

## Our History

The Alabama State Conference NAACP Labor and Industry Committee was organized in the late 90's under the leadership of Mrs. Betty Bush who served as its Chairperson. She served under leadership of the President Robert Shanklin. Mrs. Bush was a devoted member of UAW where she held several leadership positions. She used her skills and influence in her new role as Chairperson of the Alabama State Conference NAACP Labor and Industry Committee where she was responsible for acquiring UAW sponsorship of the first Dr. Martin Luther King Unity Breakfast which was held at the Von Braun Center. Today, the UAW continues as the organization's most supportive sponsor of this grand event.

Past Guest Speakers of the Labor and Industry Breakfast Events includes:

2017	Guest Speaker	Dr. Everett Kelley
2018	Guest Speaker	Charles McDonald, Delphi UAW Retiree Chairman.
2019	Guest Speakers	Mitchell Smith and Tom Savage
2020	Guest Speakers	Eddie Martin, Stephanie McCulloch and Joshua Laney.

Mr. Al Rainey was elected Chairman of the Alabama State Conference NAACP Labor and Industry Committee in 2017. Mr. Rainey continues to serve as the organization's Chairman working hard alongside his committee to provide pathways to a sustainable future for Alabama workers.

## Our Mission

The mission of the Alabama State Conference NAACP Labor and Industry Committee is to ensure that every worker develops critical thinking, problem-solving skills, social and emotional skills, while gaining valuable job skills and all other skills necessary to prepare them for a self-sufficient life with opportunities for growth.

## Our Vision

The vision of the Alabama State Conference NAACP Labor and Industry Committee is to promote pathways to long-term financial security through sustainable work.

## Our Goals

The goals of the Alabama State Conference Labor and Industry Committee is:

- To equip workers with the necessary information needed to develop the knowledge, skills and abilities sought after in the new economy.
- To assist workers with the necessary skills to establish goals and acquire the confidence and training to make a successful contribution to society.
- To engage workers in workforce activities that increase employment retention and earnings ability by the attainment of nationally recognized and/or post-secondary credentials.

## Our Programs

### A. Scholarship Program

The Alabama State Conference NAACP Labor and Industry Committee sponsors an Annual Essay Writing Contest. The essay contest is available to students in grades sixth through twelfth. Essays are divided into three categories, middle school students (grades 6 to 8), high school students (grades 9 to 11), and graduating seniors. Only high school graduating seniors can compete for scholarships. Two scholarships are awarded in all three categories. Prizes are awarded to the top three essays.

### B. College and Career Readiness Program

The CCR Program stimulates economic opportunity and mobility, encourages entrepreneurship, expands quality educational opportunities, and promotes workforce development for communities in Alabama.

### C. Apprenticeship Program

Apprenticeships help businesses thrive by creating highly skilled, highly productive employees - and it helps workers start careers that pay higher wages. Adults, young adults, and high school students are presented with the chance to apprentice in select areas. Labor and Industry and local businesses form partnerships to help the workforce system increase worker skills, meet employer needs, and raise performance outcomes.

Research shows youth apprenticeship programs help participants make quicker transitions from school into the labor market, while gaining valuable career skills.

About 94% of apprentices that are trained through a registered apprenticeship program stay with that employer earning, on average, about \$70,000 a year upon completion.