

US Secretary of Labor Hilda L. Solis Tours Youth Policy Institute Center in Hollywood

Los Angeles – On March 18, 2010 Dixon Slingerland, Executive Director for Youth Policy Institute (YPI) and Eric Garcetti, Los Angeles City Council President hosted the Secretary of Labor, Hilda L. Solis while she toured the Youth Policy Institute FamilySource Center in Los Angeles, CA. YPI was a recent recipient of a \$3.6 million grant from the U.S. Department of Labor to provide training and employment opportunities in the health care industry for 400 participants over a three-year project.

With this grant, YPI is able to help low-income youth and adult clients in Los Angeles prepare for professional work environments and receive training, certification, and placement for healthcare and education careers. Working with Community partners in these programs includes the City of Los Angeles Community Development Department, the State of California Employment Development Department, the Los Angeles Unified School District, Los Angeles Valley College, UCLA, area hospitals and clinics, YO! Valley OneSource Center, Build Rehabilitation WorkSource Center, and many others.

“It was an honor to have the Secretary of Labor, Hilda L. Solis visit one of our facilities. She was able to see first-hand the various programs YPI offers with this grant and the overall picture YPI strives for creating facilities to coach and educate low-income Los Angeles residents through education, technology, and training,” said Dixon Slingerland, Executive Director, Youth Policy Institute.

"Hollywood is one of the world's most famous neighborhoods, but it is also a place where every day people live and work. Our unemployment rate is above the national average and our community needs all of the assistance we can get with putting people back to work. I'm very proud of the work that YPI is doing in Hollywood to prepare local residents for jobs and this federal grant money will help us train hundreds of people," said Council President Garcetti.

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About YPI

The Youth Policy Institute (YPI) provides education, technology, and training to lift Los Angeles families out of poverty. With an annual budget of \$34 million, YPI has over 1,100 staff based at 95 program sites throughout Los Angeles. YPI partners with more than 70 schools, LAUSD and charter schools, while serving 25,000 youth and adults in Los Angeles each year. For more information, please go to www.ypiusa.org.