

## Employer Resource Networks (ERN) and Workforce Innovation Fund (WIF)

### What are ERNs?

Employer Resource Networks are private-public consortia whose purpose is improved workforce retention through employee support and training. Benefits include:

- Success Coach on site at the employer to confidentially assist employees improve employment skills, overcome personal barriers and prepare for advancement opportunities.
- Partnering with local government, non-profits and private employers to offer the best resources available

#### Counties Included:

- Kalamazoo
- St. Joseph
- Calhoun
- Branch (coming soon)

## Expanding Southwest Michigan ERN through WIF

### Workforce Innovation Fund (WIF)

The WIF grant was awarded by the U.S. Department of Labor, to the W.E. Upjohn Institute to expand the Southwest Michigan ERN to all four counties in the Michigan Works! Southwest Area.

### New Employers

New employers joining the ERN during WIF will be able to take advantage of a 50% reduction in fees for their first year.

### Vocational Training

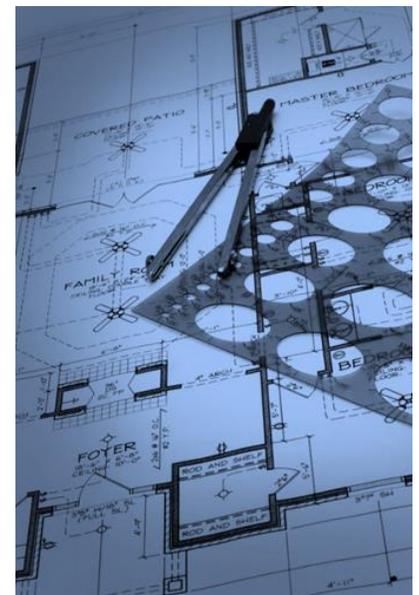
Training is being designed specifically for the needs of the ERN employers, at no cost to the employer.

### Soft Skills Training

Soft skills have been identified as one of the number one needs of employers. ERN employers will be able to tap into available soft skills training for all new hires, at no cost.

### Career Laddering

Through the ERN, Employers will be able to receive assistance in designing specific career ladders for their organization, if this has not currently been designed. Employees for each employer will also receive one-on-one assistance from the Success Coaches to learn how to develop their own career plan within their organization.



### To further discuss how ERNs can assist your organization, please contact

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