

Moving Work Forward

A Partnership for Effective and Flexible Workplaces

The Families and Work Institute (FWI) and the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM) have formed a groundbreaking, multiyear partnership called Moving Work Forward to help businesses become more successful by transforming the way they view and adopt workplace flexibility.

This partnership combines the research and expertise of a widely respected think tank specializing in workplace effectiveness with the influence and reach of the world's largest association devoted to human resource management. By highlighting strategies that enable people to do their best work, the partnership will promote practical, research-based knowledge that helps employers create effective and flexible workplaces that fit the 21st century workforce and ensures a new competitive advantage for businesses.

Building on FWI's *When Work Works* initiative, this partnership will:

- Conduct and share research with employers on how effective and flexible workplaces can benefit employers and employees;
- Provide information and resources – from webinars to “how-to” kits – that will help businesses successfully implement workplace flexibility;
- Continue to offer the Alfred P. Sloan Awards for Business Excellence in Workplace Flexibility, which honors employers who are leading the way on effective and flexible workplace strategies;
- Share the best and most cost-effective practices that boost productivity and encourage innovation, primarily through the *Guide to Bold New Ideas*, a resource that showcases the Sloan award recipients;
- Host an annual work-life thought leadership conference, the first of which will be held this November in Washington, D.C.

About the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM)

SHRM is the largest membership organization devoted to human resources, boasting more than 250,000 members and 600 local chapters. SHRM helps members – and the people they work with – respond and adapt to the new realities of the changing workplace.

As the workforce grows more complex, organizations are tapping into HR's unique expertise to help navigate trends in the workplace. HR professionals are "people strategists" working directly with the most senior levels of management to know what's next, so companies can remain competitive. SHRM's **We Know Next** effort aims to highlight the value of human resources in business success and establish SHRM as an important resource for workforce issues.

SHRM believes that to remain competitive in the global economy, the United States will need to invest in and cultivate the skills of every worker – from young adults who need additional education to older workers who are seeking different work arrangements, from

persons with disabilities to veterans transitioning to the private sector, from people who have different cultural experiences and skills to those who seek to manage work and life responsibilities. The key to getting the best out of every individual is a flexible work environment – one that allows people to have greater autonomy over how, where, and when they excel for their organizations.

More information is available at www.shrm.org.

About Families and Work Institute (FWI)

FWI is a non-profit, nonpartisan research organization that studies the changing workforce, family and community. As a preeminent think-tank, FWI is known for being ahead of the curve, identifying emerging issues, and then conducting rigorous research that often challenges common wisdom and provides insight and knowledge. As an action-tank, FWI conducts numerous projects that put research into action and then evaluates the results. Its purpose is to create research to live by.

FWI is dedicated to providing objective information on changes in the workforce and workplace in order to inform decision-makers in government, business, communities and families. FWI's nationwide initiative, ***When Work Works***, brings research on workplace effectiveness and flexibility into community and business practice. Begun in 2003, *When Work Works* now reaches communities and states representing 30 percent of the U.S. population to:

- Share rigorous research and employer best practices on workplace effectiveness and flexibility,
- Recognize exemplary employers through the Alfred P. Sloan Awards for Business Excellence in Workplace Flexibility based on surveys of employers and employees, and
- Inspire positive change so that increasing numbers of employers understand how effective and flexible workplaces can benefit both business and employees, and use this information make work “work.”

More information is available at www.familiesandwork.org.