

# **Faculty Seminar on Promoting Youth Education & Work Futures in Philadelphia: March 18, 2016**

**Roberta Rehner Iversen, PhD, MSS  
School of Social Policy & Practice  
University of Pennsylvania  
([riversen@sp2.upenn.edu](mailto:riversen@sp2.upenn.edu))**

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# Critical Problems for Youths' Education & Work Futures

- 1. Undiagnosed learning disabilities**
- 2. Possible depression and/or depressive symptomatology**
- 3. Too few jobs – and too few decent-paying jobs**
- 4. Workforce development orientation to adults rather than youth**
- 5. Federal funding changes under Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014 (WIOA)**

# What to Do? Think Differently about Solutions

**Consider “postwork society” solutions – compensating many more kinds of work than are compensated in the regular labor market today....** (Kathi Weeks, 2011, *The Problem with Work*)

**Consider “civil labor” that is rewarded by “civic money” (both dollar money and exchange)...** (Ulrich Beck, 2000, *The Brave New World of Work*)

# What Do “Postwork Society” & “Civil Labor” Solutions Look Like?

- 1. Find out what the youth’s passions are**
- 2. Find funding to expand the natural computer “savvy” among youth**
- 3. Align art-interested youth with social impact of arts movements – and build in physical exercise**
- 4. Connect youth with STEM movements**

# Postwork Society & Civil Labor Examples Already Exist!!

1. **EXCHANGES – Artists in North Philly**
2. **SOCIAL MISSION BUSINESSES – Greyston Bakery & Foundation’s open hiring policy and family focus (greyston.com)**  
*We don’t hire people to bake brownies, we bake brownies to hire people*
3. **Encourage AUTONOMY & COMPETENCE through older-peer tutorial guidance**

**Solving Local Problems  
Begins with Local Solutions**