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July 2016

National Fund Recognizes Young Adult Employer Champions

The National Fund for Workforce Solutions [recognized six employers](#), spanning a variety of industries, as [Young Adult Employer Champions](#). The program acknowledges businesses that have made a lasting investment in young adult workers by promoting effective hiring techniques and providing access to on-site training and skills development opportunities. Through these efforts, the six business champions have been able to successfully engage with local youth via industry partnerships. As a result of hiring young employees and providing career building opportunities, these employers have seen a multitude of company-wide successes, from improving retention and employee engagement to minimizing recruitment and turnover costs.

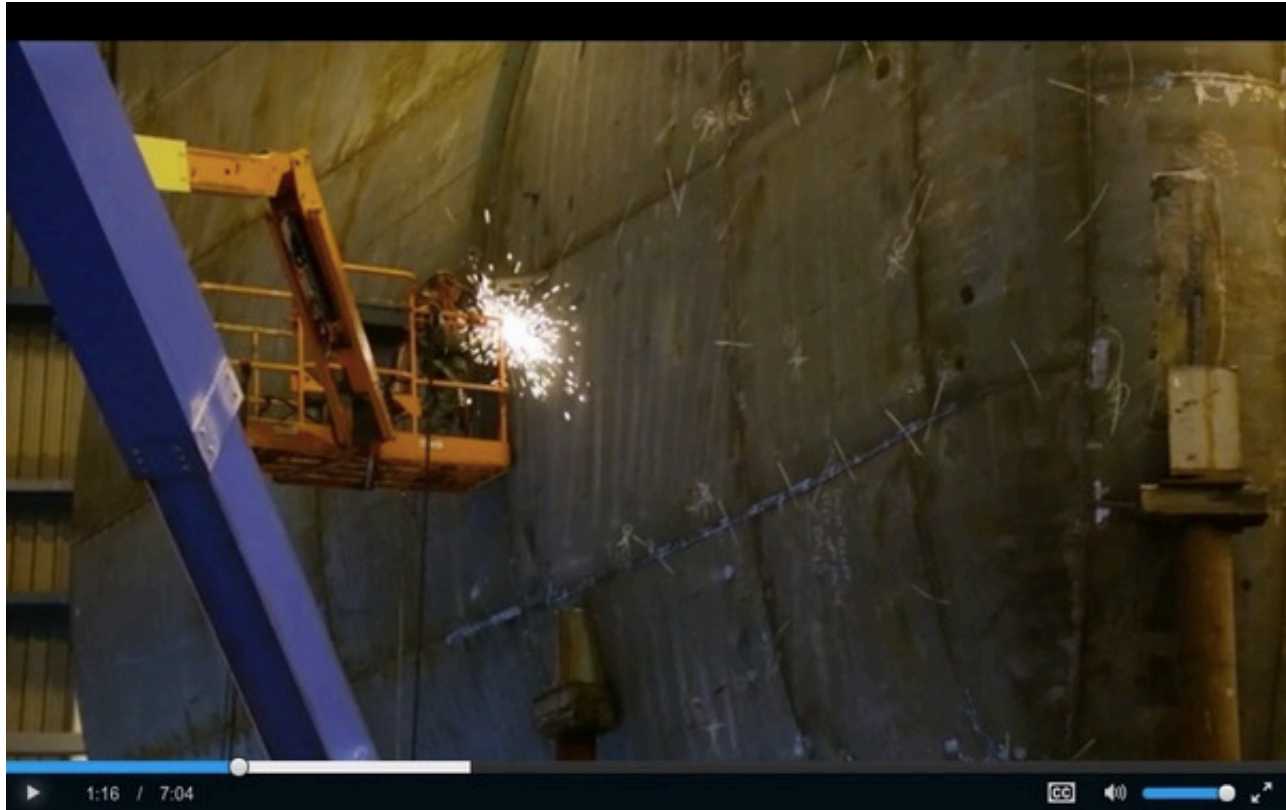
The 2016 Young Adult Employer Champions are:

- Advanced Composites and Metalforming Technologies, Inc. (ACMT), Hartford, CT, (manufacturing)
- Austal USA, Mobile, AL, (shipbuilding)
- Giant Eagle, Inc., Pittsburgh, PA (retail/grocery/hospitality)
- State Street Corporation, Boston, MA, (financial services)
- Okay Industries, Inc., Hartford, CT, (manufacturing)
- University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC), Pittsburgh, PA (health care)

[Video](#): The Job Opportunity Investment Network (JOIN)

The [Job Opportunity Investment Network \(JOIN\)](#) is a National Fund partner serving greater Philadelphia. JOIN works with key partners and dozens of local businesses to invest in a stronger, more talented workforce. A leader in the National Fund network, JOIN strives to connect more Philadelphia residents to better jobs and ensure Philadelphia businesses have access to qualified workers. The video feature ["Job](#)

[Opportunity Investment Network \(JOIN\): Investing in a Better Philadelphia](#) explains how JOIN is working to strengthen its community by making smarter investments in people and industry.



Youth Training Provider Profile: [M-Powered](#)



HIRED AND HENNEPIN
TECHNICAL COLLEGE -
M-POWERED

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

M-Powered is a demand-driven and employer-focused sector initiative that provides a fast-track training program to help unemployed individuals develop in-demand skills in Minnesota's growing precision metal manufacturing industry. Co-convened by HIRED and HTC, M-Powered is a consortium of manufacturing industry leaders, training partners, and community champions that first came together in 2004, when they received a grant from the National Association of Manufacturers.

HENNEPIN TECHNICAL COLLEGE (HTC)

Offering more than 45 programs designed to prepare students for careers in high-demand jobs, Hennepin Technical College (HTC) has served the Twin Cities and neighboring communities since 1972. In addition to the M-Powered program, the technical college also offers degrees and certificates in manufacturing, with course offerings including welding and metal fabrication, plastics engineering technology, machine tool technology and quality assurance, and manufacturing engineering technology. The school reports 94 percent of their students finding jobs within their network of business partners.

Under its [Young Adult Initiative](#), the National Fund is profiling training providers that connect young adults with high-quality instruction, placement and support services, and ultimately a good job in a growing industry.

In this resource the National Fund [profiles](#) M-Powered, an employer-focused sector initiative working to connect young adults to Minnesota's growing precision metal manufacturing industry. Operating since 2004, M-Powered works with HIRED and the Hennepin Technical College (HTC) to train young adults and Twin City residents in technical and professional skills. By combining on-the-job training and classroom instruction based on the newest industry trends, M-Powered ensures that its students are getting a comprehensive education and are ready to succeed in manufacturing upon graduation.

Weinberg Foundation Supports the National

Fund

The [Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation](#) recently awarded the National Fund for Workforce Solutions a one-year grant to support the launch of the new National Fund, facilitate establishing operations, and continue its work in advancing National Fund collaboratives and industry partnerships. Under its new direction the National Fund will increasingly focus on promoting broader community prosperity built on valuing workers, supporting local employers, and investing in economic growth. The National Fund thanks [The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation](#) for its sustained and significant investment.



**The Harry and Jeanette
Weinberg Foundation, Inc.**

Report: The Casey Foundation's "[Collective Impact in Workforce Development](#)"

The [Annie E. Casey Foundation](#) recently released "[Collective Impact in Workforce Development](#)." Focused on the goal of defining and generating collective impact, the report discusses how deep collaboration among key organizations including funders, policymakers, and workforce and training organizations can advance the dual goals of preparing individuals for high-quality careers and ensuring that American businesses have access to talented workers.

Authored by National Fund advisor Loh-Sze Leung, the report draws upon more than 20 expert interviews and offers a range of examples on how the workforce development field can achieve more through strategic and coordinated action.

"[Make Bad Jobs Better](#)"

Steve Dawson, a fellow at the [Pinkerton Foundation](#) and National Fund advisor, recently released the concept paper, "[Make Bad Jobs Better](#)." As the issues of job quality and inclusive prosperity shape our work and communities, Mr. Dawson's paper provides insights into how to define a "good job" and support organizational and business models that offer high-quality employment. Arguing that a person's job affects all elements of his or her life, Mr. Dawson states, "A bad job is not simply the absence of a good job. A bad job destabilizes the individual, her family and the community. A bad job not only fails to pay enough for decent food and shelter for a worker's family, it can risk her health, disrupt any chance for a predictable family life, undermine her dignity, and deny her voice within the workplace."

Become a [CareerSTAT Partner](#)

Join a growing network of health care professionals who believe investment in frontline workers can improve organizational performance and foster community prosperity.

As a CareerSTAT partner, you will join a group of national leaders and gain access to resources that will assist you in designing training programs, measuring the business impact of these investments, and advocating to senior leaders on their behalf. Become a CareerSTAT partner today by



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visiting the [CareerSTAT website](#) and completing a [short survey](#) to tell us more about your organization and interests.

What's Hot from National Fund Collaboratives

Each month, the National Fund newsletter features the latest news from its regional collaboratives. Whether it's related to local politics, innovative programs, powerful stories, or critical insights, "What's Hot" covers the most exciting news in the communities and regions of our collaborative partners.



What's Hot in Dallas- [Pathways to Work](#) Hosts Health Care Forum and Recognizes [Parkland Hospital](#) for its recognition as a CareerSTAT Champion

In partnership with [DFW Hospital Council Foundation](#) and [Parkland Hospital](#), Pathways to Work hosted a forum on June 7, 2016 for local leaders of ten hospitals and health systems to discuss best practices for developing and investing in frontline health care workers. Larry Beck, Past President of The MedStar Good Samaritan Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland, Board Member of National Fund for Workforce Solutions, and Executive Committee Member of CareerSTAT and MJ Ryan, Workforce Development Director of Partners HealthCare in Boston, Massachusetts shared their expertise on developing "grow your own" and work-based learning programs to move youth and entry-level workers into higher skilled positions. With many forum attendees indicating a willingness to keep the conversation going, Pathways is working to explore ways to facilitate more peer learning opportunities and support local upskilling efforts, and CareerSTAT is working with Parkland Hospital to support and document its investment programs.



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