

**HELP UNWANTED:
MITIGATING THE RECESSION'S TOLL ON THE WORKERS MOST AT RISK**

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Gregory Acs is a principal research associate in the Urban Institute's Income and Benefits Policy Center and a research affiliate with the National Poverty Center. His research focuses on social welfare policy with particular emphasis on low-income families, low-wage labor markets, public assistance programs, and child well-being. Recent studies examined employers in the low-wage labor market, economic stability and mobility among low-income working families, the income and spending patterns of low-income working families with children, and how living arrangements and the stability of parental marriage influences the well-being of children.

Harry J. Holzer is a senior fellow at the Urban Institute and a professor of public policy at the Georgetown Public Policy Institute. A former chief economist for the U.S. Department of Labor, he is a senior affiliate of the University of Michigan's National Poverty Center and a national fellow in the Program on Inequality and Social Policy at Harvard University. He is coeditor of *Reshaping the American Workforce in a Changing Economy* and coauthor of *Reconnecting Disadvantaged Young Men* (both Urban Institute Press).

Richard Johnson is a principal research associate in the Urban Institute's Income and Benefits Policy Center. He is an economist specializing in health and income security at older ages, with a special focus on older Americans' employment and retirement decisions. Recent studies include analyses of occupational change at older ages, changes in job demands, and the impact of health care costs on retirement. Johnson recently guest edited two special issues of *Research on Aging* and is completing a book on older workers for the Urban Institute Press.

Nancy La Vigne is a senior research associate in the Urban Institute's Justice Policy Center, where she directs several projects related to prisoner reentry, policing, and crime prevention. She is the project director of *Returning Home*, a multistate, longitudinal study of prisoner reentry, and principal investigator for the *Reentry Mapping Network*, a consortium of 13 jurisdictions that are mapping and analyzing reentry and corrections data to help inform local reentry initiatives. La Vigne was the founding director of the National Institute of Justice's Crime Mapping Research Center and served as the Texas Punishment Standards Commission's research director.

Margaret Simms (moderator) is a senior fellow at the Urban Institute and the director of its Low-Income Working Families Project. Prior to joining the Institute in 2007, she was the vice president for governance and economic analysis at the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies, where she began working in 1986. Simms was a senior research associate at the Urban Institute from 1979 to 1986 and directed its Minorities and Social Policy Program from 1981 to 1986. She taught at Atlanta University and the University of California at Santa Cruz and has written extensively about employment and training, education, and income and poverty.