Regional Spotlight
Innovative Workforce System Strategies, Collaboration, & Best Practices

July 2023
Shared Goals:
Working together to ensure the workforce system in Southeastern Pennsylvania continues to evolve and thrive, supporting economic growth throughout the region.

- Further develop strong Career Pathways in Southeastern Pennsylvania through programming that leads to in-demand careers, common communication and outreach strategies, and service delivery that addresses barriers to gainful employment.
- Continue regional collaboration related to sector strategies and employer engagement, leveraging resources and partnerships to meet the needs of industry.
- Play a vital role in the growth of our future workforce through innovative strategies to reach and engage in-school and out-of-school youth and young adults.
- Work collaboratively toward continuous improvement of the regional workforce development system.
- Implement strategies that identify and rectify potential gaps in service delivery through the PA CareerLink® regional system to best meet the needs of career seekers and employers.
Shared Planning:
Collectively expanding beyond readily available data to strategically plan workforce system programming in the region.

- Region-wide data analysis incorporated into WIOA Regional Plan to guide collaborative strategy
- Regional High Priority Occupation (HPO) petitions
- Southeast Pennsylvania Opportunity Youth Study
- Southeast Pennsylvania Manufacturing Labor Demand Study & Advanced Manufacturing Skills Gap in the Greater Berks Region Study
- Recovery Occupations - methodology developed by Philadelphia Works
Shared Resources:
Joining together to apply for and implement grant funding to increase effectiveness within the region.

- US Economic Development Administration (EDA) Good Jobs Challenge
- PA Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) Engage! participation
- Apprenticeship Building America
- National Dislocated Worker Grants
- PA Department of Labor and Industry (DLI) Clean Energy Grants
- PA DLI Near Completers Grant
Shared Strategy:
Collaborate to develop and implement innovative and impactful service and sector strategies.

- Eight Industry Partnerships convening decision-makers and thought leaders in healthcare, manufacturing, emergency medical services, agriculture, information technology and energy to leverage resources and drive economic and workforce development
- Apprenticeship PHL promoting outreach, education, and awareness across southeast PA
- Southeast PA WDB leadership check-ins twice per month
- Regional responses to state-level policy, guidance, and requests
- Regional professional development and best practices
Shared Initiatives:

Align programmatic initiatives and special events to maximize effect on long-term solutions region-wide.

- WED Talks employer and employment professionals webinar series led by the Bucks County WDB
- Regional Apprenticeship Coordinator (Bucks and Montgomery)
- What’s so Cool about Manufacturing video contest for 8th grade students
- Road Trip Nation 2024 Southeast PA tour, spearheaded by Philadelphia Works
- Multi-Industry Career Fairs to introduce youth to sustainable career pathways (Girls Exploring Tomorrow’s Technology, Careers of Tomorrow)
- Manufacturing Dream Team
- Career Academies and Career Acceleration Programs through Industry Partnership priorities
- Digital Equity Alliance
Learn more about shared goals, plans, resources, strategies, and initiatives by viewing the PY 2021-2024 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) regional plan here: