

NWIWB briefs



Issue 55 | July 29, 2016

A monthly newsletter from the Northwest Indiana Workforce Board

New NWIWB Officers Announced



Congratulations to the newly slated officers of the 2016-2017 Northwest Indiana Workforce Board!

Chair-- **George Douglas**, COO at Indiana Beverage in Valparaiso

Vice Chair-- **Mary Lewis**, CFO/VP of Administration at Andover Management in Merrillville

Secretary-- **Gary Olund**, President & CEO at NW Indiana Community Action in Crown Point

Treasurer (not pictured)-- **Frank Cardello**, CFO at Packaging Logic in La Porte

[Click here for listing of board members, member criteria, meeting dates, and more.](#)



National Recognition Received

Three NW Indiana Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG) Specialists were presented with awards from the 36th Annual JAG National Training Seminar held in Orlando. The Northwest Indiana JAG program is an initiative of the Northwest Indiana Board (NWIWB) and is currently in 8 local schools.

During the July 28th NWIWB meeting, Chairman George Douglas presented the awards to In-School JAG Specialists Ray Davis of East Chicago Central High School and Larry Keilman of Hammond High School and to Ray Green, Out-of-School JAG Specialist from the Gary WorkOne. Davis and Keilman received Outstanding JAG Specialist awards and Ray Green received Out-of-School JAG Peak Performance and Diversity awards.

[Department of Workforce Development press release announcing awards](#)



Michelle Truswell/WorkOne Regional Youth Manager, Danetta Jones



Arden Floran-VP, Workforce Development with Goodwill, Christian



NWIWB Staff Presents Local Plan in Indy

On July 21, 2016 and on behalf of the Northwest Indiana Workforce Board (NWIWB), Robyn Minton, Vice President of Workforce Initiatives and Tamara Stump, Senior Workforce Associate with the Center of Workforce Innovations (CWI), presented the Northwest Indiana local workforce plan to the State Workforce Innovation Council (SWIC).

The local plan is developed by the local workforce board and serves as a tool to ensure that local workforce development programs and services are in alignment with the state plan, while continuously identifying economic drivers that affect employment and regional industries.

The SWIC is charged with developing opportunities for Hoosiers to gain employment and earn competitive wages. They develop and implement workforce solutions based on the input of representatives and local workforce development boards around the state. Serving as the governor's adviser, the SWIC works to address Indiana's workforce needs through efficient workforce training and development programs. Creating jobs in the Hoosier State and increasing personal income for Indiana's workers is a top priority.

*Check out the General [Regional Plan PowerPoint](#) presentation
Check out the Youth Services [Regional Plan PowerPoint](#) presentation*



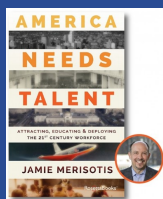
Retail Training Lab Coming to Region



In partnership with Southlake Mall (Starwood Retail Partners) in Merrillville and through a generous private grant, the Northwest Indiana Workforce Board will be opening a Retail Training Lab in August 2016. The training lab is under construction at Southlake Mall and will offer training recognized through the National Retail Federation (NRF) and the Loss Prevention Foundation (LPF). The free training for qualified individuals will include Customer Service and Sales, Management, Inventory Management, and Loss Prevention.

For further information visit [Rise to Retail](#)

Revitalize, Recharge & Recreate a 21st Century America



The Northwest Indiana Forum and the Center of Workforce Innovations invited Jamie Merisotis to Northwest Indiana. Merisotis will share his insight on training and educating our future workforce to deploy the next thinker and risk taker who will power America's knowledge economy into the 21st century.

When: Monday, August 8, 2016 at 3:00 pm

Where: Sand Creek Country Club - 1001 Sand Creek Drive, Chesterton, IN

Jamie Merisotis is a recognized leader in philanthropy, higher education, public policy and author. A highly regarded analyst and innovator, he has served as president and CEO of the Lumina Foundation, one of the largest private foundations in the U.S. and a driving force for increasing Americans' success in higher education.

RSVP at rtrakas@nwiforum.org or call 219-763-6303



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