

Luther P. Jackson III

lutherpjackson3@gmail.com

 [linkedin.com/in/lutherjackson](https://www.linkedin.com/in/lutherjackson)

PROFILE

- Social entrepreneur, social connector, leader, facilitator, innovator, transformation catalyst, communicator, problem solver.
- Expertise in workforce development programming and execution, research, human centered design, project management, grant writing, strategic planning, community development and building diverse regional coalitions.
- Workforce portfolio includes preparing learners on the autism spectrum for careers in data science and data analytics as well as initiatives preparing learners from historically excluded communities for high-skill careers in software development and electric and autonomous vehicle development.
- Professional background as a daily newspaper journalist and labor union executive leading union organizing drives and bargaining for landmark collective bargaining agreements.
- Volunteer leadership as an elected officer of both local and national labor union organizations, and as a board member of Silicon Valley and California faith-based economic justice organizations as well as non-profits focused on economic and educational equity.

SELECTED WORKFORCE EXPERIENCE

Workforce Innovation Consultant: San Jose, CA (2023-present)

- Building equitable workforce systems promoting access to social capital and in-demand careers for individuals from underrepresented populations.
- Adviser, *CHIPS Communities United*, a coalition of community, environmental and labor leaders organizing for the responsible and equitable implementation of the federal CHIPS and Science Act. Focus on providing sustainable career opportunities for dislocated workers and workers from historically-excluded communities. (current)
- Co-organizer, *ApprenticeSIP*, a virtual meetup group convening apprenticeship practitioners from throughout North America. (current).
- Member, Global Advisory Board, *University of California, Santa Cruz Everett Program for Technology and Social Change*. Everett develops leaders who collaborate with communities worldwide and employ technology to address social issues, fostering practical and sustainable solutions rooted in commitment to social justice and environmental regeneration (current).
- Board member, *Hack the Hood*, an Oakland-based nonprofit preparing Black, Latinx, AAPI and other youth of color for technology careers (current).

- Grant reviewer, *U. S. Department of Energy SCEP*. Evaluated energy auditor training grants funded through the federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. (2024).

Program Manager: NOVA Workforce Development Board (2009-2023)

- Workforce lead, *EV Blueprints* initiative supporting efforts by Twin Rivers Unified School District to build and maintain an all-electric school bus fleet. Working under the leadership of ProspectSV and the California Energy Commission, project activities included connecting school district with a workforce development agency as well as outreach to community-based organizations representing historically-excluded communities (2023).
- Project manager and grant writer, *State of California Regional Equity and Recovery Partnerships (RERP)* grant, featuring historic collaboration of three workforce boards with three community colleges to introduce underrepresented job seekers to careers in high-growth, well-paying industry sub-sectors (2022-2023).
- Co-designer and grant writer, *James Irvine Foundation* grant providing career mobility opportunities for hospitality workers in the San Francisco Bay Area and New Orleans facing dislocation as a result of the COVID pandemic. Partners included Greater New Orleans Foundation and BW Research Partnership (2022-2023).
- Member, *Disability Employment Working Group*, U. S. Conference of Mayors, Workforce Development Council (2019-2023).
- Workforce lead, *Transit Sector Fleet Electrification EV-Grid Integration Pilot* in collaboration with ProspectSV, Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority and National Renewable Energy Laboratory. Career awareness initiative Introducing electric bus pilot to high school and community college students and teachers (2019-2022).
- Project manager and lead author, *County of San Mateo Strategic Plan for (COVID-related) workforce recovery*. Led to multiple community engagement activities, including “whole person” initiative pairing workforce and supportive services programming (2021).
- Project manager and grant writer, *Bay Area Career Pipeline Initiative*. Funded by Google.org to build dedicated pathways for low-income youth and young adults to careers in the Silicon Valley innovation economy (2017).
- Producer and project manager, *Driving to the Future - Career Opportunities in Advanced Transportation*, an educational video created in partnership with the California Energy Commission, California Workforce Development Board and ProspectSV. Video premiered at a week-long orientation introducing Silicon Valley high school students to careers in the ecosystem developing zero-emission vehicles (2016-2017).
- Project manager, *Silicon Valley Electric Vehicle Opportunity Initiative*, a partnership with the Bay Area Climate Collaborative to engage industry and stakeholders and enhance the electric vehicle industry cluster. Funded by California Energy Commission and California Workforce Development Board (2013-2014).
- Project manager and co-author, *Bridge to Career Success - a Study of Career Mobility and Advancement in the information and communication technologies workforce*, in partnership with San Jose State University, the Economic Advancement Research Institute, and Creating IT Futures Foundation. Led to creation of curricula focused on

social capital development that has influenced thousands of job seekers, including individuals from historically excluded communities (2014).

- Project manager and grant writer, *Bay Area Regional Prosperity Plan* grant from U.S. department of Housing and Urban Development through Metropolitan Transportation Commission and Association of Bay Area Governments. Partnered with community-based organization in Oakland to prepare low-income students for tech careers (2014-2015).
- Program partner, *neurodiversity pathways*, a social impact organization hosted by Goodwill of Silicon Valley that prepares neurodiverse individuals for careers in technology and other high skill industry sectors.
- Co-author, *Next Generation Unionism and the Future of Newspapers*, a study calling for newspaper unions to provide job placement assistance and skills training to dislocated workers in response to industry layoffs and upheaval. Funded by the UC Davis Center for Regional Change and the California Labor Federation. (2010)

OTHER EMPLOYMENT

Executive Officer: San Jose Newspaper Guild/CWA Local 39098 (1995-2009)

- Represented newspaper workers at the San Jose Mercury News and Monterey County Herald.
- Led landmark collective bargaining and union organizing campaigns.
- Served on boards of the South Bay AFL-CIO Labor Council as well as Clergy and Laity United for Economic Justice – California.

Newspaper Journalist: Detroit Free Press (1979-1990)

- Reporting assignments included economic development, the Michigan economy and several Michigan-based Fortune 500 companies.

EDUCATION

University of Pennsylvania

BA, cum laude, History, 1977