

# NWIWB briefs



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A monthly newsletter from the Northwest Indiana Workforce Board



## \$55,000 grant to support high school work ethic certificate initiative

The Northwest Indiana Workforce Board (NWIWB) was awarded a \$55,000 Department of Workforce Development (DWD) grant to support the current work ethic certificate program initiated several years ago.

The Youth Employment Council of the NWIWB will review and further align their current standards with the work done by the State Workforce Innovations Council (SWIC) to address the employability skills gap as part of the Governor's Work Ethic Certificate. Thirteen region schools have committed to implement standards for awarding the certificates to seniors graduating in 2018. Certificates will be signed by the Governor and the DWD Commissioner.



## NWIWB member profiled in Youth Employment Council's First Job Series

This First Job series, featured in the Times newspaper is an initiative of the Youth Employment Council of the Northwest Indiana Workforce Board. The series reviews the story behind some of Region leaders' and residents' first jobs.



**Gary Olund** is president and CEO of Northwest Indiana Community Action and Secretary of the Northwest Indiana Workforce Board.

[Read Gary Olund's First Job Profile](#)



## State of the Workforce Report coming in April

The Northwest Indiana Workforce Board will release their next State of the Workforce Report in April

2017. The report will cover demographics, labor force characteristics, and education throughout the seven counties of the region, while identifying key findings related to the region's economic drivers and industries.

Date and location of the State of the Workforce event will be announced in January. For a copy of the last report visit [2014 State of the Workforce Report](#)



## Career pathways addressed at national forum in D.C.

Tamara Stump, Sr. Workforce Associate with the Center of Workforce Innovations, represented the NWIWB as a presenter at the National Youth Employment Coalition's (NYEC) Annual Forum on October 19, 2017. The Forum took place in Washington, D.C., where Stump served as one of the discussion leaders and presenters for a session on emerging models for career pathways leading to diplomas, credentials, and jobs.

The National Youth Employment Coalition (NYEC) is a national membership network that improves the effectiveness of organizations that seek to help youth become productive citizens. Toward this end, NYEC sets and promotes quality standards; tracks, crafts and influences policy; provides and supports professional development; and builds the capacity of organizations and programs. For information about NYEC visit [www.nyec.org](http://www.nyec.org).



### How workforce boards partner with business and industry

Linda Woloshansky, CEO with the Center of Workforce Innovations and staff to the Northwest Indiana Board explains in a few short moments how workforce development meets the needs of the local economy and connects with business and economic development.

Video was produced by the National Association of Workforce Boards for their Workforce Investment Works video series.

[View video](#)



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#### Meet the Northwest Indiana Workforce Board

**Chair**-George Douglas, Sr. VP of Operations-Indiana Beverage

**Vice Chair**-Mary Lewis, CFO/VP of Administration-Andover Management/ In Good Company

**Secretary**-Gary Olund, President & CEO-Northwest Indiana Community Action

**Treasurer**-Frank Cardello, Chief Financial Officer-Packaging Logic

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- Debi Baughman, Assistant Administrator of Operations-La Porte Hospital
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- Kris Emaus, Chair-Region 1 Works Council
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- Rich Gamblin, Apprenticeship/Training Coordinator-Ironworker Local 395
- Angela Hampton, Human Resources Director-Porter Healthcare System
- Clausel Harding, Adult Education Director-A.K. Smith Center
- Keith Kirkpatrick, Owner-KPM Group
- Karen Kopka, Senior HR Manager-American Licorice Company
- Kristine Lukowski, HR Manager-Republic Services
- Alisha Hawkins, Regional Director-Indiana Department Workforce Development
- Joseph Meddlin, Manager Human Resources-ArcelorMittal Indiana Harbor
- Gary Miller, Chief Executive Officer-Prompt Ambulance
- Dan Murchek, President-Northwest Indiana Federation of Labor
- Arlene Pearson, Chief Human Resources Officer- Edgewater Systems
- Barbara Sacha, Labor Relations Manager-ArcelorMittal
- Bob Schaefer, Owner-Community Dynamics
- Ben Scheiner, Plant Manager-Wastebuilt
- Chris Smith, VP Human Resources-NiSource
- Judith Stanton, Attorney-Hobart Law Office



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