



# National Association of Workforce Boards

The National Association of Workforce Boards and its membership is working to ensure that workforce development remains a national priority. NAWB champions and supports the work of its members by developing advocacy and outreach tools, communicating the latest developments in Washington, and providing best-in-class learning opportunities. The 2016 Annual Report outlines the offerings and outcomes of those services.

## **Our Members**

NAWB represents over 500 business-led Workforce Development Boards and the 12,000 business and public sector volunteers who serve on those boards. NAWB helped state and local workforce boards leverage over \$4 billion in annual federal funding to support local and regional workforce training initiatives. Its members provided assistance to more than 13 million people in 2015, placing 7.8 million people in jobs.

## **Our Services**

NAWB services help Workforce Development Board members with advocacy, business engagement, organizational capacity and effectiveness, and networking and professional development.

- The Annual Forum is the premier event where workforce development professionals and leaders in business, government, labor, and education gather to gain insights into the current state of our nation's workforce system and consider the goals and policy framework affecting the future of human capital development. The Forum 2016 welcomed 1,357 attendees and contributors, including private sector board chairs, state and local WBD directors, education and economic development partners, CEOs and government partners from six federal departments.
- The Workforce Central is an interview-based podcast featuring industry experts and thought leaders from diverse backgrounds in business, economic development, education, and workforce and community development. NAWB President Ron Painter selects guests and serves as host and moderator. The twenty-minute interviews are available on a variety of platforms and have been downloaded a total of 14,191 times. Themes from 2016 include youth employment, the need to build partnerships, the challenge of dealing with disruption, and training jobseekers for skill sets in demand by local employers.
- NAWB advocates for and represents workforce development boards as it works closely with policymakers in Washington, DC, by providing congressional testimony, organizing grassroots campaigns, garnering appointments to national committees on workforce issues, engaging in weekly conversations with policy makers, and providing written analysis and updates on legislative activities. NAWB also published several thought-leadership pieces during 2015-2016.
- NAWB and its partners provide members with technical assistance in implementing WIOA and assist members with strategic and tactical issues impacting workforce development at all levels. NAWB leadership presented at regional conferences across the country and participated in numerous national conferences. NAWB engaged Public Consulting Group in a joint partnership

to respond to technical assistance requests. NAWB partnered with BusinessU to present *WIOA & Business Engagement Blueprint* boot camps.

## Membership Update

NAWB provides a variety of tools and resources to inform and support members.

- The NAWB members-only online portal allows members to manage their membership and access resources.
- The NAWB Career Center allows members to post workforce-related career opportunities.
- The NAWB Community of Practice gives members access to some of the best resources for building capacity of Boards and building the quality of WIOA strategies and programs. Members may view and share a variety of resources as well as engage in active communication within the community.
- NAWB conducts free monthly webinars for members. Past topics included strategic planning and board governance. Upcoming topics include engaging youth and operating non-profit organizations.
- Weekly E-Alerts from DC include funding announcements, webinars, professional development opportunities and articles of interest.
- The eNewsletter Updates from Washington communicates NAWB's advocacy efforts and provides actionable news from the Hill that members can use when interacting with elected officials.
- NAWB leadership attended more than 15 conferences in 2015-2016, participating as keynote speakers, panelists, panel moderators or plenary presenters.

## New initiatives

- *Streamline Approach to Policy Development:* A group of NAWB members will meet on December 8-10, 2016, to discuss major policy issues impacting workforce development. Attendees will help shape future policy considerations on behalf of the public workforce system and create recommendations that NAWB and its members can reference.
- *Connect with Industry and Business:* NAWB has ramped up partnerships with key business and industry leaders to provide workforce boards information, connections and national industry trends.
- *Implement WIOA with Innovation and Opportunity:* NAWB will continue to work with the Intergovernmental Governmental Organizations and the Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration to provide technical assistance regarding WIOA and to prepare for the release of Final Rules and Regulations in June 2016. n

## Financial Outlook

Over the past year, the Board of Directors has focused on providing excellent member benefits to organizations that support NAWB through dues and on assembling a world-class Forum. Through an in-depth analysis of programs and processes, NAWB has increased the value delivered to members and decreased costs. By FY16, the organization has eliminated a long-running deficit, paid off a line of credit and put itself on a path to sustainable growth.

NAWB will continue to seek feedback from its members to benchmark performance and improve service offerings. NAWB will continue to offer technical assistance, capacity building, and training opportunities to help its members realize the vision of WIOA.