



Help Shape the Future of Workforce Development in the Northern Tier



As part of the Fit4Work Reengagement Project, we are inviting stakeholders across the Northern Tier to complete a **brief 10-minute survey** to help us better understand current workforce development practices, available resources, service gaps, and opportunities for growth. Survey responses will help inform future strategies to strengthen employment opportunities and supports for individuals in recovery and those with justice involvement.

Two survey versions are available. **Staff members** working in behavioral health, recovery, reentry, workforce development, and other community-based organizations are encouraged to complete the staff survey, which focuses on services, resources, and system needs. **Employers** are encouraged to complete the employer survey, which focuses on hiring, retention, workforce challenges, and employer supports. We also encourage you to share the appropriate survey with colleagues, partners, and others in your network whose perspectives would contribute to a more comprehensive understanding of needs across the Northern Tier.

For the Staff survey, [click here](#).
For the Employers survey, [click here](#).

Please complete the survey by August 31st, and thank you for contributing to the growth of the Northern Tier!

Call for ARC Projects!



The Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) is now accepting applications for the Area Development program! This year, the application process has changed as follows:

Before an application can be submitted through ARC's Pathways system, prospective applicants must first provide a brief description of their proposed project. This description can be sent to either Northern Tier Regional Planning & Development Commission (NTRPDC) or directly to DCED. The applicant will then be issued a spin-up form, which must be completed and returned before the project can be advanced to ARC for review and access to the full application.

If your municipality, nonprofit, educational institution, or other eligible organization is considering an Area Development project, contact NTRPDC early as funding is first come first served! We can help determine whether your project is a good fit, guide you through the updated process, and assist you every step of the way.

Contact Kim Jennings, Economic Development Program Manager at jennings@northernier.org for more information!

Building Future Healthcare Professionals Through Regional Partnerships



The Northern Tier Regional Planning & Development Commission (NTRPDC) recently partnered with the Northern Tier Industry & Education Consortium (NTIEC) to deliver a Healthcare Careers Camp, a three-day comprehensive

experience that introduced 14 high school students to the wide range of career opportunities available in the healthcare industry.

Supported by the Northeast Healthcare Industry Partnership, the program reflects the Partnership's commitment to strengthening the regional talent pipeline by connecting students with high-demand career pathways through hands-on learning and meaningful industry engagement.

Throughout the program, students earned First Aid, CPR, and AED certifications, participated in healthcare simulations, explored anatomy and physiology, learned about patient care and confidentiality, and interacted directly with healthcare professionals representing a variety of specialties. Participants also toured Guthrie Robert Packer Hospital – Towanda Campus, gaining firsthand exposure to departments including Emergency Medical Services, Medical-Surgical Nursing, Radiology, Respiratory Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Speech Therapy.

The success of the program was made possible through the collaboration of numerous regional partners, including healthcare providers, educational institutions, emergency services, and workforce organizations. Presenters included representatives from Guthrie, Endless Mountains Health Systems, Commonwealth University–Mansfield, CVS Pharmacies, Laurel Health Centers, Greater Valley EMS, Athletico (Pivot) Physical Therapy, Pennsylvania AHEC, JumpStart Training, NTRPDC Career Coaches and the Northern Tier Career Center who also hosted the camp, providing classroom space during the three-day experience. Student transportation was provided by Heather Pepper, LTD.

By bringing together employers, educators, and workforce partners, the Healthcare Careers Camp provided students with valuable insight into the education, skills, and career pathways available within the healthcare industry while helping employers engage with the next generation of talent.

Participant feedback highlighted the program's impact, with students expressing a greater understanding of the diverse opportunities within healthcare and increased confidence in planning their future careers.

Thank you to NTIEC and our dedicated partners for their time, expertise, and resources that made this initiative a success. Programs like this demonstrate the power of regional collaboration in addressing workforce needs.

The Northeast Healthcare Industry Partnership brings industry leaders together to develop innovative strategies to challenges and serves Bradford, Carbon, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Monroe, Pike, Schuylkill, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Tioga, Wayne and Wyoming Counties.

Agricultural Career Camp



The Agricultural Career Camp, held July 14th–16th at North Penn-Mansfield High School, introduced 30 students entering grades 6–9 from across Tioga County to the many career opportunities available in agriculture. Through hands-on activities, field trips to local farms, conversations with industry professionals, and immersive virtual reality experiences, students explored careers in animal science, crop production, conservation, fisheries, and more.

The camp, made possible through a partnership between the Northern Tier Regional Planning & Development Commission and Southern Tioga School District, highlighted the importance of agriculture to the Northern Tier while inspiring students to consider future careers in this vital industry.

Based on pre- and post- test results, 50% of students reported learning more about agricultural careers, and 19 of the 26 students correctly identified more agricultural careers on the post-test than they did on the pre-test. While students' attitudes about living and working in the Northern Tier as adults varied, there was a clear consensus after camp that there are strong agricultural career opportunities in the Northern Tier, particularly in Tioga County.

We would like to thank Butler Hill Beef Farm, Kroeck Farms, Kreger Farms, Southern Tioga School District, Tioga County Conservation District, Penn State Extension, Future Farmers of America, 4-H, Tioga County Dairy Promotion Team, Commonwealth University (Mansfield Campus), Northern Tier Hardwood Association, and Sugar Mama's Appalachian Maple for all of your support to this program!

Upcoming Opportunities

PENNSYLVANIA CDFI NETWORK MICROGRANTS PROGRAM



DIRECT GRANT FUNDING TO HELP HISTORICALLY DISADVANTAGED SMALL BUSINESSES START, GROW, AND THRIVE.

The Pennsylvania CDFI Network Microgrants Program provides direct grant funding to eligible historically disadvantaged businesses throughout Pennsylvania. Microgrants are designed to help entrepreneurs implement growth strategies, strengthen operations, access new opportunities, and overcome barriers to business success.

Unlike loans, PA CDFI Network microgrants do not require repayment and may be used for a variety of business-related expenses that support business growth, stabilization, and expansion.

Businesses are encouraged to engage with their regional Business Assistance Service Center (BASC) to access technical assistance, business coaching, and guidance throughout the application process.



GRANT AWARDS

Eligible businesses may receive PA CDFI Network microgrant funding ranging from

\$7,500 to \$20,000

based on business size, demonstrated need, revenue, and program guidelines.

ELIGIBILITY

Who Qualifies for a Microgrant?

To be eligible, businesses must:



Be a for-profit business operating in Pennsylvania



Be at least 51% owned or controlled by one or more historically disadvantaged individuals who are Pennsylvania residents



Have fewer than 100 full-time employees



Generate at least 51% of revenues within Pennsylvania



File a Pennsylvania tax return



Be actively operating at the time grant funds are awarded



Be able to provide documentation verifying eligibility

ELIGIBLE USES OF FUNDS

Microgrant funding may be used for a variety of business expenses, including:



Equipment & Machinery



Inventory & Supplies



Marketing & Advertising



Website Development & Technology



Professional Services



Licensing & Certification Costs



Insurance Expenses



Working Capital



Commercial Rent & Occupancy Costs



Other eligible business growth expenses

What Is a Historically Disadvantaged Business?

For purposes of the PA CDFI Network Microgrants Program, a historically disadvantaged business is a for-profit business that is at least 51% owned or controlled by one or more socially or economically disadvantaged individuals residing in Pennsylvania.

The disadvantage may arise from cultural, racial, chronic economic circumstances, background, or other similar causes.

APPLICATION PERIOD

**July 9 to
Aug 10, 2026**

BUSINESS REVENUE

Up to \$50,000
\$50,001 - \$500,000
\$500,001 - \$750,000
\$750,001 and up

MAX GRANT

\$7,500
\$12,500
\$17,500
\$20,000

FOR MORE INFO & TO APPLY:

www.pacdfinetwork.org/basc-microgrants-programs

Annual JOB FAIR &

11:00 AM - 2:00 PM



WEDNESDAY

09.16.2026



Is your business hiring or
looking for a way to connect
with the local community?



REGISTER TODAY!

for our Annual Job Fair on
Wednesday, September 16, 2026

11:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Scan the QR code below,
or contact **Diana Edler**:

☎ 570-724-1939

☎ TTY: 570-724-6356

✉ dedler@bradfordcountyaaction.org



AT THE WELLSBORO SCHOOL DISTRICT
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING-GYMNASIUM
227 NICHOLS STREET, WELLSBORO PA 16901

Pennsylvania
CareerLink™

EMPLOYER SEMINAR



9:15 AM - 10:30 AM



GROW YOUR WORKFORCE
WITHOUT GROWING YOUR
COST!

Discover funded training opportunities
that help you hire, train, and retain
talent with less risk.

TOPIC HIGHLIGHTS



Funded Work-Based Training



Untapped Talent Potential



Business & Employee Testimonials



**EARLY BIRD
DEADLINE: AUG. 1!**

← Scan to Register!

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**COMMUNITY
RESOURCE
FAIR**

September 18, 2026
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

*Bradford County Public
Safety Building
28 VanKuren Drive,
Towanda, PA 18848*

**Pennsylvania
CareerLink®**

**FIND OUT WHAT
RESOURCES ARE
AVAILABLE**

*Bring Your Family,
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(570)265-2171
TTY 570-265-5720**

Pennsylvania CareerLink® is an equal opportunity employer/program provider. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

Bonnie Warner, Equal Opportunity Officer eoofficer@northerntier.org,
NTRPOC 312 Main Street, Towanda, PA 18848 570-265-9103 or toll free
888-868-8800.

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) programs are federally supported
100% by the U.S. Department of Labor as part of an award totaling \$1,551,167 with
\$0 (0%) state, local and/or non-governmental funds.

A proud partner of the AmericanJobCenter network

BST Employer Newsletter



The Northern Tier Business Services Team distributes a monthly employer newsletter. Click on the link below to read information on local PA CareerLink® events and other employer specific topics.

July 2026 Employer 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.

**312 Main Street
Towanda, PA 18848**



**570-265-9103
888-868-8800
info@northerntier.org**

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