

n every organization, however large or small, people are the most valuable resource.

That's especially true at the U.S. Department of Labor, which is fortunate to have one of the most seasoned, dedicated, and professional workforces in the Federal government. I have been personally enriched by working closely with the Department's career professionals, and am committed to

investing in the future of our human capital.

chao

Recruiting, retaining, and developing talented people enables our Department to carry out the Strategic Human Capital Management goal of the President's Management Agenda, fostering a culture of excellence that supports our responsibilities for the 21st Century workforce.

Through a comprehensive approach that includes effective performance management, professional development, succession planning, and continuous learning to keep our Department's skills current with evolving workforce needs, the Department is making great strides in meeting its challenges by having the right people, in the right place, at the right time, with the right skills to accomplish our mission.

With the help of the Department's talented career professionals, we will continue to ensure that the American workforce is the safest, most skilled, and most competitive in the world. Thank you for all you do to better protect and prepare America's 21st Century workforce.

Elaine L. Chao

Secretary of Labor