

News Release
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Media Contact: Dan Boss
Communication Specialist
231-929-5047
dan.boss@networksnorthwest.org

Northwest Michigan Works! Receives Grant to Create New Apprenticeship Opportunities

TRAVERSE CITY, MI— Northwest Michigan Works! has received a \$120,000 grant to create new Registered Apprenticeship opportunities that will help address the skilled workforce talent gap. The grant is part of \$1.3 million in U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL) State Apprenticeship Expansion grants that were awarded to eight organizations in Michigan by the Talent Investment Agency's Workforce Development Agency.

"These grants will fund innovative Registered Apprenticeships that support Governor Whitmer's jobs plan that is focused on creating more opportunities for Michigan residents to develop high-wage skills," said Stephanie Beckhorn, Acting Director of the Talent and Economic Development Department of Michigan. "These apprenticeships will result in the addition of nearly 500 new Registered Apprentices by the fall of 2020."

Northwest Michigan Works! is helping coordinate training programs for numerous employers in the region including occupations in healthcare, IT, manufacturing, construction, administrative, multi-media, and others. Businesses of all of types and sizes may develop a Registered Apprenticeship customized to meet their specific workforce needs.

Northwest Michigan Works! provides technical assistance and administrative support for Registered Apprenticeships, including development and implementation guidance. For more information about Registered Apprenticeships in northwest Michigan, contact Evelyn Szpliet at evelyn.szpliet@networksnorthwest.org.

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NOTE to Media: Images are oftentimes available upon request by e-mailing Dan Boss at dan.boss@networksnorthwest.org and stating preferences for resolution (300 dpi?), file format (.tif? .jpg?) and file size (1MB or less?). Or, phone (231) 929-5047. Check our online Media Room at: networksnorthwest.org/media



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Founded in 1974, Networks Northwest facilitates and manages various programs and services for the 10 county region. These programs include Northwest Michigan Works, Small Business Development Center, Procurement Technical Assistance Center, various business services, and many different regional planning initiatives in response to our communities' requests and needs. You will see the broad spectrum of workforce, business and community services Networks Northwest offers if you visit our website, networksnorthwest.org. Networks Northwest's member counties are: Antrim, Benzie, Charlevoix, Emmet, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Leelanau, Manistee, Missaukee, and Wexford.

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PO Box 506 • Traverse City, MI 49685-0506 • Phone (231) 929-5000 • Fax (231) 929-5012 • networksnorthwest.org

Northwest Michigan Works! is supported by the State of Michigan and is a proud partner of the American Job Center Network. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Individuals with speech or hearing impairments may call the Michigan Relay Center by dialing 711. Equal opportunity employer/program. This project may have been funded with federal funds. Visit the Networks Northwest website for more information at nwm.org/financial.