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An AARP Solutions Forum on Saving Jobs in a Recession: How Work Sharing Can Help



Saving Jobs in a Recession: How Work Sharing Can Help

An AARP Solutions Forum

**Friday, December 11, 2009
9:00 - 11:00 AM**

**AARP Brickfield Center, 601 E Street Northwest
Washington, DC 20049**

Work sharing helps employers avoid layoffs during a downturn by cutting work hours and spreading the remaining work among existing employees, who receive pro-rated unemployment benefits. The arrangement allows employers to keep trained staff on the payroll and workers to keep their jobs and health benefits. Work sharing may be particularly beneficial for older workers, who often find it more difficult than younger workers to find a job after a layoff. Seventeen states have active programs that permit the use of unemployment funds to support work sharing. In addition, the governments of a

number of developed countries promote work sharing as a way to save jobs in a weak economy.

Join us for a look at what's needed to create successful work sharing initiatives; what we can learn from national best practices and international models; and policy considerations at the state and federal level for promoting work sharing.

[Register Early — Seating is Limited!!](#)

8:45 Continental Breakfast available

9:00 How Work Sharing Works: Insights from the U.S. and Abroad

**Neil Ridley, Senior Policy Analyst for Workforce Development,
Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP)**

**Jon Messenger, Senior Research Officer, Conditions of Work and Employment Program,
International Labor Organization (ILO)**

10:00 Work Sharing Perspectives from the Trenches

**David Balducchi, Manager and Program Analyst, Employment and Training Administration,
U.S. Department of Labor (Moderator)**

**Bruce G. Herman, Deputy Commissioner for Workforce Development,
New York State Department of Labor**

**Marc Baldwin, Economic and Policy Analyst,
AFL-CIO Working for America Institute**

**Markus Franz, Counselor, Labor and Social Affairs,
Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany**

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