





## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Media Contact:**

Dawn Thomas, Outreach and Communications Manager

Philadelphia Works

Email (preferred): <a href="mailto:newsroom@philawork.org">newsroom@philawork.org</a>

Phone: 215-557-2587

## Philadelphia Works Joins the National Association of Workforce Boards (NAWB) and USDA's SNAP E&T (Employment & Training)'s New Cohort

15 workforce development boards will work toward becoming new SNAP E&T providers or expand current services

Philadelphia, PA – <u>Philadelphia Works</u> has announced that it is one of 15 workforce development boards (WDBs) participating in the first Workforce + SNAP E&T Cohort. The cohort will bring WDBs together as they navigate the process towards becoming new SNAP E&T providers or expanding their current SNAP E&T programs and services.

"When the barrier to an individual's progress toward self-sufficiency is the inability to afford a basic need like food, engaging in employment and training opportunities is not the priority," said H. Patrick Clancy, president and CEO at Philadelphia Works. "What SNAP E&T programs communicate is a clear understanding of this, which is real and responsive. It meets individuals where they are; and that is something we strongly believe in at Philadelphia Works. We are proud to be included in this cohort."

The Workforce and SNAP E&T cohort will engage in the following activities:

- Coaching and support with the process of becoming a SNAP E&T third-party provider or intermediary;
- Access to coaching, tools, and resources covering the core components, processes, and best practices of SNAP E&T operations;
- Information and best practices about SNAP E&T data requirements and using data to improve SNAP E&T programs;
- Information and best practices for engaging and serving SNAP participants; and,
- The opportunity to collaborate and share resources, tools, and information with other WDBs.

"NAWB is really pleased to be teaming with USDA to help make the most of SNAP Employment & Training funds to benefit individuals, businesses seeking talent and fueling our local communities' recovery and growth," said Ron Painter, president and CEO of NAWB. "The vital connections local workforce boards have with employers, skill providers and SNAP resources, opens the door of opportunity for SNAP participants and expands the skilled talent pool for employers."

## Participating WDBs:

- KentuckianaWorks
- Philadelphia Works
- New River/Mount Rogers Workforce Development Board
- Employ Milwaukee, Inc.
- <u>Stanislaus County Workforce Development</u>
- PSouthwest Minnesota Private Industry Council, Inc.
- Workforce Alliance
- Western Virginia Workforce Development Board
- EmployIndy
- Workforce Connections
- Northwest Wisconsin Workforce Investment Board
- Fox Valley Workforce Development Board
- Partner4Work
- Workforce Southwest Washington
- Pacific Mountain WDC

In September 2020, the USDA provided more than \$6.7 million in SNAP E&T National Partnership Grants to help four national non-profit organizations expand program capacity to serve SNAP participants, of which NAWB was a recipient. Through the National Partnership Grant, and in partnership with Seattle Jobs Initiative and Third Sector Capital Partners, NAWB will provide multi-faceted technical assistance to increase the number of workforce boards implementing SNAP E&T programs and services across the country.

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More information about the initiative can be found online at: https://www.nawb.org/initiatives/snapet.