Forming A Regional Collaborative

Organizing and Launching

This phase requires active civic leadership from philanthropies, local governments, elected officials, business, education and non-profit leaders.

A. Marketing/Feasibility Assessment
- Conduct trend studies and/or research
- Organize funder briefings to explain the Workforce Partnership
- Facilitate peer-to-peer networking on workforce and economic competitiveness

B. Design Phase
- Engage local governments, employers, foundations and other civic leaders to bring visibility, client and financial resources to the effort
- Develop a shared strategic vision that aligns the workforce system resources to meet the needs of low-skilled adults and employers
- Set outcome goals for individuals, employers and the workforce development system
- Develop a shared strategic vision that aligns resources to the effort
- Convene interested funders and/or sponsors
- Organize funder briefings to explain the Workforce Partnership approach and the value of collaborative funding
- Convene relevant partners—multiple institutions to collaborate to advance their careers

C. Investment Strategy
- The planning committee develops a comprehensive strategy to implement its strategic vision
- Develop long-term budget goals and determine priorities for investment
- An economic analysis is carried out to meet pressing needs
- The planning committee develops an oversight and evaluation plan to ensure accountability to the use of investments
- The Planning Committee develops an oversight and evaluation plan to ensure accountability to the use of investments
- The planning committee develops a shared strategic vision that aligns the workforce system resources to meet the needs of low-skilled adults and employers
- Analyze key regional industries and workforce system capacity to determine priorities for investment
- Develop long-term budget goals

NFSW support in Phase 1
- Technical Assistance
- Best-practice opportunities
- Planning Tools
- Research
- Managing

Key Functions of Workforce Partnerships
- Aggregate the needs of businesses looking for qualified workers
- Understand the needs of low-skilled adults looking to advance their careers
- Convene partners to develop a comprehensive strategy to implement the partnership's collective efforts to meet the needs of low-skilled adults
- Develop a shared strategic vision that aligns the workforce system resources to meet the needs of low-skilled adults
- Evaluate and manage the local initiative

NFSW support in Phase 2
- Funding for 3 to 8 years (a $3.5 to 1 national ratio)
- National Recognition and Status
- Technical Assistance
- Planning Tools
- Research
- Managing

Scale and Sustain Workforce Partnerships

A. Grants to Workforce Partnerships
- Funding for 3 to 5 years
- Focus on local-to-$1 national ratio

B. Policy Advocacy
- Advocate for career advancement, workforce partnership management, employer engagement
- Legislative or regulatory
- Local, State, Federal
- Employer and service provider practice
- Increased regional demand for mid-skilled workforce
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C. Capacity Building
- Provide professional development
- Provide organizational development
- Local and state supports
Who Collaborates?

Private Sector
- Employers
- Industry/Trade Associations
- Individual Donors
- Chambers of Commerce

Public
- Workforce Investment Boards
- Economic Development Agencies
- "Adult Basic Education"
- Community Colleges
- Four Year Colleges
- State and Local Governments
- Departments of Corrections
- Vocational Rehabilitation
- "TANF" Agencies

Foundations
- Community
- Regional
- Neighborhood
- Family
- Corporate
- United Way

National Investors
- Annie E. Casey Foundation
- Ford Foundation
- Hitachi Foundation
- John S. and James L. Knight Foundation
- Harry and Jeannette Weinberg Foundation
- Microsoft Corporation
- U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration

National Partner
- Jobs for the Future

NFWS support in Phase I
- Technical Assistance
- Best Learning Opportunities
- Planning Tool
- Research
- Messaging

National + Community Investor Partnerships to Address Community Workforce NEEDS for:
1. Family Self-Sufficiency: Jobs that pay family supporting wages
2. Globalization Responses: Regional Economic Competitiveness
3. Talent Development: "Grow our own" for local/regional employers

Developing Funding Collaboratives to Support Workforce Partnerships

National Fund for Workforce Solutions
www.nfwsolutions.org

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