

NorthSideWorks!

Monthly Update – March 2022

FEATURED EMPLOYER RESOURCES

We are working on an employer resource guide to share information on recruitment and retention. While that is in process, I want to draw your attention to two resources this month.

1. [Work Opportunity Tax Credit \(WOTC\)](#)

What is WOTC? A federal tax credit for employers that invest in job seekers that have consistently faced barriers to employment and are in the WOTC targeted group.

- Employers must apply and receive certification verifying the new hire is a target group before they can claim the tax credit
- Employers can find their own candidate or work with social service organizations, as long as they meet target group criteria. [Who is considered a target group?](#)
- [How much can I receive from each target group and what are the max/min hours?](#)
- 28-day rule: employers must screen WOTC employee ON or BEFORE their job offer date and submit appropriate documentations within 28 days of their start date
- FAQs answered [here](#)
- For direct connection with the PA Department of Labor & Industry, contact Greg Shirk (Workforce Development Supervisor), gshirk@pa.gov

If you would like to chat more about WOTC, please reach out to me directly or Greg Shirk.

2. Partner4Work's Job Quality Employer Engagement Initiative

The "new normal" of the labor market can be challenging to navigate due to high turnover rates, persistent labor shortage, and an increased call for inclusive work environments.

- [Partner4Work](#), the leading workforce development system for Pittsburgh & Allegheny County is available to collaborate with businesses facing those challenges
- **How can they help me?** Through a one-on-one conversation with our contact at Partner 4 Work, you can explore job practices that can improve job quality, which increases recruitment, retention, and workplace inclusivity
- Direct contact to collaborate and more information: Bonny Yeager (Manager of Special Projects), byeager@partner4work.org

YOUTH CAREER EXPLORATION

As the opportunities come up, NorthSideWorks! works with our partner organizations that work with youth and career exploration. One of our recent partnerships has been with Junior Achievement of Western PA.

Spotlight – Junior Achievement volunteers at Northside Catholic Assumption Academy

- Junior Achievement is a nationwide nonprofit that inspires young people for success through career exploration.
- Last Friday, the NorthSideWorks! team and other chamber members taught students K-8 JA lessons on financial literacy, work and career readiness and business ownership. Thank you to the Northside Christian Health Center and Affolder Insurance for helping!



DIGITAL RESOURCES

NorthSideWorks! consistently updates the following as a digital resource for all stakeholders.

- [Facebook Page](#) and [Instagram Page](#) – follow and share to build our audience!
- [“NorthSideWorks! Resources” Google Sheet](#) – features jobs, workforce events and training programs
- [Take 5 E-Newsletter](#) – the chamber’s weekly community-focused newsletter that includes workforce resources, as well as community events and announcements

For more information or to add to our resources, please reach out to me at ellie@northsidechamberofcommerce.com.