states through state and local affiliates
The Basics

- **JAG Specialists**: Accountable for 35-60 students
- **One class period a day**: 36 weeks plus summer (120 hrs.)
- **Project-Based Learning**: 37-81 employment competencies
- **Trauma-Informed Instruction** implementation

Engagement

- **Employer Engagement and job development**
- **Activities**: Guest speakers, job shadowing, field trips, mentoring, academic remediation, service learning and community-based projects
- **Coordination with case managers and service providers** so students receive necessary support outside of classroom

Motivation

- **JAG Career Association**: Develop, practice & refine employability, leadership & teaming skills
- **12 months of follow-up** after graduation
- **Belonging**: members are a part of the “JAG Family”

* Numbers reflect the Multi-Year Model Application*
Youth Unemployment (16-24 year-olds)

✓ Youth unemployment rose by **221,000** between April and July 2021

✓ In July 2021, youth unemployment was **10%**, down from **18.5%** in July 2020 but higher than the July 2019 rate of **9.1%**

✓ July 2021 youth unemployment rates: men (**10.9%**); women (**9.1%**); Whites (**8.9%**); Blacks (**13.6%**); Asians (**12.3%**), and Hispanics (**11.7%**) (*see chart*)
The youth labor force grew by 2.4M or 11.7%, to 22.5M in July 2021.

The labor force participation rate for all youth was 60.5% in July 2021, an increase of 3.2 percentage points from a year earlier.

Despite the increase, the July youth labor force participation rate was 1.3 percentage points lower than its 2019 level.
Industry Level Workforce Shifts

- During COVID, job openings decreased in several industries with the largest decreases in:
  - health care and social assistance (-224,000);
  - accommodation and food services (-178,000);
  - state and local government education (-124,000).

- In July 2021, 25% (5.2M) of employed 16- to 24-year-olds worked in the leisure and hospitality industry, the largest share of youth workers.

- Employment overall in the food industry is down nearly 1M from pre-pandemic levels.

Note: seasonally adjusted
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics via FRED
JAG on the Frontlines of COVID-19 and Equity

COVID-19 Response: JAG students and their families experienced crushing economic, educational, and social upheavals due to COVID-19. We pivoted from intensive in-person engagement to an entirely virtual format, keeping youth engaged and supporting the wide-ranging needs of our students (and increasingly, their families), including crucial emotional support during and after the crisis.

Equity and Equality: JAG was founded 40 years ago to address the inequalities too many America’s youth experience. Over half of JAG students identify as people of color, and 15-20% have disabilities, facing inequalities in education, jobs, and their well-being.

*Our experience and student outcomes show that we can do better.*
## JAG Class of 2020 Placement Report
### All High School Seniors — All-Time High Performance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>JAG Standard</th>
<th>Class of 2020</th>
<th>Class of 2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Graduation Rate</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>96.80%*</td>
<td>95.93%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jobs</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>63.95%</td>
<td>60.09%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full-Time Positive Outcomes#</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>76.39%</td>
<td>73.36%</td>
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<tr>
<td>FT Jobs</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>82.17%*</td>
<td>76.49%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Further Education Rate#</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>40.49%</td>
<td>39.78%</td>
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### National Comparison with 16—19-year-olds in the Workforce, May 2021

- Unemployment Rate*: 9.6%


- JAG Graduate Unemployment Rate: **7.91%**

### # New Placement Standard
beginning with the Class of 2020

### *All-Time High Outcome Performance
## JAG Class of 2020 Placement Report

**Black Participants—*All-Time High Performance***

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>JAG Standard</th>
<th>Black Participants</th>
<th>All JAG Participants</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Graduation Rate</strong></td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>96.86%*</td>
<td>96.70%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Jobs</strong></td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>60.11%</td>
<td>64.93%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Full-Time Positive Outcomes</strong>#</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>76.71%</td>
<td>77.59%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>FT Jobs</strong></td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>81.66%</td>
<td>81.93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Further Education Rate</strong>#</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>45.19%*</td>
<td>40.78%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### National Comparison with Black 16—19-Year-Olds in the Workforce, May 2021

- **Unemployment Rate**: 12.1%
- **JAG Black Graduate Unemployment Rate**: 8.87%

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# New Placement Standard beginning with the Class of 2020

*All-Time High Outcome Performance*
## JAG Class of 2020 Placement Report

Hispanic Participants—*All-Time High Performance*

<table>
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<th>JAG Standard</th>
<th>Hispanic Participants</th>
<th>All JAG Participants</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Graduation Rate</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>96.64%</td>
<td>96.70%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jobs</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>67.13%</td>
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<td>Full-Time Positive Outcomes#</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>75.54%</td>
<td>77.59%</td>
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<tr>
<td>FT Jobs</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>82.81%*</td>
<td>81.93%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Further Education Rate#</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>41.90%*</td>
<td>40.78%</td>
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### National Comparison with Hispanic 16—19-Year-Olds in the Workforce, May 2021

Unemployment Rate*: **14.2%**

*Source: Bureau of Labor Market Statistics Employment Report, June 4, 2021*

JAG Hispanic Graduate Unemployment Rate: **7.13%**

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# New Placement Standard beginning with the Class of 2020

*All-Time High Outcome Performance*
How did JAG youth achieve these numbers?

We engaged and supported JAG Specialists and youth in multiple new ways based on their needs:

1) Virtual JAG training for Specialists

2) Affiliate Assistance Program

3) The *L.O.V.E. Project: Lifting Our Voices for Equity*, provides seed grants to JAG Career Associations across the country to research inequity in their community and use their voices to make positive change, incorporating the JAG Career Associations’ focus areas on social awareness, civic engagement and leadership development.

4) Emergency grants for basic needs
Thank you!

Governor John Bel Edwards, Chair
Governor Kim Reynolds, Vice Chair
Kenneth M. Smith, President
Janelle Duray, Executive Vice President

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Citations

➢ https://fred.stlouisfed.org/series/LNS11300006#0
➢ https://www.bls.gov/news.release/jolts.nr0.htm