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# National Fund NEWS

The logo for National Fund for Workforce Solutions, featuring a stylized fan icon to the left of the text "National Fund for Workforce Solutions".

January 2017

## The Hitachi Foundation Invests \$500,000

In one of their [final grants](#) before they closed in December, The Hitachi Foundation [awarded the National Fund \\$500,000](#) to support its work with businesses in producing good jobs and building prosperous communities. The grant will support National Fund operations with a focus on increasing the number of companies that build elements of job quality into their business strategy.

The Hitachi Foundation was one of the National Fund's first supporters, and we are thankful to be one of its final grantees. The Hitachi Foundation focused on business practices that improved economic opportunities for low-wealth individuals in the United States and enhanced long-term business value, and the National Fund plans to continue this important work.

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## The Annie E. Casey Foundation Awards \$200,000 for Young Adults

The Annie E. Casey Foundation continued its investment in the National Fund's [Young Adult Initiatives](#) with a one-year grant of \$200,000. The grant will build the capacity of National Fund collaboratives to implement and expand programs for young adults, and will support efforts to recognize and promote businesses that successfully recruit, train, and retain young employees.

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## The New National Fund - Power of the Network

When the National Fund decided to become an independent organization in 2016, we produced a document called [The Power of the Network](#). It was not meant as a strategic plan but rather as a statement about our strengths, our goals, and our strategies.

Our new [Board of Directors and Partners Council](#) reviewed and critiqued the document over a six-month period. We shared it with our collaborative network for their suggestions. We refer to it often because it describes how the new National Fund will define success over the next three years: 2017–2019.

Take a look at [The Power of the Network](#) report, and let me know what you think: [fdedrick@nationalfund.org](mailto:fdedrick@nationalfund.org).

- Fred Dedrick, President and CEO, National Fund for Workforce Solutions

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## Four Partners Receive Job Quality Grants

The National Fund awarded four partner communities—[Cincinnati](#), OH; [Baltimore](#), MD; [Wisconsin Rapids](#), WI; and [Wichita](#), KS — with \$50,000 grants to work with local employers on incorporating job quality elements into their business strategies. National Fund collaboratives will focus on incorporating new hiring and training strategies that will enhance productivity and growth while providing better jobs for workers—including, for example, new skills, higher wages, better benefits, improved supervision, opportunities for advancement, and incentive bonuses.

### PARTNERS FOR A COMPETITIVE WORKFORCE

[Partners for a Competitive Workforce](#), Cincinnati, OH, will work with three local manufacturers to analyze and address job quality challenges that create recruiting and retention challenges.

### The **Baltimore Workforce Funders Collaborative**

Partnering to Build a Stronger Workforce

[Baltimore Workforce Funders Collaborative](#), Baltimore, MD, is using customer demand to create a “race to the top.” With a focus on green and solar industries, BWFC is working to drive business to socially responsible companies.



[Workforce Alliance of South Central](#)

[Kansas](#), Wichita, KS: The PACES project is building on strong relationships with local advanced manufacturing employers to elevate living-wage jobs with cross training and financial literacy tools for frontline employers and supervisor training for managers.



[Workforce Central](#), Wisconsin Rapids, WI, will launch a technical assistance program for local employers, which will focus on increasing companies' competitiveness by implementing processes and policies that ensure a strong and engaged workforce.



Nominate an outstanding health care organization to become a [CareerSTAT Frontline Health Care Worker Champion](#). The peer recognition program recognizes two types of organizations making significant investments in their frontline workforce: Champions and Emerging Champions. Champion organizations meet all criteria, are promoted as national leaders, and are studied to promote frontline investments. Emerging Champions meet some recognition criteria and receive targeted technical assistance and an invitation to attend CareerSTAT's Employer Academy to grow and sustain their training and development programs. Emerging Champion organizations will be invited to participate in the new Employer Academy.

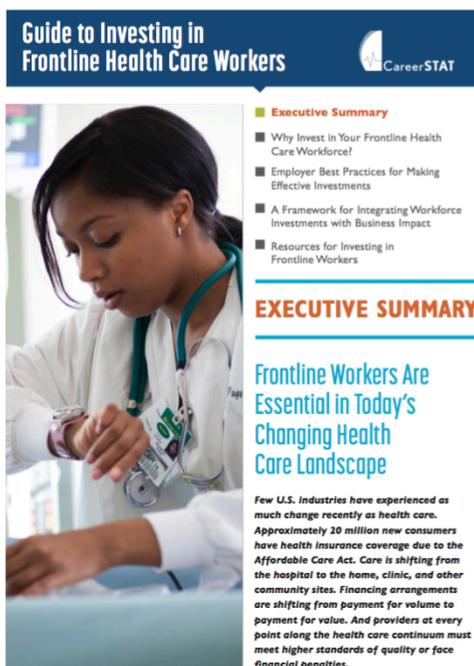
# New Guides, Reports & News

**HR Pulse:** [“Equitable Talent Development Strategies that Impact the Triple Aim”](#)

**Fierce Healthcare:** [“Invest in front-line healthcare workers to improve quality, strengthen engagement”](#)

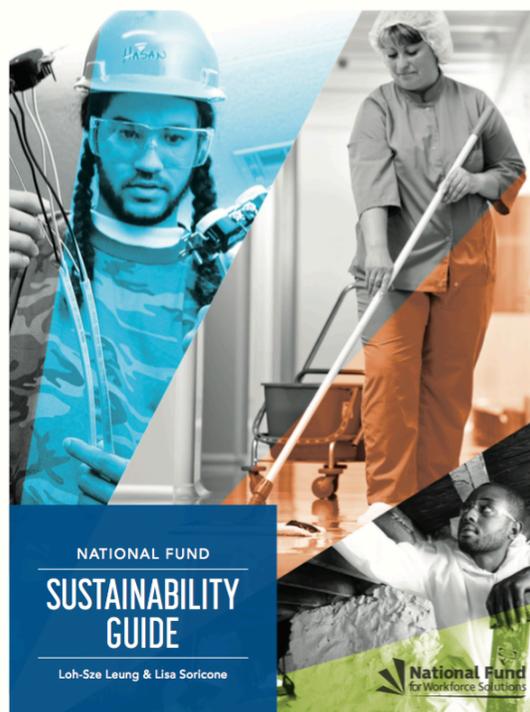
**Society for Human Resource Management:** [“Health Care Organizations Invest in the Front Line to Help the Bottom Line”](#)

**SRQ:** ["Mireya Eavey, Philanthropic Newsmaker of the Year"](#)



**Guide to Investing in Frontline Workers**

[Read](#)



**National Fund Sustainability Guide**

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