

LAUNCH!

YOUR SUCCESS

Serving the Northern Tier of Pennsylvania

'What's So Cool About Manufacturing?' Northern Tier Winners Advance to States

The 2023-24 Northern Tier "What's So Cool About Manufacturing?" program culminated with an April 12, 2024, awards ceremony at the historic [Keystone Theatre](#) in Towanda.

During the voting period, the region attracted more than 20,000 total votes for the eight participating school teams, representing Blue Ridge, Montrose, Mountain View, Northern Tioga – Cowanesque Valley, North-Penn Liberty, North-Penn Mansfield, Tunkhannock, and Wyalusing Valley school districts.

The partnering manufacturers were, respectively, APS Lasers in Friendsville, Golis Machine in Montrose, Deer Park Lumber in Tunkhannock, Electri-Cord in Westfield, MetalKraft in Wellsboro, Tyoga Container in Tioga, Procter & Gamble in Mehoopany, and UnityLab in Dushore.

The event was attended by the teams, parents, school administrators, manufacturers, and interested community partners. Along with screening the student-made

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Viewer's Choice Award winners:
Wyalusing Area School District and UnityLab



Northern Tier Influence Award winners:
Montrose Area School District
and Golis Machine

If you are a school or manufacturer that would like to participate next year, please email Rachel Selleck at selleck@northerntier.org.

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videos, awards were presented to three teams.

The Best Manufacturing Process Award was presented to North Penn/Mansfield Jr./Sr. High School and [Tyoga Container Co.](#)

The Northern Tier Influence award was presented to Montrose Area School District and [Golis Machine](#)

[Inc.](#), which also earned the team a spot in the statewide competition.

Finally, the Viewer's Choice Award winner was Wyalusing Area School District and [UnityLab](#), and they will also have the opportunity to attend the statewide competition. States will be held on May 15 at the Whitaker Center in Harrisburg.

Bradford County LAUNCH! Success Story: Michael

Michael came into the PA CareerLink® in Towanda interested in the youth services that are available. He was referred to the Bradford County Action Youth Career Advisor.

After meeting Michael and understanding his barriers as well as what he was interested in doing, he and his Career Advisor decided a work experience in the Auto Mechanic field would be a good fit. The Youth Career Advisor reached out to Wolf's Truck and Auto, a local auto shop, and set up an interview with the owner and Michael. The owner decided he would like to take Michael on to learn Auto Mechanic duties.

Michael began a Paid Work Experience (PWE) at Wolf's Truck and Auto on November 14, 2023, and completed it on December 29, 2023. When Michael's PWE time was coming to an end, options for next steps were discussed with the owner of Wolf's Truck and Auto. The owner decided that he wanted to continue to work with Michael and felt that an On-the-Job Training (OJT) position would be a perfect solution. Michael began the OJT on January 2, 2024, and successfully finished his training on March 1, 2024. Michael was hired full-time with benefits at Wolf's on March 4, 2024.

Throughout Michael's time at Wolf's Truck and Auto, his training plan focused on duties such as the basics

of mechanics (i.e., an inspection of a truck before it leaves, mounting and dismounting tires, and proper greasing) as well as the importance of preventative maintenance. He also learned the basics of an engine and transmission as well as basic electrical wiring.

The supervisors at Wolf's always had great things to say when asked how Michael was doing. They responded that Michael's progress was "great" and "he's learning new things daily, he's very teachable," as well as "he comes in on time, keeps busy, and always has a smile on his face. I can't ask for more."

At the conclusion of the OJT, the owner was asked if he felt he got a good return on his investment for taking Michael on to train. He stated, "[Michael] has learned a lot and has become an asset to my company."

Michael states that his new job at Wolf's "is going great, I really like it here."



Wyoming County LAUNCH! Success Story: Logan

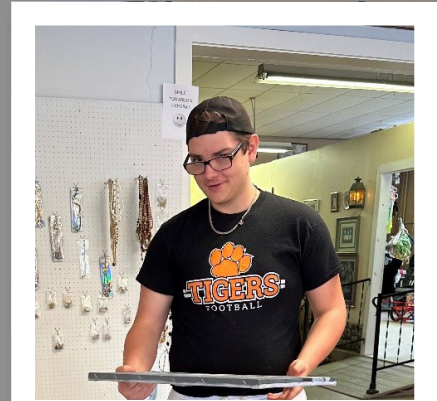
Logan is a resilient individual who has overcome significant challenges in his young life. Placed in foster care at just six months old, he experienced the complexities of the system and eventually found himself in the juvenile justice system. He was referred to the Wyoming County LAUNCH! Program by probation and Independent Living.

Despite these adversities, he refused to let his circumstances define him. Now at the age of 18 and in 12th grade, he is determined to create a better future for himself. Alongside his studies, he has embarked on a paid work experience,

demonstrating a strong work ethic and determination to succeed.

His interest in becoming a Commercial Driver's License (CDL) driver highlights his ambition and practical approach to achieving his goals. He has met with the Red Rock Job Corps Center and is very interested in the program they offer to help him succeed.

Despite the difficult start he has had in life, Logan remains focused on building a brighter future—showcasing resilience, determination, and a commitment to personal growth.



Logan: Focused on building a brighter future

Need Some Cash? Interested in a Job?

Paid work experiences are available for eligible young adults ages 14-24. During a paid work experience, young adults get to explore job requirements and increase their employability skills while gaining real-world work experience.

Contact your local PA CareerLink® or affiliate site today!

Bradford County: 570-265-4434

Sullivan County: 570-928-2127

Susquehanna County: 570-853-1103

Tioga County: 570-724-1939

Wyoming County: 570-996-2440

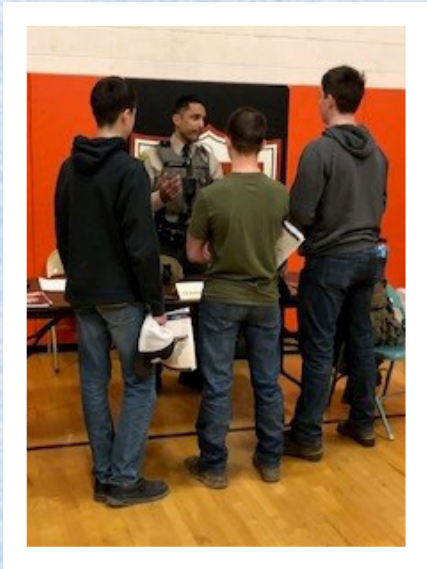
www.launchyoursuccessnt.org

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Bonnie Warner, Equal Opportunity Officer, eoofficer@northerntier.org
NTRPDC, 312 Main Street, Towanda, PA 18848
570-265-9103 or toll free 888-868-8800 / TDD/TTY PA Relay 711



Seven School Districts Participate in Bradford–Sullivan Career Day



On March 21, 2024, seven school districts from Bradford and Sullivan counties participated in the Northern Tier Regional Planning and Development Commission

(NTRPDC) annual Bradford–Sullivan Career Day at Towanda High School. The event provides high school, junior high, and elementary school students with the opportunity to learn about different career pathways that are available right here in our region.

This year's event featured 29 businesses and organizations presenting a number of different careers. Students had the opportunity to learn about careers in healthcare, engineering, carpentry, meteorology, and surveying, among many others. Cultivating and maintaining a strong future workforce is vital to our region's success. Introducing students to a variety of different careers at a young age is one way to help support this endeavor.

NTRPDC thanks all the presenting employers for participating, Towanda School District for hosting the event, and all of the school districts that were in attendance. Career Day is a valuable event for our students, and would not be possible without all of the partners involved.

If you own or work for a business or organization that would like to get involved in educating students about career opportunities, please email Lyndsay Coleman at coleman@northerntier.org.

NTBEP Mini-Grants Awarded

The Northern Tier Business–Education Partnership (NTBEP), through funding from the PA Department of Labor & Industry, released an opportunity for schools, career and technical education centers, employers, and agencies who work with youth in grades K-12 to apply for up to \$5,000 for projects aligning students and/or educators to career education.

The purpose of these mini-grants is to promote career pathways and provide career awareness and work-based learning activities for youth in grades K-12

in the Northern Tier Workforce Development Area. Career awareness activities include (but are not limited to) job shadowing, career camps, company tours, mentoring, STEM teams or competitions, classroom presentations, career fairs, speakers, panels, and industry-related materials. Career Awareness activities that cover high-priority occupations (or industries with high-priority occupations) were given priority over other projects.

Seven projects were awarded grant funding:

- Mountain View and Interfaith "Level Up"

- Southern Tioga "Career Origins"
- Southern Tioga "Career Camps"
- Sullivan County "Careers and Campuses"
- Sullivan County "Motivation in the Workforce"
- Wellsboro "FBLA State Leadership Workshop Trip"
- Wellsboro "Seniors 2 Seniors"

Congratulations to the recipients! We look forward to learning how the projects meet their goals and we will report back on them in the LAUNCH! Fall Newsletter.

Trehab and Sullivan County Library Continue Partnership to Empower Youth through Work Experiences

In a collaborative effort to uplift local youth, Trehab and the Sullivan County Commissioners are continuing their partnership in 2024, providing work experiences that enrich participants with mentorship and essential skills. Over the past few years, this collaboration has seen the Sullivan County Library host three successful participants, supported by the county commissioners, who recognize the importance of investing in the community's future leaders.

Under the guidance of librarian Alan Miller and his dedicated team, participants have not only

contributed to the library's daily operations but have also played integral roles in projects such as preparing for its annual used book sale—a cornerstone event eagerly anticipated by the community.

What sets these experiences apart is their dual focus on practical tasks and “soft skills” development.

Participants learn the ropes of a librarian assistant's responsibilities, gaining hands-on experience in shelving books, assisting patrons, and managing library resources.

Moreover, they receive personalized mentorship aimed at nurturing essential soft skills such

as communication, teamwork, and problem-solving—skills crucial for success in any professional setting.

In Sullivan County, collaboration among organizations including Trehab, the Sullivan County Library, and the County Commissioners is more than just a partnership; it's a testament to the community's commitment to nurturing its future leaders. By investing in youth development initiatives, the county is laying the groundwork for a brighter and more prosperous future—one where every young person has the opportunity to reach their full potential.

If interested in providing a Sullivan County work experience or participating in one, contact Tamara at theess@trehab.org.

NTRPDC Talks TTAP

The Northern Tier Regional Planning and Development Commission (NTRPDC) participated in introducing the Twin Tiers Arise Program (TTAP) at Southern Tier Central's 27th Annual Regional Leadership Conference on April 4, 2024, at Corning Community College. TTAP is an interstate collaboration among six partners in the southern tier of New York (Chemung, Schuyler, and Steuben counties) and the northern tier of Pennsylvania (Bradford, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Tioga, and Wyoming counties) funded by the Appalachian Regional Commission. The overall goal of TTAP is to engage the region's employers with existing youth services/providers to enhance and strengthen the workforce ecosystem.

Frank Thompson, NTRPDC Executive Director, joined TTAP partners in presenting to an audience of government officials, planning boards, local employers, and many others. Frank discussed goals that NTRPDC is focused on for the project, which include expanding the Northern Tier Business-Education Partnership (which connects students to employers), sharing career education/exploration information with parents, and providing work-based learning experiences to students.



Helping Our Young Adults Determine “What’s Next?”

Young adults from Bradford and Sullivan counties were invited to a May 1, 2024, pilot event organized by the Northern Tier Regional Planning and Development Commission (NTRPDC) in coordination with Bradford County Action (BCA) and the Athens Area School District. The goal of the event was to provide information on resources available in our counties to help young adults determine “what’s next.” After leaving high school, young people may be disconnected from both education

and the labor market. NTRPDC and its partners aim to bridge the gap between youth who are unsure of what they want to do and what is available to them, and the programs and organizations available to help answer those questions.

BCA, the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR), Job Corps, and the Pennsylvania Apprenticeship and Training Office delivered presentations on the services they offer. Local businesses set up recruitment

booths to inform the young adults in attendance about the entry-level positions and training opportunities they have available. Guthrie, C&N Bank, Cargill, and the Army National Guard had the opportunity to meet with youth prior to and following the presentation session.

Young adults, family members, and members of the community took the opportunity to meet with these representatives and gather information supporting their next steps in planning their future.

NTRPDC and its partners aim to bridge the gap between youth who are uncertain of their future path and the opportunities and resources available to them.

Tioga County Job Fair Connects Students and Employers

Develop Tioga held the 2nd Annual High School Job Fair at North Penn -Liberty Jr./Sr. High School on April 18, 2024. High schools in Tioga County and surrounding districts were invited to the event. Students visited employer and organization tables to discuss current job openings and ask questions. They also played trivia to learn more about resumes and interviewing skills. In all, 313 students participated.

Thank you to the businesses, organizations, and school districts that attended!

[American Airlines](#)

[Army National Guard](#)

[Berkshire Hathaway Home Services](#)

[Hodrick Realty](#)

[BLaST IU 17](#)

[Bradford-Tioga Head Start](#)

[Broad Acres & Country Terrace](#)

[C&N Bank](#)

[Commonwealth University of Pennsylvania](#)

[Costy's Energy Services](#)

[FCCB](#)

[First Heritage Federal Credit Union](#)

[Gannon Associates Insurance](#)

[Laurel Health Centers](#)

[Martha Lloyd Community Services](#)

[Mueller Family McDonald's](#)

[Northern PA Regional College](#)

[Northern Tier Industry and Education Consortium](#)

[Northern Tier Regional Planning and Development Commission](#)

[OVR® Overalls](#)

[PA CareerLink® Tioga County](#)

[Partners in Progress](#)

[Pennsylvania Department of Transportation](#)



[PRSM Healthcare](#)

[REPSOL](#)

[Tioga Bradford County Housing Authority](#)

[Tioga County Employee Self Service](#)

[Tioga County Trehab Workforce Development](#)

[Tri-Co Connections](#)

[Tri-County Rural Electric Cooperative](#)

[Truck Lite](#)

[Tyoga Container Company](#)

[UPMC](#)

[Westlake Royal Building](#)

[Products-Elkland](#)

[Wheeland Lumber Company](#)



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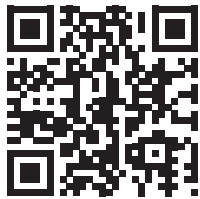
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Northern Tier Workforce Development Board LAUNCH! Your Success Service Providers



PA CareerLink® and Affiliate Sites

www.launchyoursuccessnt.org

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arussell@bradfordcountyaction.org

Susquehanna County

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TDD/TTY PA Relay 711
or
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TDD/TTY PA Relay 711
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Wyoming County

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TDD/TTY PA Relay 711
pshoemaker@trehab.org

Start your LAUNCH! adventure today—
call or e-mail the service provider for the
county where you live.

Northern Tier Youth Committee

Mission

A system that provides all youth and young adults with the skills and opportunities to achieve self-sufficiency, encourages life-long learning, and ensures the region a skilled workforce.

As a subcommittee of the Northern Tier Workforce Development Board, the Youth Committee is comprised of members with a special interest or expertise in youth policy. The Youth Committee is responsible for:

- Recommending eligible providers of youth/young adult activities to the Workforce Development Board to be awarded grants or contracts on a competitive basis;
- Providing oversight to the eligible providers of young adult services in the Northern Tier;
- Coordinating activities and leveraging resources to effectively serve the young adult residents of the region;
- Developing portions of the local plan related to eligible participants, as determined by the Workforce Development Board;
- Coordinating activities in the Northern Tier; and
- Performing other duties determined to be appropriate by the Workforce Development Board.

The Northern Tier Youth Committee meets quarterly at the PA CareerLink®, 312 Main Street, Suite 1, Towanda.

Membership

Kelly White, Chair
Center Director
Lackawanna College,
Towanda Center

Krista Abresch
Intellectual Disabilities
Quality Manager
Bradford County Human Services

Jennifer Farley
Administrator of Educational
Services
Northern Tier Career Center

John Gazzillo
Executive Director
Susquehanna County Career &
Technology Center

Kristin Hamilton
Executive Director
Develop Tioga

Jackie Johnson
Community Member

Gary Martell
Director
Northern Tier Career Center

Monica McCarty
School Outreach Specialist
BLaST IU 17 – Williamsport

Tammi Mowry
Financial Aid Director
Susquehanna County Career &
Technology Center

Jill Payne
WIOA Manager
Adams & Associates/
Red Rock Job Corps

Randi Morse
District Executive Director
RVR YMCA

Lori Rahn
Juvenile Probation Officer
Bradford County

Breanna Repard
Workforce Development Director
The Trehab Center

Theresa Steele
Parent of Youth Participant

Penne Watkins
Executive Director
Bradford County Action

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Bonnie Warner, Equal Opportunity Officer

eoofficer@northerntier.org

570-265-9103 or toll-free 888-868-8800 / TDD/TTY PA Relay 711

Northern Tier Regional Planning and Development Commission

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