

2026



# MAGAZINE

May 2026 Edition

## CEO Perspective

The reality of work.

## US Job Report

Overview of the US Job Report from the previous month.

## Mid-Career Corner

Corner office conversations on how the workforce really works!

## Career City Spotlight

A U.S City spotlight that is doing well with new jobs

## Career Spotlight

The Career You Should Be Watching

## Leadership Spotlight

Take a closer look at the work of one of our community leaders!





# ABOUT US

Klimb Magazine is a space dedicated to career growth, leadership, and opportunity. We focus on equipping professionals with the insight and tools needed to navigate a rapidly changing workforce.

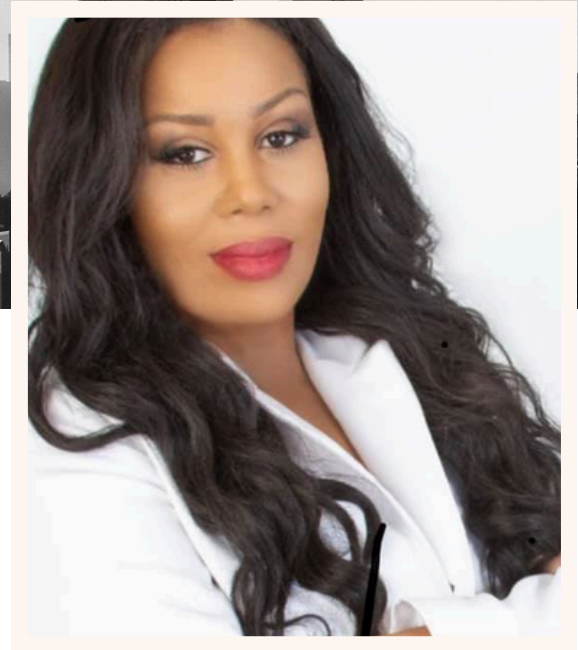
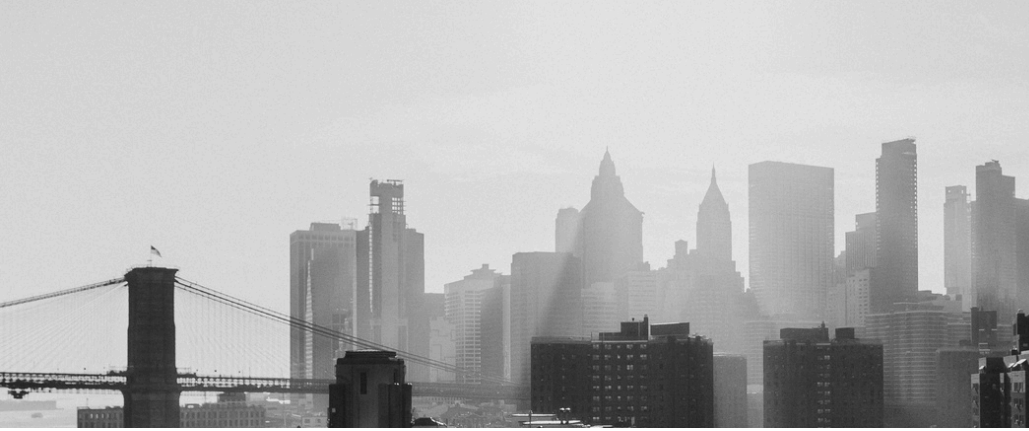
At the center of this vision is our CEO, Kimberly Harris, whose leadership is rooted in access, strategy, and long-term development. She believes career success is not only about getting hired. It is about preparation, positioning, and continuous growth.

Inside this issue, you will find leadership stories, practical career advice from professionals across industries, and emerging roles to watch as the job market evolves. From communication skills to workplace advancement, our goal is to provide guidance that supports every stage of your journey.

Your career is always developing. This magazine exists to help you move forward with clarity and confidence.

**Scan the QR code to explore opportunities in your city and take the next step toward your future.**





# CEO PERSPECTIVE FROM KIMBERLY

## **CEO Perspective: A Workforce Shift We Can't Ignore**

Since my last entry, the workforce has shifted in ways we can no longer ignore. Nearly 300,000 Black women have exited the labor force in just three months, a number that signals more than a temporary setback. This is no longer just about careers, it is about access, stability, and full economic participation.

The causes feel familiar, including federal job cuts, rollbacks of DEI initiatives, inflation, automation, and underrepresentation in high growth sectors like technology. But this is not a passing moment, it is a pattern. When Black women leave the workforce at this scale, the impact reaches beyond individual households and affects productivity, innovation, and ultimately GDP.

There is also a widening network gap. Research shows most jobs are secured through referrals, which means opportunity is often shaped by proximity as much as qualifications. As DEI efforts and ERGs shrink, so do the spaces that once created connection and visibility. When networks shrink, opportunities shrink, and participation declines.

This is not about charity, it is about sustainability. Employers must reinvest in intentional recruiting pipelines, community partnerships, and visible paths to leadership, while communities must create stronger networking ecosystems and direct access to decision makers. People do not just need jobs, they need access to the rooms where those jobs are decided.

**Kimberly Harris-Villalva**  
**Kimberly@Klimbhires.com**

# MARCH JOB REPORT

## STATISTICS

**303K** JOBS ADDED IN  
MARCH

**3.8%** UNEMPLOYMENT  
RATE

**62.7%** LABOR FORCE  
PARTICIPATION  
RATE

**4.1%** ANNUAL WAGE  
GROWTH

The U.S. job report is a monthly release that tracks employment trends, including job growth, unemployment, and wages. It gives a snapshot of how the economy is performing.



# MID-CAREER CORNER

With Mitch Villalva

Mitch Villalva, our Mid-Career Expert, shares 5 tips to help you prepare for success when stepping into a driving role. He brings over 20 years of experience across transportation, inventory management, and leadership, with a strong track record of success.

[MitchCareerCommute@gmail.com](mailto:MitchCareerCommute@gmail.com).

1

Always follow safety protocols, complete inspections, and stay alert on the road. Drivers with strong safety records are more likely to be retained, promoted, and trusted with greater responsibility.

2

Stay in touch with dispatchers, managers, and team members. If something changes—traffic, delays, or issues—communicate early. Good communication prevents small problems from becoming big ones.



3

Plan your routes, stay aware of your schedule, and avoid unnecessary delays. Time management directly impacts performance and reliability, which are key factors in long-term success.

4

Treat your vehicle like it's your own. Report issues immediately, keep it clean, and follow directions.

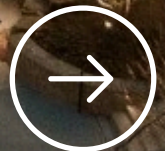
5

Ask questions, accept feedback, and look for ways to improve. The drivers who grow are the ones who stay—and often move into leadership roles.



# Career City of the Month

Alpharetta, GA





CAREER CITY OF THE MONTH

# ALPHARETTA, GA

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Alpharetta, Georgia is quickly becoming one of the most attractive cities for young professionals and job seekers in the Southeast. Located just outside of Atlanta, it offers access to a major city while maintaining a more manageable and affordable lifestyle.

The city has built a strong reputation as a growing tech and business hub, with companies in finance, healthcare, and technology continuing to expand in the area. This has created a steady flow of job opportunities across industries, especially for those interested in corporate roles, startups, and remote-friendly positions.

Beyond work, Alpharetta stands out for its quality of life. The city features a walkable downtown, a growing food scene, and plenty of green space, making it easy to balance career growth with everyday living. For recent graduates or professionals looking to relocate, Alpharetta offers both opportunity and stability in a fast-growing market.



# Career Spotlight: Inside the Role

## **SUSTAINABILITY ANALYST**

*As companies face increasing pressure to address climate change and environmental impact, the role of a Sustainability Analyst has become more important than ever.*

### **What This Role Is**

A Sustainability Analyst evaluates a company's operations to identify ways to improve environmental performance. This includes analyzing energy use, waste, and supply chains, then recommending strategies to reduce impact. The role blends research, data analysis, and communication to support long-term sustainability goals.

### **Why It Matters**

Businesses are being held more accountable for how they operate. Sustainability Analysts help companies meet regulations, improve brand reputation, and operate more responsibly. Their work directly shapes how organizations respond to global environmental challenges.

### **How to Get Started**

Getting started usually involves a background in environmental studies, business, or data analysis. Familiarity with sustainability frameworks and reporting tools is helpful. Internships or projects focused on climate, energy, or corporate responsibility can build strong experience. The key is being able to turn data into clear, actionable insights.

### **Salary Snapshot**

\$60,000–\$90,000 (entry to mid-level roles)

Compensation scales with expertise, strategy, and the ability to deliver results.

# LEADERSHIP SPOTLIGHT

CHRISTOPHER BASS



In today's fast-moving business landscape, the difference between ideas and impact lies in execution. For Christopher Bass, that distinction has defined a career spanning more than 24 years—one rooted not just in vision, but in building systems that turn ambition into measurable success.

Christopher's professional journey began in strategic market positioning, but quickly evolved into something far more expansive. Today, he operates as a strategic business architect—working alongside organizations to design, scale, and stabilize operations across diverse industries. His strength lies in bridging the gap between concept and performance, helping businesses move beyond planning into sustainable, results-driven execution.

Over the course of his career, Christopher has advised small businesses nationwide, guiding them through critical phases of growth, transition, and reinvention. Whether supporting market expansion or restructuring internal operations, his approach blends foundational business discipline with modern innovation, ensuring companies are not only competitive, but resilient.

His expertise spans operational scaling, portfolio oversight, and business optimization. From helping organizations expand beyond local markets to aligning multiple business units under a unified strategic direction, Christopher brings a level of clarity and structure that allows businesses to grow with intention. He is particularly known for revitalizing existing operations—identifying opportunities for improvement and implementing strategies that drive long-term return and market strength.

At the core of his work is a leadership philosophy grounded in accountability, execution, and continuous improvement. Christopher believes that true leadership is not defined by ideas alone, but by the ability to refine processes, empower teams, and deliver results consistently over time.

With a deep commitment to entrepreneurial success, he operates at the intersection of strategy and execution—ensuring businesses move beyond vision and implement the systems required to scale.

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