

# Building Public/Private Partnerships to Maximize Talent Resources in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

PWDA – Pennsylvania  
Workforce Development  
Association

## About PWDA

- “Go-to” Resource for Workforce Development in PA
- Represent the interests of local and regional workforce development organizations, partners, and professionals

### 4 Priorities

- Community of Practice
- Advocacy
- Development
- Technical Assistance

[www.pawork.org](http://www.pawork.org)

# PWDA Members



**Help Pennsylvanians find jobs**



**Provide new skills or “right skills” training**



**Support local employers**



**Strengthen regional economies**



**Fight poverty**

PA Workforce  
Development

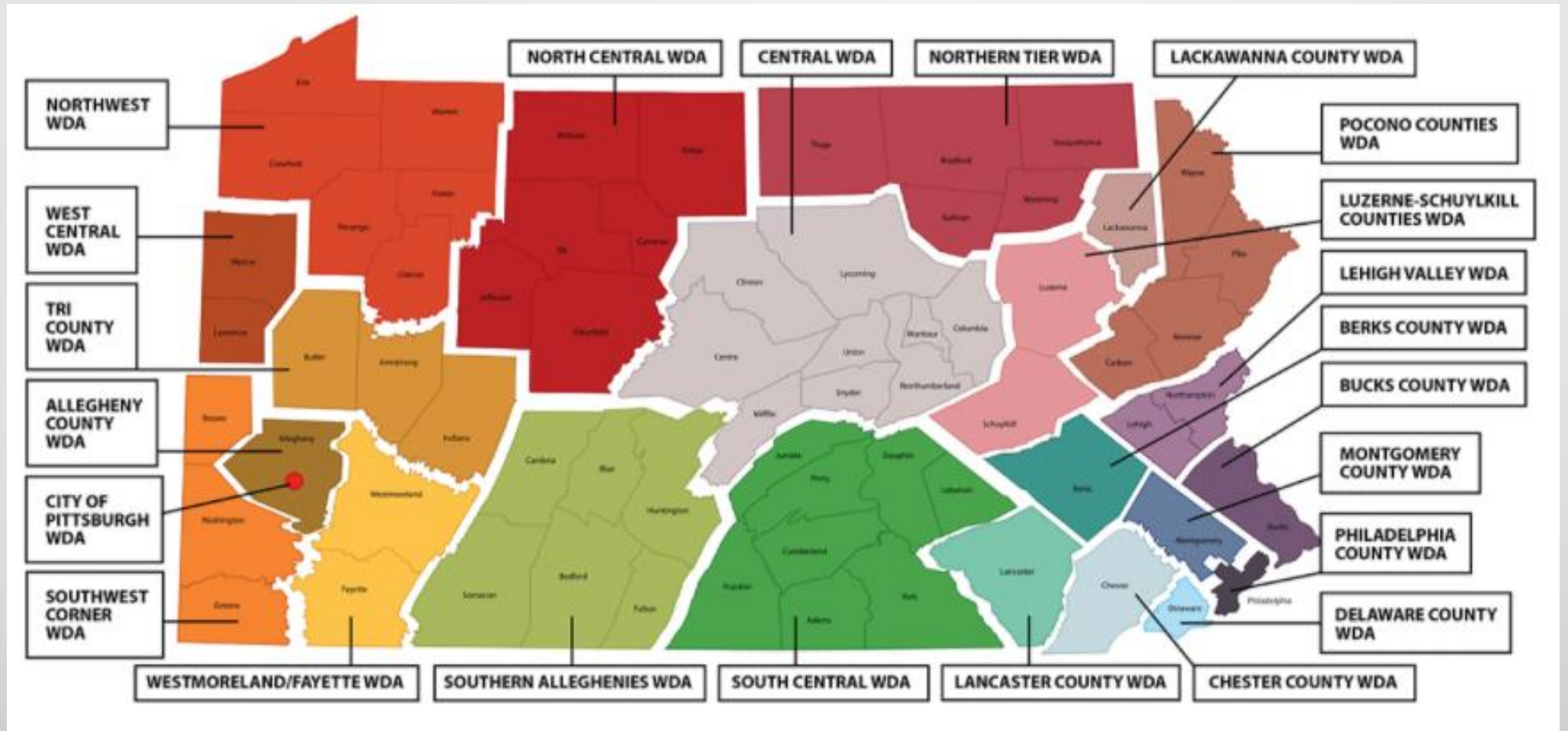
Federal Govt.

State Agencies



Local Workforce  
Boards &  
Partners



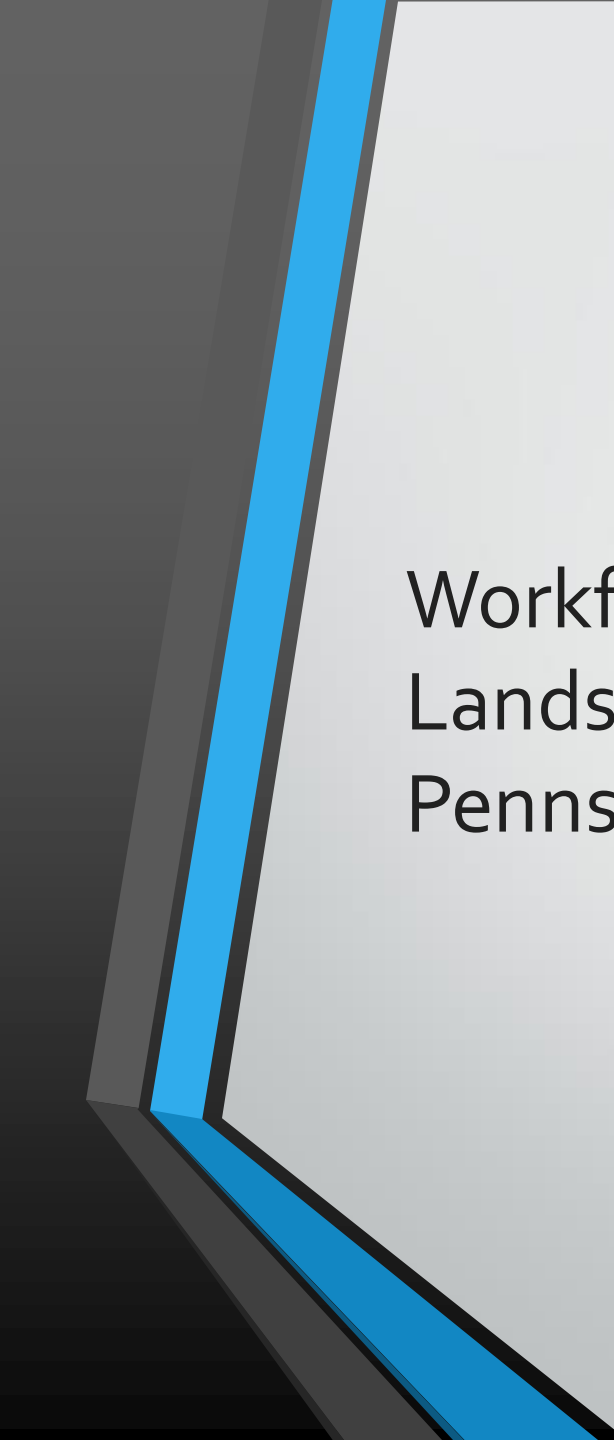


22 Local Workforce Development Boards



# Examples of Workforce System Services

- Resume Prep
- Mock Interviews
- Job Search
- Case management
- Training
- Work Experiences
- Support Services
- ...and more



## Workforce Landscape in Pennsylvania

- High Poverty Rates
- Low Unemployment Rates
- Solving the employment shortage post pandemic
- Greater opportunity to fill the gap of workforce openings
- Rigid HR models
- Uninformed Professionals

# Employment First Act of 2018

- 9 Identified Priorities
- Recommendations include
  - Cross Agency Collaboration
  - Parent and Family Engagement Training
  - Self Advocacy
  - Case Information Sharing
  - Benefits Counseling
  - Maximizing and Publicize Existing Resources
  - PA to lead the way in Reducing Barriers to Complete Integrated Employment
  - Local Employment Coalitions
  - Designation of Employment Champions



# Public and Private Partnerships

- Local Employment Connections (Employment First Coalitions)
- Single Point of Contact Model (ex. OVR)
- Business Services
- Single go to Source
- Educate & Encourage Businesses to Hire People with a Disability

# Engaging Communities – Social Capital

- Analyze the culture of your community
  - Families want Community Integration and real jobs in the Community more than previous generations
  - Help people capitalize on their social networks what mutual assistance and social fabric arises from the connections
- Build your community team – Relationship Mapping
  - Who in your team has influence in the business community?
- Develop your Community Action Team

# Developing Community Action Teams

- Engage Your Stakeholders
  - Gather Information
  - Create a Vision
  - Bring Stakeholders Along
  - Make a Plan
  - Implement the Plan
  - Collect the Data

# Examples of Community Action Team Partners

- Local Workforce Development Board / Board Chair
- PA CareerLink® - [www.pacareerlink.pa.gov](http://www.pacareerlink.pa.gov)
- Goodwill (ex. Keystone PA)
- Leverage existing Industry Partnerships, Business Intermediaries

# Work Incentives Planning and Assistance Program (WIPA) is it Right for Me?

You're a good fit for WIPA services if:

- You are currently eligible for SSI and/or SSDI benefits
- You are at least 14 years old and haven't reached full retirement age
- You are working now or work is in your near future
- WIPA services are free, voluntary, and confidential!

# Community Strategy a Local Example

Goodwill Keystone Area offer Work Incentives Planning and Assistance Program (WIPA)

- If you receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) and want to work (or, are already working), you can talk to a Goodwill staff person certified to provide you with accurate and timely information about the impact of earnings on your SSI or SSDI cash and healthcare benefits.
- We can also help you use important work incentives that allow you to keep your cash and healthcare benefits, at least temporarily, as you work toward earning more money through work!

# Can Workforce Development Help?

YES! But...

- + We need more education, training, and integration
- + We need a better awareness of what's occurring already in your system/sectors
- + Systems Change is Hard, Let's Be a Model

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