

March 2023

# abcd INSIGHT

## ABCD Expands Summer Jobs for Youth: Study Says Employment Bridges the Achievement Gap



**ABCD's SummerWorks** program in partnership with the **City of Boston** has increased capacity, and the anti-poverty organization calls on youth to apply right away. Thanks to key partnerships and supporters, long-standing and new, SummerWorks' goal is to provide paid jobs to more than 1,700 underserved Boston youth ages 14-21 this season. Participants will engage in career development, job readiness workshops, and mentoring opportunities during non-working hours.

Under-resourced and underrepresented students and students of color in urban settings face challenges during school breaks that widen the achievement gap. [Commonwealth Magazine](#) cited a study led by **Alicia Sasser Modestino**, the research director at the [Dukakis Center for Urban and Regional Policy at Northeastern University](#). "New research evidence among Boston high school students points to an out-of-school factor that can help close those gaps: a job." The study compared outcomes for students who participated in

ABCD SummerWorks and those who did not. SummerWorks participants had higher graduation rates and will provide a “net benefit to taxpayers of roughly \$127,000 for every high school graduate over their lifetime. Those additional graduates would confer an added benefit of \$6 million over their lifetimes.”

Students are encouraged to [apply today](#) and join the ranks of SummerWorks alumni who are making a difference!

## News & Updates

### Black History Month: Solving the Racial Wealth Gap in Boston



*(L-R) City of Boston Chief of Economic Opportunity and Inclusion Segun Idowu; Accordia Partners Vice President of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Jill Lacey Griffin; GBH News Co-host of Morning Edition and The Wake Up podcast Paris Alston; ABCD President and CEO Sharon Scott-Chandler and ABCD Director of Workforce Development and Alternative Education Ron Marlow*



*ABCD President and CEO Sharon Scott-Chandler welcoming attendees at ABCD'S Black History Month Celebration*



*Listening to insights from City of Boston Chief of Economic Opportunity and Inclusion Segun Idowu*



In celebration of **Black History Month**, ABCD President and CEO **Sharon Scott-Chandler** was joined by City of Boston Chief of Economic Opportunity and Inclusion **Segun Idowu**; Accordia Partners Vice President of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion **Jill Lacey Griffin** and ABCD Director of Workforce Development and Alternative Education **Ron Marlow** for a community discussion about Boston's racial wealth gap — what created it, what it means for people of color today, and what it will take to close it. Paris Alston, Co-Host of GBH News *Morning Edition* and *The Wake Up* podcast, served as moderator.

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## Advocating on Beacon Hill



*ABCD 2023 Legislative Breakfast at Carrie Nation*



*(L-R) Massachusetts State Representative Christine Barber, ABCD Director of Field Operations and Legislative Affairs Josh Young and ABCD President and CEO Sharon Scott-Chandler*



*(L-R) ABCD Director of Health Services Nancy Paladino, ABCD Health Program Manager Maureen Scott and Massachusetts State Senator Liz Miranda*



*(L-R) State Representative Kevin G. Honan, ABCD President and CEO Sharon Scott-Chandler and State Representative David Biele, co-chair of the Legislative Breakfast*

ABCD was gratified by the enthusiastic turnout at our annual Legislative Breakfast at Carrie

Nation on March 8, for the first time in three years. Special thanks to our co-hosts, **Rep. Paul J. Donato**, Second Division Chair, and **Rep. David Biele**, Boston Delegation Chair. This important event provided an opportunity for dialogue between our elected state representatives and senators and ABCD's community leaders, board members and program directors.

At the breakfast, ABCD shared the needs we encounter as “boots on the ground” and how we propose to support our constituents’ economic stability and prosperity. ABCD seeks legislative endorsement through sustained or increased funding for a range of programs and services including a renewed investment in:

- **Community Action Agencies**
- **Reproductive Services and Family Planning**
- **ABCD Mobile Homeless Outreach Team**
- **Early Education Teacher Salaries**
- **Head Start State Supplemental Line Item**
- **Child Care Resource and Referral Network**
- **Workforce Development and Education and Essential Aid.**

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## Community Action on Capitol Hill



ABCD President and CEO **Sharon Scott-Chandler** (center), staff from Massachusetts Community Action Agencies **Pace Inc.**, the **Greater Lawrence Community Action Council** and the **Worcester Community Action Council**; ABCD leadership team members and ABCD Board members are pictured outside the office of of U.S. Senator Ed Markey. The group participated in the **National Community Action Foundation conference** in Washington, DC this month.

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## Head Start City Wide Professional Development Day



*(L-R) ABCD Director of Head Start & Children's Services Flossy Calderon, ABCD Director of Workforce Development and Alternative Education Ron Marlow, Director of the Center on the Ecology of Early Development at Boston University Dr. Stephanie Curenton-Jolly and ABCD President and CEO Sharon Scott-Chandler*

ABCD's Head Start City Wide Professional Development Day at the Boston Marriott Copley Place celebrated our incredible educators and staff who keep Head Start running smoothly. While continuing to provide opportunities to increase staff wellness, the event keynote speaker, Dr. Stephanie Curenton-Jolly, focused on equity. Last summer, ABCD Head Start created a book club to discuss *Don't Look Away: Embracing Anti Bias Classrooms* which Dr. Curenton-Jolly co-authored. She was kind enough to join the book club to provide better support and understanding on the findings and implementation of practices shared in the book. Check out scenes from the day on [Facebook](#).

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## John J. Drew Receives Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Community Action Foundation



Thank you to our sponsors:

## nal Community Action Partnership Community Action Agencies & Organizations



(L-R) ABCD Chief Operating Office **Anne Corbin-Fennell**, former ABCD President/CEO **John J. Drew** and ABCD President and CEO **Sharon Scott-Chandler**



### Executive Office of Housing & Economic Development Cambridge Community Foundation Grant Program for COVID-19 Relief

## We're Hiring

Whether you know someone who wants to work directly in the communities we serve or support our broad range of programs, below you'll find a sampling of our most recent openings to explore and



share with your network. Just click on a job title to learn more about the position and qualifications.

### **Director - Recruitment and Development- Human Resources**

The Director of Recruitment and Development will develop and enhance opportunities for growth for both individuals joining our teams and for current staff to grow within our organization. This position is essential to furthering the mission of the organization by recognizing the value of all staff, volunteers, and interns in identifying staffing and retention strategies.

### **Education Supervisor-Head Start & Children's Services**

Education Supervisors are responsible for the planning, development and management of education services at a local Early Head Start/ Head Start Center. Education Supervisors ensure that education staff gain a comprehensive understanding of the Head Start Performance Standards, and they engage staff with regular follow-up to ensure that all policies and protocols are being followed.

### **Director of Grants-Planning and Grants**

ABCD's Planning and Grants Department helps ensure that the organization remains relevant and responsive to the needs of the Boston community, and contributes to the organizational stability and growth of ABCD by means of grant management and planning. The Director of Grants is responsible for coordinating grant funding plans with agency strategic goals by writing proposals, developing and managing systems for identification of funding opportunities and other grants related activities.

### **Volunteer and Internship Coordinator – Human Resources**

ABCD's Human Resources Department works with all Departments to help develop long-term strategies for growth and development within the agency. The Volunteer and Internship Coordinator oversees the development and implementation of ABCD's volunteer and internship program. This role serves as a liaison between ABCD's managers who have expressed volunteer needs and the public, private and educational communities who could meet those needs.

**BROWSE ALL JOBS**

**ABCD in Action: *Featured Videos***



**ABCD Celebrates The Embrace Memorial Unveiling on the Boston Common**



**ABCD is Preparing Taxes for Free for Boston & Mystic Valley Residents who Made less than 60k in 2022**



**ABCD's Black History Month Event Examines Ways to Close the Racial Wealth Gap**

# ABCD CONNECT

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