

**A New Safety Net for Working Families:  
Getting the Skills and Support to Make It in Today's Job Market**

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**Karin Martinson** is a senior research associate in the Urban Institute's Center on Labor, Human Services, and Population. She specializes in issues related to low-income families, including welfare reform, employment retention and advancement strategies, education and training, child care assistance, child support enforcement, and services for hard-to-employ welfare recipients. Her research has focused on ways to improve economic outcomes for low-wage workers, non-custodial fathers, and welfare recipients. As a senior policy analyst at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, she was involved in the development of the welfare reform law.

**Margaret Simms** (moderator) is a senior fellow at the Urban Institute and director of its Low-Income Working Families Project. Prior to joining the Institute in 2007, she was 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.

**Don Winstead** is deputy secretary of the Florida Department of Children and Families and has more than 30 years experience with the department. From 1995 to 2001, he served as welfare reform administrator and coordinated the agency's implementation of the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program. He later served for more than three years as the deputy assistant secretary for human services policy at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. In this post, he was a key adviser on policy development, research, and evaluation related to welfare reform, supports for low-income families, and services for families, children, and youth.