

**Challenges to Upward Mobility Solutions Summit Agenda**  
**Tuesday, October 20, Grand Valley State University's Eberhard Center**  
**Register: <http://bit.ly/Oct20gtw>**

8:30-8:45 am: Doors open/Registration begins/Continental breakfast

8:45-9:00 am: **Introduction and Welcome:** Phil Power, Founder and Chair, Center for Michigan

9:00-9:30 am: **Panel 1—What's the problem? Overview of "Getting to Work" report findings, Bridge reporting on challenges to upward mobility, and statistical realities in West Michigan.** Moderated by John Bebow, Center for Michigan

- Amber DeLind, Outreach Director, Center for Michigan
- David Zeman, Editor, Bridge Magazine
- Kevin Stotts, Executive Director, Talent 2025

9:30-10:15: **Panel 2--How can we eliminate structural unemployment?** Moderated by John Bebow, Center for Michigan

- Job and basic skills training, skill attainment: Jeannine LaPrad, Corporation for a Skilled Workforce and Andrew Brower, W.K. Kellogg Foundation
- Conclusions of Talent 2025 Work Groups, particularly Workforce Development Group: Kathy Crosby, Goodwill Industries of Greater Grand Rapids
- Individualized workforce development support: Duane Berger, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

10:15-11:00: **Panel 3--How do we increase skills for workers throughout their careers?** Moderated by John Bebow, Center for Michigan

- Young workers:
  - Paid internships for youth: Dierk L. Hall, City Connect Detroit
  - CTE opportunities for career development and hands-on experience: Brandy Lovelady Mitchell, Kent Innovation High
  - Apprenticeship-style programs: Amy Koning, GRCC School of Workforce Development and Advanced Manufacturing Partnership
- Experienced workers:
  - Retraining scholarships and credentialing: Larry Good, Corporation for a Skilled Workforce
  - Pure Michigan Talent Connect: Stephanie Comai, Talent Investment Agency

11:00-11:45 am: **Panel 4: How can employers support talent development?** Moderated by John Bebow, Center for Michigan.

- Building your own talent pipelines: Mark Peters, Butterball Farms
- Encouraging and building systems for skill attainment: Advanced Manufacturing Partnership employer
- On-the-job training: Jon DeWys, DeWys Manufacturing

12:00-12:20: **Lunchtime Keynote Presentation**

12:20-12:25 pm: **Thank You and Next Steps:** Phil Power