



Workforce Solutions Staff Overview of Activities 1st Quarter – July – September 2021

- 1) PA SIX Launch! www.discoverpasix.com was officially launched to the public for use in recruiting and retaining our workforce. Rack Cards are available at our office to any agency interested in distributed them.
- 2) Board staff approved 50 training programs on the Eligible Training Providers List.
- 3) The North Central Workforce Development Area has been requested by the Department of Labor and Industry to pilot the Metrix Learning System project. Metrix Learning is a comprehensive educational website that offers over 6000 courses, recognized industry certifications, and skill upgrades at no cost to participants. Partners in the project will be able to customize curriculum packages for employees and/or customers while tracking and reporting on individual progress.
- 4) Applied for and received \$513,842 in Statewide Activities funds from the Department of Labor and Industry to support increased outreach and sprucing up of the PA CL centers in our region.
- 5) Received approval of the contract waivers submitted to extend our PY18 Apprenticeship, PY19 Industry Partnership, and PY20 TANF funding - a total of \$793,275 available to carry over into this program year.
- 6) Launched the Manufacturing Training to Careers Grant Internship Program for Manufacturing Careers throughout the region. To date 3 awards have been made. A total of 50 internships will be available with a \$3,000 reimbursement per intern.
- 7) Successfully completed our 2021 PA SLIP Internship program, offering internships to 27 students and businesses in our region.
- 8) Prepared and released a Request for Quote (RFQ) to secure an entity to assist Workforce Solutions for North Central PA with a comprehensive analysis of our organization, revision of position profiles and well as a review of current performance management system. Award to be made at the October 6, 2021 Board meeting.
- 9) Prepared and released a Request for Quote (RFQ) document to secure an entity update the Workforce Solutions website – award to be made at the October 6, 2021 board meeting.
- 10) Prepared and released a Request for Proposals for the procurement of the One Stop Operator as required by the PA Department of Labor and Industry. Met with Labor and Industry staff to ensure the RFP met all policy requirements.
- 11) Began implementation of the What's So Cool About Manufacturing Video Contest for the entire region.
- 12) Piloting a Dream Team initiative with the North West Industrial Resource Center (NWIRC) for Clearfield and Jefferson Counties.

13) Partnering with the Northwest PA Area Health Education Center (NW PA AHEC) for programs to introduce healthcare careers to students

14) Various Business and Education Partnership activities including: The following activities took place in Clearfield and Jefferson Counties. The Community Education Centers for Elk, Cameron, McKean and Potter are providing similar programs in the remaining counties.

- Facilitated a presentation with the Clearfield library's middle school age program about careers working with animals
- Participated in Career Link Day in Clearfield with Carl the Career Bear
- Recruited for and Participated in tables at local football games with CCCTC to increase knowledge of jobs related to the trades
- Facilitated soft skills presentations to Curwensville's 7th and 11th grades
- Career Fair held at the Brockway Area High School on September 9 with 12 employers participating and 150 students attending.
- Filming regional companies to place virtual tours on the career exploration website for schools to utilize, videos will be available in standard and Virtual reality form. Current companies that have been filmed are Contact Technologies and Gasbarre Products, Inc.

15. Wage and Salary Survey distributed and analyzed. Results disseminated on September 2nd. Thirty-seven companies participated.

16. Next Gen Industry Partnership meetings for B&C, Manufacturing and Healthcare convened and prompted action items in the area of **talent acquisition** and **supply chain**. Met with support team partners to help develop an action plan.

17. Supply Chain Roundtable co-sponsored with North Central Regional Planning and Development Export Program is scheduled for October 5th with Corey Gibbons, VP of Supply Chain and Operations for Veeder-Root.

18.. Increased collaboration and co-sponsorship of programs developed by NWIRC to assist the manufacturing industry- The Career Readiness Series and Manufacturing Month, Exploring the Marvels of Manufacturing.

19. OJT and Participant file monitoring.

PA CareerLink® center related:

1) PA CareerLink® centers across the region implemented a new Customer Survey system that will more closely and more frequently track and respond to customer feedback.

2) The first Annual PA CareerLink® Day was held – this statewide initiative was well received in our region and center staff went above and beyond with hiring events and activities. See detailed update with outcomes and pictures on the following pages.

3) Hiring events and job fairs are being held nearly daily at the PA CareerLink® centers throughout the region. In addition, a PA CareerLink® event week is being planned for the week of October 18-22, 2021.