



CONNECT | ADVANCE | INNOVATE

NAWDP Advantage

National Association of Workforce Development Professionals

Creating a qualified workforce to meet region's needs

West Michigan Works! partners with employers, educators, economic developers, and community organizations to create a qualified workforce that meets their region's current and future talent needs. West Michigan Works! is part of the state-wide Michigan Works! system, serving the employers and job seekers of Allegan, Barry, Ionia, Kent, Montcalm, Muskegon, and Ottawa counties. NAWDP is featuring some of West Michigan

Works! success stories here.

Muskegon Tool Industries Michael Minton

Michael Minton was a high school dropout, unemployed, with no plans for his future when he was referred to LINKED Muskegon, an adult education and training program developed to meet the need for skilled workers. The program is a collaboration between employers, Muskegon's adult education

programs, the Career Technical Center, and West Michigan Works!.

During the 18-week program, Michael worked on his high school diploma, received training in CNC machining, and developed employability skills. At the end of the program, he met with local employers to discuss his experience and skills.

One of the employers, Muskegon Tool Industries, was interest-

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Cast your vote in NAWDP Elections

NAWDP needs your help! We are currently undergoing elections to the Board of Directors and are calling on all NAWDP members to submit their votes! Members can vote for one Region Director and three At Large Directors in the election. Voting is open through June 30.

Who are the candidates?

Candidates for each of the Region Director and At Large seats can be found on [NAWDP's webpage](#). Review

candidates' campaign pages to see how they would like to lead NAWDP in the future.

How can I vote?

NAWDP members can vote by logging in to [NAWDP's voting site](#). Use your email address and NAWDP member number to log in. Make sure you submit your vote by June 30!

The winning candidates will be announced on July 1 and will serve their three-year term July 1, 2022-June 30, 2025.

NAWDP CEO Report

A month later and we are still coming down off the high from NAWDP's Annual Conference in May. It was such a pleasure to see so many of you networking, sharing ideas and best practices, and creating new memories. We are so thankful for each and every one of you who attended to help make this event the largest NAWDP conference to date with nearly 1,300 attendees! We look forward to working over the next year to make the next Annual Conference, May 6-8, 2023 in New Orleans, LA, even bigger.

The month of June is an important one as we are in the midst of the NAWDP Board of Directors election. This is an im-

portant opportunity for members to select the candidates that will best represent the view and needs of NAWDP membership in your region. NAWDP board members are responsible for setting the goals and objectives and developing new initiatives for the organization. Please take a few minutes to submit your vote.

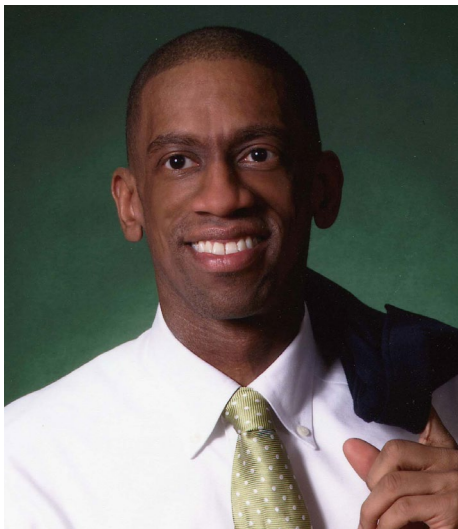
As a reminder, NAWDP's membership cycle comes to a close this month. If you haven't renewed for the upcoming year, you can renew by signing in to NAWDP's website or contact any of NAWDP's staff for help. You don't want to miss member discounts on events, e-learning and the CWDP application fee, con-



Melissa Robbins

tinuing to receive this newsletter, access to the online community, post RFPs to NAWDP's website for free, the opportunity to be recognized for NAWDP's youth and annual awards, and more.

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Member Profile Kenneth McIver

Kenneth McIver, a Career Specialist at Ross Innovative Employment Solutions in Myrthe Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) program serving the youth population ages 16-24. McIver assists participants in career decisions and provides training opportunities to give them

the skills needed to work in a field of their choosing. McIver also works with participants to provide supportive services to overcome most of their barriers and led to successful career placement. He also assists in workshops to hone their skills in resume writing, interviewing, financial literacy, soft skills, and teamwork.

How did you get started in Workforce Development?

I have been working in work-

force development since 2015.

What do you value most about your NAWDP membership?

I enjoy the professional training and connections of being a member of NAWDP. I also enjoy the value and recognition of being certified in my field of work.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

JUNE/JULY

30 Minutes of Excellence

Free Webinar

1:00 PM Central Time, [Register Now](#)

JUNE 22

JUNE 30

Regional/At Large Board of
Directors Election Period Closes
[Vote Now](#)

You're Promoted! How to engage,
serve, and invest in your new team!

1:00 PM Central Time, [Register Now](#)

JULY 14

YOUTH SYMPOSIUM 2022

November 14th-16th - Charlotte, NC



SAVE THE DATE!

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I'd also like to welcome NAWDP's newest staff members, Kimberly Meadows and Kotona Benson. Kimberly will serve as Training Director and Kotona as Event Coordinator. I'm happy to see growth in NAWDP's staff so we can continue to serve our growing membership.

As always, I want to close with a big THANK YOU for all the work you do every day to support job seekers in your communities. We continue to work to support you.

New CWDPs Announced

The National Association of Workforce Development Professionals is pleased to announce the most recent group of workforce professionals who have earned their Certified Workforce Development Professional (CWDP) credential. [Click here](#) to view a full list of CWDP's.

Name	State	Name	State
Barbara DelloRusso	NH	Patti Wolff	CO
Jeff Edwards	VA	Karen Swan	CA
Yulawnder Wilson-		Nancy Hunnicutt	CO
Merriwether	MI	Terry Richards	VA
Maria Adams	AZ	Kimberly Clem	VA
Eric Grisham	AZ	Sharon Harris	VA
Jennifer Mueller	CT	Lisa Lane	AZ
Denay Reed	MD	Barbara Reed	AZ
Dion Smith	IL	Susan Tovar	IL
Teneshia Morgan	IL	Shawna Iginoef	WA
Jessica Brasher	WA	Michael McQuatters	NV
Christina Shaffer	WA	John Hawkins	ID
Loretta Thomas	WA	Raya Nachreiner	IA
DeeAnn Harris	WA	Michele Clapp	MD
Penni Pike	VA	Anlecta Lindsey	NJ
Shannon Joeseph	LA	Joanne Orozco	IL
Isiah Nelson	WA	Marilyn Biggs	FL
Ana Ta	CA		

The CWDP is a nationally recognized credential for individuals who have demonstrated they have the skills and competencies required for success in the workforce development industry. The CWDP designation is valid for three years from the date of award. More information about the CWDP can be found at www.nawdp.org.



Follow us now on social media!



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What do you like to do for fun or what is a unique fact about you?

I am a Boy Scout Leader with Troop 828. A member of the Executive Board of Directors for Pee Dee Area Council, I am a Vigil Honor member and Founders' Award recipient with the Order of the Arrow. I am also a classically trained musician who performs with local Symphonic Bands and Orchestras.

WORKFORCE CHATTER

Researchers at Drexel University's Center for Labor Markets and Policy predict that an average of 33% of youths ages 16 to 19 will be employed each month from June through August this year, the highest such rate since 34% in the summer of 2007.

Incarcerated individuals who participate in correctional education programs are 43% less likely to recidivate than individuals who do not.

- ProLiteracy

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ed in hiring Michael, but he didn't have all the skills they were looking for. West Michigan Works! was able to provide an on-the-job training grant that covered 50% of Michael's wages for six weeks.

Thanks to the collaboration of many and Michael's hard work, he has realized his goal of a high school diploma and is employed doing a job he really enjoys.

**Spectrum Health
Grand Rapids Community College
Gina Mancha**

While sterile processing is not a high-demand job in West Michigan, employer members of the West Michigan Health Careers Council (Spectrum Health, Metro Health, Mercy Health, and Holland Hospital)

The Essentials

TEGL 27-21 - [Signature Block for the Employment and Training Administration \(ETA\) Advisories](#)

TEGL 11-21 - [Program Year \(PY\) 2022 Planning Instructions and Allotments for Senior Community Service Employment Program \(SCSEP\) State, Territorial, and National Grantees](#)

TEN 26-21 - [Employment and Training Administration \(ETA\) Advisory Checklists Update](#)

TEN 25-21 - [American Job Center Role in Connecting U.S. Job Seekers to Job Opportunities Available with Employers Seeking to Employ H-2B Nonimmigrant Foreign Workers Certified for Work Starting in the Second Half of Fiscal Year \(FY\) 2022](#)

TEGL 10-21 - [Program Year 2022 Planning Guidance for National Farmworker Jobs Program Career Services and Training Grantees and Housing Grantees](#)

shared a common challenge in finding interested and qualified candidates to fill their sterile processing positions. Between the four employers, only six positions needed to be filled, but they were critical positions.

The council felt that an apprenticeship program would be a great solution; apprentices would complete the program with the skills, knowledge, and experience to do the job well. West Michigan Works! worked with council employers, Grand Rapids Community College, and the US Department of Labor to create the Sterile Processing Technician Registered Apprenticeship program.

Gina Mancha was displaced from a long career in automotive manufacturing and unable to retire. She was able to secure an entry-level position at Spectrum Health in the Environmental Services department. Eager to advance at Spectrum, Gina applied to the first cohort of the apprentice program. Gina was one of eight apprentices that applied for the two available spots with Spectrum Health and was the only Spectrum candidate to complete and pass all of the testing. Her hard work and practice paid off as she was accepted as the first-ever sterile processing technician apprentice at Spectrum Health.

Gina credits the apprenticeship for giving her a new set of skills and confidence to start her second career at 50 years old. Gina successfully graduated from the apprenticeship program in June and has been promoted from an apprentice to a sterile processing technician with Spectrum Health.

**Aruna Khadka
Thompson M-TEC | Grand Rapids
Community College
Medilodge of Holland**

Aruna Khadka came to West Michigan Works! knowing very little English. She needed help translating her strong education and employment background from Nepal to a job search in the United States. She soon found work at Holland Hospital in environmental services.

While at Holland Hospital, she learned about an opportunity to earn a certified nurse assistant (CNA) license. Aruna was enrolled in CNA training at Thompson M-TEC using funds from America's Promise Grant, an initiative in partnership with Grand Rapids

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Community College focused on getting individuals into short-term training to fill high-demand jobs in the health care industry.

Aruna is now employed with Medilodge of Holland. According to Andrew Portko, director of nursing at Medilodge, "Aruna has impacted many lives in a positive way through her caring work, including our Medilodge extended families as they visit daily. She's been a great asset to our team."

While Aruna has a bachelor's degree from Nepal, the CNA license provided Aruna an opportunity to earn a living while continuing her education. She is now taking classes at GRCC and plans to pursue a master's degree in medical social work.

Hunter Daniels, CNA
Orchard View | Muskegon Community College
Sanctuary at McAuley

Less than two years ago, Hunter Daniels was unemployed with no direction or plan for the future. Today, Hunter is a driven, energetic and determined

young man, thirsty for personal growth. His life direction changed when his family sent him to West Michigan Works!.

Hunter received supportive services to resolve transportation issues and worked with his West Michigan Works! career coach on employability skills. It didn't take him long to gain confidence and find employment in the produce department at Meijer. Meanwhile, Hunter participated in Jobs for Michigan's Graduates (JMG) workshops, talent tours, and community service projects. Working with his career coach, he took advantage of every leadership development opportunity made available to him.

Hunter received a training scholarship to attend Muskegon Community College, where he earned his CNA certificate. He interned with and is now employed at Sanctuary at McAuley as a certified nursing assistant.

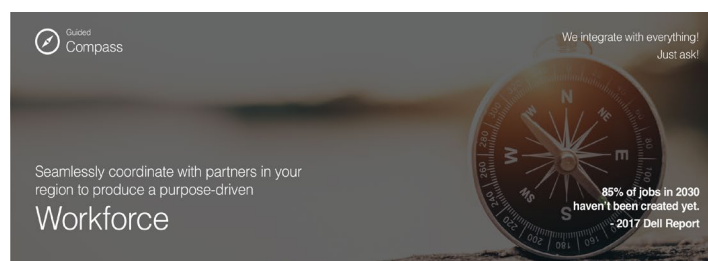
Hunter is a true frontline warrior; he continued his employment at both Meijer and Sanctuary at McAuley during the pandemic. He is a proud recipient of a Futures for Frontliners scholarship. Hunter's goal is to obtain a Bachelor of Science in nursing.

Tools & Resources

Aligning the Registered Apprenticeship and Workforce Development Systems

Significantly expanding the scope and scale of modern apprenticeship in the United States requires exponential growth in the number of Registered Apprenticeship Programs (RAPs) and the number of apprentices participating in them. To achieve growth of this magnitude, states need access to businesses and potential apprentices at scale, as well as federal and state funding to support business start-up of RAPs and apprentice success. The workforce development system, with its local workforce boards, American Job Centers (AJCs), and wide range of partners, offers such access and should be a key partner in every state's apprenticeship system.

[This resource](#) is designed to help state apprenticeship expansion teams and workforce system partners understand the structure of each other's work and explore strategies to strengthen alignment.



Guided Compass is a black-owned, lifelong career development platform from career exploration to advancing full-time work.

1. Facilitates Work Matching, & Management

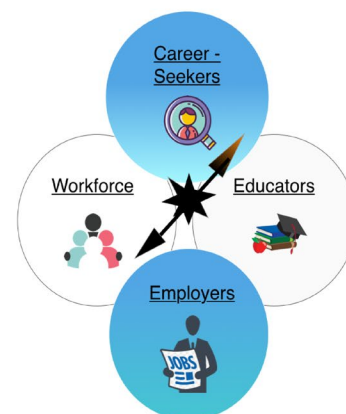
Employers & staff can design ideal candidates. Algorithms match applicants to the ideal candidate profile, and build clear career roadmaps.

2. Helps Career Prep & Project-Based Learning

Allows career-seekers to set career goals, take career assessments, explore career paths, make financial plans, get resources, & get feedback.

3. Helps Build a Supportive Community

Allows career-seekers and alumni to connect with one another, join accountability groups, attend career events, and follow employers.



<https://www.guidedcompass.com>

Email creighton@guidedcompass.com for more information.