

# Postsecondary Education & Workforce Development in Michigan



# Michigan Works! helps economies, employers, and job seekers achieve prosperity.

- First unified workforce development network in the U.S.
- Locally-focused, **demand-driven** network of public and private sector leaders
- The **go-to partner** for the state's policy leaders for three decades, working with Governors Blanchard, Engler, Granholm and Snyder in non-partisan, results-focused partnerships

# Local Michigan Works! organizations administer state and federal funds for their communities.

- 16 Michigan Works! organizations built to understand and respond to **local needs**.
- **Responsive**, controlled and accountable
- Led by a Workforce Development Board of private sector representatives and locally elected officials.
- Delivering services that help employers find the skilled workers they need and provide a **competitive advantage** for job seekers.

# Michigan Works! handles a total of 1.6 million visits each year.

- We provide top-quality service to students, veterans, returning citizens, and other special populations through proven, customized approaches with:
  - More than 71,000 jobs filled, 3,161 jobs created, and another 9,838 jobs retained through the state's **Going Pro Talent Fund**.
  - **100 percent** of state and federal performance targets met or exceeded.
  - 1,500+ students served—with a **95 percent graduation rate**—through the Jobs for Michigan Graduates program.
  - 24,000+ students served through **MICareerQuest** – one-day, employer-led, hands-on, multi-career exploration events held annually across the state.

# Employers Get:

- Online job advertisement
- Training support
- Talent recruitment
- Resume sorting
- Access to GoingPro Talent Fund dollars
- Other key state and federal program supports

## Job Seekers Get:

- Skills development
- Résumé assistance
- Job search help
- Career information
- Interest assessments
- Access to publicly-funded programs

# Opportunity #1: Addressing the Needs of Michigan's Working Poor

**Problem:** It is incredibly difficult for low-income families in Michigan to transition from state assistance to the workforce.

**Solution:** The proven approach to breaking the cycle of under-employment is Business Resource Networks. These local, small collaborations fund Success Coaches for high risk employees and provide.

- Workplace-based employee success coaching, addressing potential problems in advance.
- Real-time support services for childcare, healthcare, financial and time-management needs.
- Support for building key work behaviors in order to bypass the cliff effect.

# Opportunity #2: Providing Career Pathways for Youth

**Problem:** Michigan has no systemic and consistent approach to helping youth identify career pathways that suit their interests and capabilities.

**Solution:** The solution lies in using what exists and has been proven effective, by scaling it to the level of need.

- Michigan Works! organizations' local programs for youth career awareness and exposure.
- Support and expand MICareerQuest.
- Reboot the Youth Corps Mentorship Program.
- A highly reputable and effective Jobs for Michigan's Graduates program.
- Other local initiatives underutilized by state leaders.



# Opportunity #3: Boosting Connections for Reemployment of UI Recipients

**Problem:** Unemployment Insurance (UI) recipients remain unemployed longer than necessary, even as businesses are desperate for people to hire.

**Solution:** After years of urging by Michigan Works! and its local boards, state officials are now undertaking the early steps in establishing a technological approach to making faster connections for re-employment.

- This is in the early stages of development and will require an ongoing, strong commitment.
- We are eager to ensure these efforts are accomplished in concert with Michigan Works! leaders.
- We'd like to ensure job seekers are getting access to the full array of training, development and support to which they are entitled.

**Economic Prosperity.  
Everybody Works!**

**MICHIGAN  
WORKS!  
ASSOCIATION** <sup>®</sup>