



## Upcoming Opportunities



### 2025 LTAP Classes

**Winter Maintenance 4 PDHS**

January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025 from 8AM to 12PM

**Public Works Safety**

February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025 from 8 AM to 12 PM

**Roadside Vegetation Control 6 PDHS**

March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025 from 8 AM to 3 PM

**Geosynthetics**

April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2025 from 8 AM to 12 PM

**Project Estimating Using Mathematical Principles**

May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2025 from 8 AM to 3 PM

**Managing Utility Cuts**

June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2025 from 8 AM to 12 PM

All courses listed are being held at the Bradford County Public Safety Center. Classes are free for municipal employees. If you have questions, please contact Brett Voloshin at [voloshin@northerntier.org](mailto:voloshin@northerntier.org)

[Register Here](#)

Employee Recognition: Cynthia Traore



NTRPDC is proud to announce that Cynthia Traore, Business Development Administrator, has been awarded the Entrepreneurship Development Professional (EDP) credential by the International Economic Development Council (IEDC).

The EDP credential is designed for professionals who work with entrepreneurs and small businesses and those who support them. Candidates are required to have two years of full-time experience in economic development, complete the necessary educational requirements, and pass the certification examination. By obtaining this credential, Cynthia has proven her expertise and dedication to advancing economic development in the northern tier region of Pennsylvania.

Congratulations, Cindy! We are so proud of you!

## Welcome (back) to the Team Renae!



We're thrilled to introduce Renae Chamberlain, the newest addition to the NTRPDC team as the Business Education Program Manager!

Renae is a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh and holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology. She has experience in the mental health field, career education, and arts administration. Renae previously worked for NTRPDC from 2015 to 2018 as a BEP Career Coach. As the Business Education Program

Manager, she will be responsible for assisting in the facilitation of the Twin Tiers ARISE program (TTAP) and the Business Education Partnership (BEP) by coordinating career coach services and connecting students to work-based opportunities. When she's not working she enjoys spending time with her family, engaging in the arts, reading, and gardening

Join us in giving Renae a warm welcome back to the NTRPDC team!

## Towanda Medical Club Receives First Aid/CPR Training Equipment

The Towanda High School Medical Careers Club recently received funding from the Northeast Regional Healthcare Industry Partnership to enhance their First Aid/CPR training. Funds were used to purchase

equipment including two adult and two child CPR mannequins along with two AED Trainers, tourniquets, and a stocked trauma bag, providing students with valuable hands-on training.



The Club members will be trained in first aid/CPR by their advisor, providing them with essential healthcare skills and earning them an industry recognized credential. Students will have access to the equipment for ongoing practice. The goal of Medical careers club is to increase youth interest and participation in medical careers. The Northeast Regional Healthcare Industry Partnership grant is facilitated by the Northern Tier Regional Planning & Development Commission (NTRPDC) and includes the Northern Tier, Lackawanna, Poconos and Luzerne/Schuylkill workforce areas spanning 12 counties in the northeast. The Partnership brings local healthcare leaders together to address challenges and develop opportunities, working to support the healthcare providers' efforts to keep talent local.

**For more information, please contact Rachel Selleck at [selleck@northerntier.org](mailto:selleck@northerntier.org)**

## Northern Tier Career Connect



Northern Tier Career Connect is a web-based resource that was launched in late-November 2024 to provide students and schools with a way to connect to employers for meaningful career-based learning opportunities. Registered schools and students have the ability to search for and request to participate in career activities to help them identify their future goals and develop their career plans. Northern Tier Career Connect also allows registered businesses the opportunity to assist with the development of their future workforce and field requests from schools and students interested in career exploration activities.

Businesses can register to provide any or all of the following career-based learning opportunities to students and teachers: Teacher in the Workplace, informational interviews, guest speakers, industry tours, mock interviews, job shadowing, career mentoring, volunteer opportunities, internships, pre-apprenticeships, and work experience.

As we continue to build Northern Tier Career Connect, we are looking for schools and employers to register to participate. Its quick and easy, and there's no cost! **If you are interested in learning more or registering your school or business, please contact Renae Chamberlain at [chamberlain@northerntier.org](mailto:chamberlain@northerntier.org), or visit [www.ntcareerconnect.com](http://www.ntcareerconnect.com).**

**Event Recap: Internal Controls Workshop for Nonprofits**



On Monday, November 25th, Amy Benjamin, NTRPDC Finance Director hosted an engaging and insightful workshop on internal controls tailored for volunteer-based and nonprofit organizations.

We were thrilled to have 12 organizations representing four of the five counties we serve! Participants gained valuable insights into safeguarding organizational assets, managing risk, and ensuring compliance—all while building trust with their stakeholders.

Thank you to everyone who attended and contributed to this collaborative learning experience. Together, we're building a stronger nonprofit community!

## SBDC & Entrepreneurs Visit Towanda High School

There is so much to learn about starting a business. The 11th grade at THS were able to learn from seasoned entrepreneurs, Tari Trowbridge, Trowbridge & Co. Wealth Management Group, Dave Wolf with Standing Stone Transport, Wolf's Truck & Auto Repair and Wolf's Truck Wash, as well as, Renee Shores Wilson of Shores Sisters, about how they started their businesses, what their businesses do, and what it takes financially and emotionally to start a business. Gretchen Kukuchka of the Small Business Development Center (SBDC), University of Scranton, works with small business owners like these to help plan, build or expand their business. All were enthusiastic and outgoing owners eager to talk about their small business journeys. Gretchen, business consultant, and our Career Coach, Donna Yale, took over the whole 11th Grade World History Classes, on November 18 and 19, to share with the students (a total of 88 students participated) "What does it take to Own your own business?".



## Empowering Recovery & Employment

We are thrilled to share that over 30 individuals from across the region attended a transformative training for workforce staff on supporting individuals in recovery from substance use disorder as they navigate their career journeys.

This impactful session, sponsored by the **Northcentral Pennsylvania Recovery Hub** in collaboration with **Northern Tier Regional Planning & Development Commission (NTRPDC)**, explored:

- The realities of substance use disorder and recovery
- Societal stigmas and how to overcome them
- Effective strategies for supporting those in recovery
- The benefits to employers who hire recovering individuals



The training brought together professionals from the Pennsylvania CareerLink®, Northern Tier Workforce Development Board, Bradford County Probation and other community agencies, equipping them with tools and insights to better serve individuals with substance use disorder. It's a step forward in fostering inclusive workplaces and empowering people in recovery to thrive!

## Small Business Catalyst Podcast



Our very own Cynthia Traore, Business Development Administrator was recently a guest on the Small Business Catalyst podcast with Ayisat Abilogun to talk about international trade strategies for entrepreneurs.

You can listen to the full episode [here!](#)

## BST Employer Newsletter



The Northern Tier Business Services Team distributes a monthly employer newsletter with county specific information.

**The format of the employer newsletter for the Northern Tier has been updated. The newsletter is now condensed into one!**

Click the button below to read:

[BST Newsletter](#)

### **Empowering People. Developing Businesses. Strengthening Communities.**

The Northern Tier Regional Planning and Development Commission (NTRPDC) is the Local Development District (LDD) serving the Pennsylvania counties of Bradford, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Tioga and Wyoming. We provide business financing, international trade counseling, government contract assistance, grant writing, transportation planning and workforce development services.

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