Workforce Connections

Your weekly digest of resources, events, and all things Workforce Development in Lancaster County



June 26, 2020 | Issue V

In the News...

Number of Lancaster County residents to lose jobs falls 27.5%, fewest since COVID-19 hit (subscription required)

Lancaster County will move to green phase of reopening Friday

Why Colleges Should Turn to Companies for Inspiration (opinion)

In case you missed last week's email!

Follow us on Social Media!





Receive Notifications about Request for Proposals!

Never miss an opportunity to apply for funds through the Lancaster County Workforce Development Board! By signing up <u>here</u>, you will be notified any time Requests for Proposals (RFP's) are released.

How On-The-Job Training helps Lancaster businesses and jobseekers!

On-the-Job Training (OJT) provides direct job placements to qualifying individuals, and gives them the opportunity to "earn while they learn!" Employers who participate in this program may receive up to <u>75%</u> wage reimbursement for training a new employee, up to \$10,000!!

Employer Eligibility

The position being considered for OJT must be a full time/permanent position with the company, pay at least \$12/hour, and be considered a high priority occupation in Lancaster County.

Candidate Eligibility

Must be enrolled in the WIOA program with PA CareerLink® Lancaster County and complete an assessment that shows there is



Benefits to Employer for Participating

- · Gain access to a larger candidate pool
- Employers will have excited/engaged employees
- Improved retention, trained workers
- Program covers a percentage (up to 75%) of wages up to 6 months

a need for training. Reverse referrals are accepted!

To learn more about the OTJ Training opportunity provided through PA CareerLink® Lancaster County, contact Laura O'Neill by <u>email</u> or call 717-509-5613 ext 614.

> View the OJT Brochure Here!

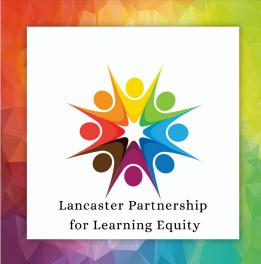
Four Short-Term Training Programs in High-Demand!

Free Training for those who qualify! Printable Flyer



Teachers Needed for Virtual Summer Program

This summer learning enrichment program is designed to offer virtual academic skill-building in math and literacy to approximately 600 Lancaster County students PreK through Grade 8 using a high-quality curriculum and engaging instructional materials developed by BellXcel. This program, offered through the Lancaster Partnership for Learning Equity, is committed to providing learners with the digital access and support needed to prevent academic slide over



the summer and to prepare them to participate fully in virtual learning opportunities in the future!

Apply Today!



John Biemiller is the Director of Business Retention and Expansion at Economic Development Company of Lancaster County. John and his wife Jen have four children between the ages of 3 and 30.

Board Member Spotlight A few words from one of our valued board members

When asked about why he is a board member, John responded that he was selected as a board member to represent Economic Development. "Successful economic development depends upon a successful workforce development system that serves the needs of both businesses and Lancaster County residents." When asked how John contributes to the Board, his response was, "In my position with Economic Development Company of Lancaster County, I bring the perspective of and connections to the local business community and its needs."

Here are some fun facts about John:

Q: What piece of advice were you given that has helped you become successful over the years?

A: It is almost always better to try get along with other people.

Q: What is your favorite book?

A: To Kill a Mockingbird.

Q: What is something you enjoy doing in your free time?

A: Biking and family picnics!

Lancaster County Workforce Development Board of Directors seeks Small Business representative to fill board vacancy

Do you have optimal policy making or hiring authority within your company? Does your company provide employment opportunities in in-demand industry sectors or occupations?

To learn more about this volunteer opportunity with a great team, please contact <u>Anna</u> today!



Did You Know?

The Lancaster County Workforce Development Board is your *premier* source for



Check out the NEW Weekly Unemployment Claims Interactive Dashboard to see up-to-date local information Labor Market Information.

We can provide resources and links for selfservice access to local, state, and federal labor market information, as well as customized reports for your business, at no charge!

To discuss your Labor Market needs, please contact <u>Valerie Hatfield</u>.

May Labor Force Data Shows Pennsylvanians Returning to Work

Pennsylvania's unemployment rate was down 3.0 percentage points over the month to 13.1 percent in May. The national rate fell 1.4 percentage points from May to 13.3 percent. The commonwealth's unemployment rate increased by 8.9 percentage points from May 2019 while the national rate was up 9.7 points over the year.

Pennsylvania's civilian labor force – the estimated number of residents working or looking for work – was up 23,000 over the month. Resident employment was up 211,000 while unemployment declined by 188,000.

Pennsylvania May Jobs Report - Just released!

Cathy's Corner

A note from desk of the Executive Director of the Workforce Development Board

As I have been reflecting on this program year, I cannot help to wonder about the "what ifs." Then I hear my dad's voice saying, "Cath, you cannot live in the what ifs, they did not happen, the past is gone, so what did you learn and what are you going to do differently?" I would imagine we are all thinking about what are we going to do differently, because the way things were, will no longer be. From a workforce lens, it certainly can be unsettling as you think about your business, your workforce needs, the willingness of employees to return to work, and the list goes on and on and on.

I encourage you to consider learn more about the Lancaster County Workforce Development Board, the opportunities we have on our Board of Directors, and share this newsletter with your peers.

Let's work together to make sure Lancaster County, once again, is a leader in economic recovery, reduction in unemployment, and recognized for the opportunities in high quality careers for ALL!

To learn more about our organization or to get involved, please visit our <u>website</u>. To find out more about recovery efforts, please click <u>here</u>. Cathy





Executive Director: <u>Cathy Rychalsky</u> Chief Operating Officer: <u>Anna Ramos</u> Strategic Innovation Officer: <u>Valerie Hatfield</u> Fiscal Manager: <u>Anibal Aponte</u> Quality Assurance Manager: <u>Jim Black</u> Administrative Assistant: <u>Rae Miller</u> Business-Education Partnership Intern: <u>Samantha Bretz</u>

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