

THE YOUTH CONNECTION



**SOUTHWEST
TRAINING**
SERVICES, INC.
SERVING WASHINGTON AND GREENE COUNTIES
www.swtraining.org

OCTOBER 2023

GETTING CAREER READY!

Have you begun to think about your future career goals? Have you even narrowed down what your interests are? It is never too early to start to plan for your **FUTURE!** There are numerous ways that you can learn about careers and workplace opportunities. In order to make the best decisions, here are several ways to explore, and learn more, before choosing your future career/training.

- * **Researching online.** Going online to research is only the beginning; you can find information about careers, career pathways, salaries, and educational requirements relevant to careers.
- * **Listening to career related guest speakers.** Schools often feature guest speakers who share information about a company and its career opportunities. Speakers also provide information about the skills needed for business success. If you get a chance make sure you listen!
- * **Attending career fairs, career days, and career camps.** Post-secondary school visits, classroom shadowing, career fairs and camps are all ways to learn about training opportunities.
- * **Attending workplace tours and visits.** This is a great way to see a wide range of occupations and career options within a workplace/industry.
- * **Participating in summer employment career opportunities.** Employment programs, held in the summer, provide real jobs or paid internships with a company. You can also learn about the various types of careers a company has and pre-requisites for employment.
- * **Participating in job shadowing.** You can gain first-hand experience and an up close look by accompanying a professional in the workplace as they do their job. Interview them throughout the experience and ask them questions regarding how they made their career decisions.
- * **Volunteering and participating in community service opportunities.** These activities provide opportunities to learn about particular fields and explore small or large workplaces. These experiences can even be added to your resume!
- * **Attending a Career and Technology program.** Career and Technical education can offer you an opportunity to develop critical skills through a combination of classes and hands-on learning experiences, which applies academics to real-world problems.



**SOUTHWEST TRAINING SERVICES, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2023-2024**


Chair: **Marianne Albert** - Vice President
Penn Commercial, Inc.

Vice Chair: **Matthew Uram** - Job Developer
Southwestern PA Area Agency on Aging

Secretary: **Leanna Spada** - Executive Director
Mon Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce

Treasurer: **Justin Gatten** - Vice President—
*Business Banking Senior Relationship Manager
Bank of America*

April Jones, HR Generalist
County of Washington

Rachel Mauer - President
German American Chamber of Commerce, Inc.

John Tkach - Executive Director
Keystone Development Partnership

Southwest Training Services is pleased to announce we have received a \$50,000 grant from the **EQT Foundation** to support an in-school pilot program, **“Driving Our Future Workforce—Washington County”**. This program will support the funding for a few Washington County in-school youth to become certified CDL-A Drivers and they will also receive additional certifications prior to their high school graduation. They will be Career Ready!

Since its inception, the EQT Foundation has awarded more than \$74 million to nonprofits throughout the operational footprint of EQT Corporation and we are very proud to be one of those organizations! They are committed to supporting the education and training of children and adults; the development of diverse, livable communities; and preserving our natural environments.

Their mission is to help communities to prosper through focused giving. They believe in meaningful engagement with communities and take great pride in being responsible and responsive corporate citizens.

Thank You...

Welcome to the SWTS, Inc. Board — April Jones

Southwest Training is proud to introduce the newly appointed member to our Board of Directors, April Jones. April is a proud graduate of Slippery Rock University, with a major in Business Administration, and a concentration in Human

Resources. She has worked for the County of Washington since August 2001 in the Human Resources Department. When nominations were needed for a new board member, April's name was the first to be nominated and unanimously agreed on! Her knowledge of the workforce system and the PA CareerLink®, and her extensive HR background were a great fit for the board. We were all very happy that she said “yes”!

April added, “I work with every department in the County including the Correctional Facility, the Department of Public Safety, the Court of Common Pleas, Elected Officials, and other departments throughout the County. In Human Resources, we handle all the departments and employee needs from interviews, to hiring, to discipline, and any and everything in between. In my spare time, I love watching my nieces and nephews play baseball, softball, and wrestling. My husband, Bob and I enjoy NASCAR races and like to attend at least one a year”. **WELCOME APRIL!**



TERRY WILTROUT: NAMED PA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD CHAIR



Terry WiltROUT
President – WHS Greene

We are very proud to announce that **Terry WiltROUT**, President of Washington Health System Greene and Vice President of Operations for Washington Health System, has been named as the **Chair of Pennsylvania's Workforce Development Board!**

The PA WDB's mission is to ensure that Pennsylvania's entire workforce system, covering many programs in multiple departments and agencies, meets employers' needs for skilled workers and workers' needs for career and economic advancement. The Board is also responsible for providing policy guidance and direction to policymakers, evaluating performance and recommending continuous improvements.

Terry also serves as the Chair of our Southwest Corner Workforce Development Board, overseeing local service delivery in Beaver, Greene, & Washington Counties.

Congratulations!

For the complete list of our current Southwest Corner Workforce Development Board members see page 20.

YOUTH SERVICES: Find out more!

Eligible youth between the ages of **14 to 24** (*in-school and out-of-school*) can enroll with Southwest Training and work with our staff on the following:

- ⇒ Work one-on-one with a Youth Case Manager
- ⇒ Gain Skills To Get A Job
- ⇒ Achieve a Credential
- ⇒ Get help with Job Searching
- ⇒ Learn Effective Interview Techniques
- ⇒ Academic and Occupational Skills Testing
- ⇒ Supportive Services
- ⇒ Career Awareness Activities
- ⇒ Post-Secondary Training Opportunities
- ⇒ Paid Work Experiences
- ⇒ Job Shadowing Experiences
- ⇒ Post-Secondary School Visits
- ⇒ Employer/Industry Tours
- ⇒ Career, College and Job Fairs
- ⇒ On-The-Job Training
- ⇒ Mentoring

... AND MUCH MORE!

If you, or a youth that you know, resides in Greene or Washington counties and would be interested in finding out more about our programs and services, call or email our youth staff today.

SUPPORT FROM SOUTHWEST...

Lisa L. Neil, President – lneil@swtraining.org

Cynthia A. Derrico, Vice President – cderrico@swtraining.org



For more information or to get involved, contact our Youth Staff:

Ester Barnes, Youth Program Coordinator
ebarnes@swtraining.org 724-229-1350 x 241

Morgan North, Youth Case Manager (*Greene County*)
mnorth@swtraining.org 724-852-2900 x 246

Kelsey Smithley, Youth Case Manager (*Mon Valley*)
ksmithley@swtraining.org 724-379-4750 x 102

Evan Simpson, Workforce Development Specialist
esimpson@swtraining.org 724-229-1350 x 275

Joyce Leyda, Records & Retention Specialist
jleyda@swtraining.org 724-229-1350 x 231

HIGH PRIORITY OCCUPATION HIGHLIGHT: PARAMEDIC

We would like to begin providing information on our area's High Priority Occupations (HPOs). One occupation that is high in demand in our workforce area is "Paramedic". What are the requirements to be a Paramedic in Pennsylvania? To become a Paramedic in PA you must:

- ⇒ Already have an EMT or Advanced EMT (AEMT) certification,
- ⇒ Complete an application for Paramedic certification,
- ⇒ Be at least 18 years old, successfully complete an EMS provider education course for Paramedics,
- ⇒ Have current CPR certification,
- ⇒ Pass the written and practical exam.



What do Paramedics actually do? Paramedics care for patients at the scene of an accident or sudden illness and also while transporting patients by ambulance to the hospital. They are vital members of both the health care delivery system and public safety first responder network. Paramedics perform interventions with the basic and advanced equipment typically found on an ambulance. The Paramedic is a link from the scene into the health care system.

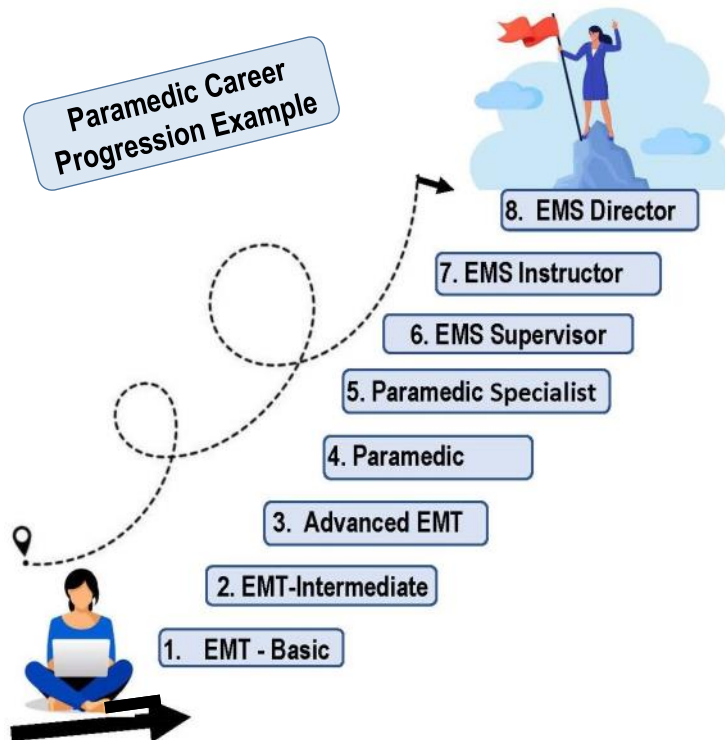
They receive extensive education in the use of advanced procedures, medications and specialized equipment to manage medical emergencies and traumatic injuries. Paramedics generally work for ambulance services or fire departments but some find employment in hospital emergency departments, aeromedical services, medical clinics, sports medicine, tactical medicine, industrial medicine, and similar occupations.

Graduates of a paramedic program are eligible to take the credential examination of the National Registry of EMTs to become a Nationally Registered Paramedic. The credential is also recognized by Pennsylvania Department of Health for PA certification as a Paramedic.

To find out more about the career pathway to becoming a Paramedic, please visit: the **National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians** website at:

<https://www.nremt.org/paramedic/certification>

[From the: National EMS Scope of Practice Model]



GOAL: TO BE A PARAMEDIC ✓

Kimberly Rishell, is a member of our out-of-school youth program, she's 24 years old, and is from Greene County. She is a former graduate of Central Greene High School and has recently completed the Paramedic training program at Community College of Allegheny County.

Kimberly did an outstanding job in training and had very positive comments from her classroom instructor including, "Kim is going to make an excellent Paramedic. She has the skills and is getting the knowledge. Most importantly, she has the compassion and drive to continue learning. She was truly a joy to have in class." Kimberly is excited about completing this training and about becoming a licensed Paramedic.

She has secured employment with **EMS Southwest, Inc.** in Waynesburg, PA.

She is now employed in a high-demand career that she is truly passionate about! **Congratulations Kimberly!**



Kimberly Rishell

MEET WESTERN AREA CTC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Mr. Michael Milanovich

Mr. Michael Milanovich is the Executive Director of the Western Area Career & Technology Center located in Canonsburg, PA. Prior to serving as the Executive Director, he was the Principal of the Lawrence County Career & Technical Center for 7 years and the Assistant Principal at Hopewell High School for 1 year. Before transitioning into school administration, Mike was a Special Education teacher for 14 years at Aliquippa Junior Senior High School, where his focus was on emotional and behavioral support.



Mr. Michael Milanovich

Mr. Milanovich is passionate about his work in Career & Technical Education. He believes building relationships with faculty, staff, employers and industry partners is essential to the positive growth of students. He looks forward to establishing new relationships and fostering existing ones to continue the path for student success.

Mr. Milanovich is a member of many professional organizations including the Pennsylvania Association of Career Technical Administrators (PACTA), the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP), the Washington County Superintendents Association, the Pennsylvania Principals Association, the Greater Canonsburg Economic Development Committee, and the Washington County Chamber of Commerce. These organizations help to support his mission and vision for student success pathways.

On the personal side, Mr. Milanovich enjoys spending time with his wife, Kristen, and daughter, Emily. Together, they enjoy many activities including golf, volunteering in their church & community, and spending time with their extended family.

**WHERE ARE THEY NOW? Jennifer Ford Named 2023 PBS KIDS**

Jennifer (Wherry) Ford, a former SWTS, Inc. summer youth monitor and summer program lead-manager is now a veteran educator in the Canon McMillan School District. She began her career as a middle school English teacher, and currently is a K-4 school counselor. Jennifer services students at Borland Manor Elementary and Wylandville Elementary, which is a PBS Ready to Learn and WQED Smartschools building. Jen has also been featured in WQED's "Teachable Moments" Series! She enjoys instructing her students on all areas of social-emotional learning and career development. Her passion for her students extends outside of the classroom, as she serves as a Girls on the Run coach for Wylandville & Borland Manor Elementary schools. Her ties to the district extend past professional ones, as she is a Canon McMillan alum, and a proud parent of a CM student. When she isn't at school, she enjoys spending time with her son, Mason, her fiancé Kevin, and their dogs, Atlas and Ruby.



2023 PBS KIDS EARLY LEARNING CHAMPION!



Ms. Jennifer Ford

We want to send our **CONGRATULATIONS** to Jennifer Ford on being selected as a **2023 PBS KIDS Early Learning Champion!** We are so very proud of you! This award was given to only 14 education professionals this year. The award celebrates and recognizes passionate educators who work with our country's young learners! If you would like to hear Jennifer diving into creative ways to teach young students about careers, check out the first season of the **PBS World of Work** podcast at: www.wqed.org/world-work-podcast. This podcast is for elementary aged kids and their grownups - parents, teachers, and other supporters. It focuses on teaching kids about exciting careers in their communities, and highlights both growth mindset topics and soft skills.

COOPERATIVE EDUCATION at Mon Valley Career & Technology Center

A Cooperative Education (Co-op) program gives students an opportunity to gain school credit for actual working experience. Students on Co-op are given on-the-job training during that portion of the school day that they would normally attend in class. *Here are a few SWTS, Inc. youth members from the Mon Valley who are gaining real-world working experience!*

Azariah White is a senior at Ringgold High School and a student at the Mon Valley Career & Technology Center. She is enrolled in the CTC's Construction Technology program and is now completing a co-op at PJ Dick Trumbull Lindy Group, Clairton, PA. Her



job duties include data entry of rebar, reading blueprints, and concrete testing.

She is involved with Skills USA and the Chess Club. Azariah is also a member of Ringgold's Basketball and Track & Field teams. Her volunteer work includes teaching basketball to young girls from kindergarten to 2nd grade. Her hobbies include making tables & cutting boards for family and friends.

Azariah's plan following graduation includes attending post-secondary education and majoring in civil engineering at either the University of Pittsburgh or Penn State University. She is so active & still maintains a 4.3 grade point average!



Mark Gush is a senior at California High School who also attends the Mon Valley Career & Technology Center. He is in the HVAC-R program and is learning the technical knowledge and skills to install, repair and maintain commercial and domestic heating, air conditioning and refrigeration systems.

He, too, is currently participating in the co-op program and is gaining experience at GMS Mine Repair & Maintenance as a laborer.

Mark's plans upon graduation are for him to obtain his Heavy Equipment Operator & CDL-A licenses.

He has his OSHA 10 and Red Hat certifications.



Logan Koon is a senior at Charleroi Area High School and is also attending the Mon Valley Career & Technology Center for Welding. While at the CTC, he is learning Welding, Machining, and Fabrication & is able to achieve multiple industry certifications. Logan is also participating in the co-op program and is employed at Smitty's Truck & Auto in Eighty-Four, PA, where he is gaining experience in electrical diagnosis, tire change, AC repair and maintenance.

He is OSHA 10 certified & is completing the American Welding Society certification.

Logan's plans upon graduation are to attend a welding apprenticeship program. In his free time, he likes to fish and work on cars.



LEARNING THE TRADES THROUGH COOPERATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Austin Coneway is a senior at California Area High School. He attends the Mon Valley Career & Technology Center for the Construction Technology program and is also participating in the co-op program. Austin is employed at American Construction. He has gained certification in OSHA 10 and PH2. Along with the technical skills he is learning, he is also gaining career readiness skills including work ethic, time management, problem solving, teamwork, & more, which are critical for success in the workplace.



CALIFORNIA

His plans following graduation are to attend post-secondary school for Heavy Equipment Operator and CDL-A truck driving training and ultimately become certified in both!

In his spare time, he likes to fish, hunt and hang out with friends.



Justin Staley is a senior at California Area High School and attends the Mon Valley Career & Technology Center's Construction Technology program. Safety, hand/power tools, blueprint design, project layout, plumbing, electrical, small equipment operation, concrete forms, and framing of floors, walls, and roofs are the key areas of this program.

He is enrolled in the co-op program and is employed at Real Plumbers in Coal Center, PA and is gaining valuable experience in many fields.

Justin's goal upon graduation is to continue his education at a technical school for Welding.



CALIFORNIA

FOX FORD OF WAYNESBURG IS A TRUE "ASSET"

Fox Ford of Waynesburg is involved in the **Ford Asset Program**, which is a Ford Sponsored Program to train Ford Technicians. This is a program with a paid internship allowing you to earn while you learn. Students alternate for six to eight weeks in the classroom and six to eight weeks with their sponsoring Ford Dealer over a two year period. At the end of the two years, they earn an Associate's Degree, are valuable in dealer experience and become a certified Ford Technician.

Seth Weight is a 2023 graduate of West Greene High School who completed a co-op experience at Fox Ford of Waynesburg through the Greene County Career & Technology Center.

After working in the co-op program, Seth decided that he wanted to attend the Asset Program and began his classes in August 2023 at the Community College of Allegheny County. He continues to enjoy the program and is doing very well.



SWTS, Inc. is currently working with another co-op student who is planning to apply for the program next year.

Thank you to FOX Ford of Waynesburg for your commitment to the youth in our area!



Fox Ford of Waynesburg



Fox Ford Service Director, Curt Waddell & Seth Weight

Pet Sitting Experience—Leading to a Career in Veterinary Technology

Abigail Hughes, a senior at Trinity High School, is enrolled in her 4th year in the Veterinary Technology Program. This course is designed to teach students veterinary medicine, supply hands on learning, and prepare them to work with animals in a variety of settings.

Abby has operated a pet-sitting business for over two years. She cares for various pets while their owners are away on vacation or working long hours. She either stays in pet owners' homes or performs check-ins several times a day providing pets with food, fresh water, medication as needed, daily walks, cleaning up after them, and giving the pets' attention and companionship. She will message with photos and updates of her clients for comfort knowing their pets are well taken care of and maintain the home as well.

She recently secured an internship with Pleasant Valley Veterinary Clinic, in McMurray, and is job shadowing to gain experience and knowledge in the field she would like to pursue. Her plans are to apply to Penn West University—California to pursue a degree in Veterinary Technology.



Pics of Abigail with her "clients"

EXPLORING THE POSSIBILITIES AS A TRAVELING NURSE

"Hello, my name is Emily Durila. I graduated from McGuffey High School in 2018 and was offered an opportunity to get funding support for my schooling, from Southwest Training's out-of-school youth program. I attended Community College of Allegheny County in 2018 and graduated in December 2020 with my associate degree in Nursing.

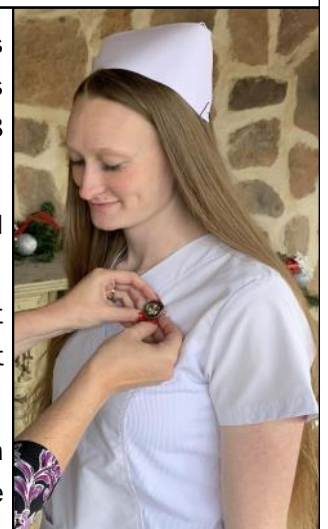
I started my nursing career at Canonsburg Hospital, in the Emergency Department, where I was a graduate nurse. I passed my NCLEX then became a registered nurse".

"In the heights of the pandemic, I decided I needed a change of scenery and was hired at the Washington Hospital in their Emergency Department where I am currently working now".



"I recently attended online classes through Capella University and received my Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing, in April 2023. My plans for the future are to become a traveling nurse where I can see new things and learn more. Thank you, Southwest Training Services, Inc. for supporting my future".

Emily Durila, BSN, RN



THANK YOU—TO OUR WORKSITES FOR A SUCCESSFUL SUMMER 2023!

Once again, the Summer Youth Work Experience ended successfully this year. We could not provide all of the opportunities that we do without the support of our worksites and worksite supervisors! Each of them have provided meaningful working and learning experiences for youth throughout Greene and Washington counties.

Thank You, Thank You, and Thank You again for being mentors and supervisors throughout the summer and supporting our future workforce—OUR YOUTH! We hope that each worksite has also found great value in being a host site.



⇒Aquatech International
 ⇒Bradley Physical Therapy
 ⇒Bridge Insurance Group
 ⇒Brownson House
 ⇒Burgettstown Area School District
 ⇒Burgettstown Community Library
 ⇒California Area School District
 ⇒Canon-McMillan School District-South Central Elementary
 ⇒Carmichaels Area School District
 ⇒Central Greene School District
 ⇒Chicco Bacello
 ⇒City of Washington - Washington Park
 ⇒Cod Mat, Inc.
 ⇒County of Greene - Parks & Recreation Department
 ⇒Crystal's Children Center
 ⇒Davan Manufacturing
 ⇒DMI Companies, Inc.
 ⇒Ellsworth Apartments
 ⇒Equitable Advisors LLC
 ⇒Eva K. Bowlby Public Library
 ⇒First Federal Savings & Loan of Greene County
 ⇒Fort Cherry School District
 ⇒Fox Ford, Inc.
 ⇒Greene County Historical Society
 ⇒Greene County Industrial Development Authority
 ⇒Heritage Public Library
 ⇒Jefferson-Morgan School District
 ⇒Kid Biz - East Maiden
 ⇒Little Lake Theatre
 ⇒Marianna Outdoorsmen Association
 ⇒Megan Chicone State Farm Insurance Agency

⇒Monongahela Area Chamber of Commerce
 ⇒Mon Valley Academy for the Arts
 ⇒Mon Valley Career & Technology Center
 ⇒Mon Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce
 ⇒PA CareerLink® Greene County
 ⇒PA CareerLink® Washington County
 ⇒PA Trolley Museum
 ⇒Peters Township Chamber of Commerce
 ⇒Penn Commercial Business & Technical School
 ⇒Pro Kleen Industries, LLC
 ⇒Smart Kids Childcare & Learning Center
 ⇒The Ivy Green
 ⇒The Lemoyne Community Center
 ⇒The Lemoyne Community Center—Feeding Program
 ⇒Trinity Area School District
 ⇒United Way of Greene County
 ⇒Washington County Department of Tax Revenue
 ⇒Washington County District Attorney's Office
 ⇒Washington Health Systems - Teen Outreach
 ⇒Washington High School
 ⇒WashPA Outdoors Co.
 ⇒West Brownsville Borough
 ⇒Western Area Career & Technology Center
 ⇒Wonsettler Physical Therapy
 ⇒WWJD Christian Center

***The next few pages show some of our youth at their worksites.*



Taaliyah Wright
Washington Health System
Teen Outreach



Reagan Allen
Mon Valley Academy for the Arts, Inc.

Amanda Petito
Heritage Public Library



Jacob Hancher
Equitable Advisors



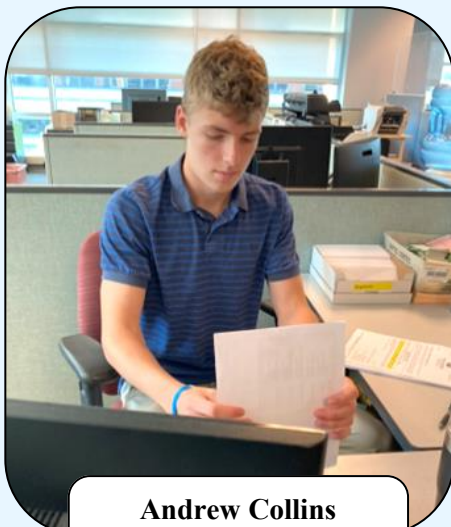
Emily & Abigale Roscoe
Carmichaels High School



Kelly Courtwright
Greene County Industrial
Development Authority



Giavanna Zampetti
Megan Chicone
State Farm Insurance Agency



Andrew Collins
Washington County
Tax Revenue Department



Cody Sisler
West Brownsville Borough



Abigail Whipkey & Mackenzie Wise
Crystal's Children Center



Mario Griffin
Lemoyne Community Center
Feeding Program



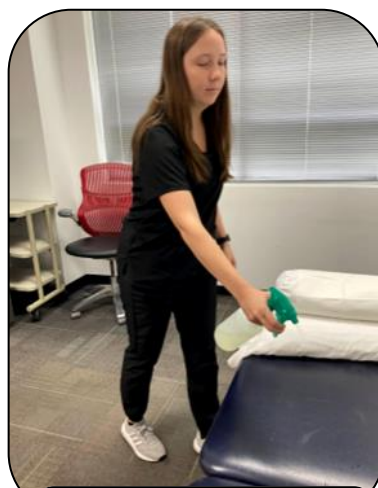
Jacob Rockwell
PA CareerLink® Greene County



Eddie Lewis
Lemoyne Community Center
Feeding Program



BreAnn Jackson
Crystal's Children Center



Sarah Rubican
Bradley Physical Therapy -
Canonsburg



left: Eliza Boyd right: Heidi Walsh
WashPA Outdoors Co.



Shelby Loar
Burgettstown Community Library



*left: Lydia Price
right: Emily Carder*
WWJD Christian Center



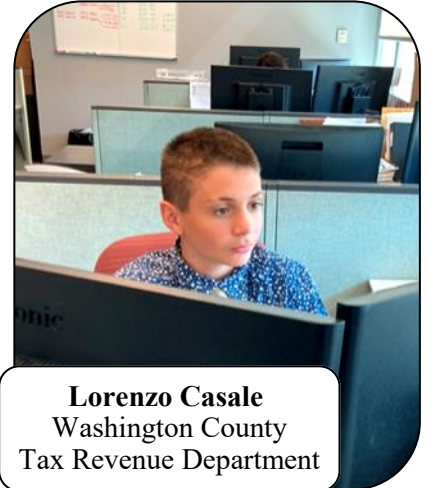
CinNiyah Lee
Washington Health System
Teen Outreach



Alyssa Garner
Smart Kids Child Care & Learning Center



Ethan & Ben Maxwell
United Way of Greene County



Lorenzo Casale
Washington County
Tax Revenue Department



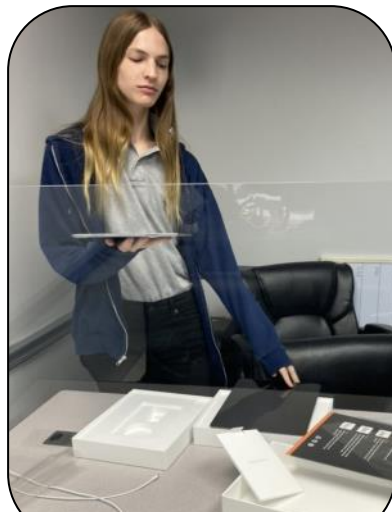
Mackenzie Burch
Penn Commercial (Toni & Guy)



Brenna Benke
First Federal Savings and Loan
of Greene County



Gino Spada
w/Kelly Moore (*from cfs Bank*)
Mon Valley Regional
Chamber of Commerce



Jacob North
PA CareerLink® Washington County



Taraysia Finley
Kid Biz - East Maiden



Cameron Moore
The Ivy Green



Brynn Tomey
Little Lake Theatre

Jayden Thompson
Little Lake Theatre



John Franz
Little Lake Theatre



Kaprice Johnson
The Lemoyne Community Center



**Dr. Cliff Wonsettler &
Cael Nicolella**
Wonsettler Physical Therapy



Alexa Barber
Monongahela Area
Chamber of Commerce



Harry Guthrie
Jefferson Morgan School District



Grace Rohanna
Greene County Historical
Society & Museum



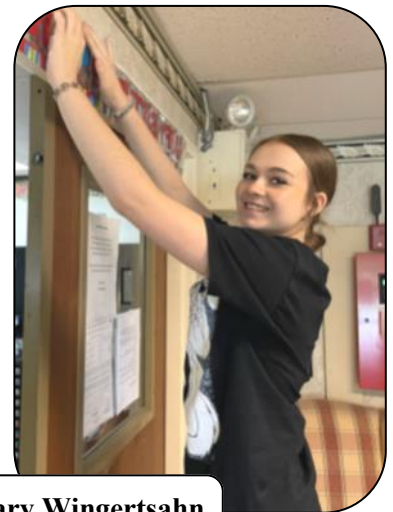
Morgan Guthrie
Jefferson Morgan School District



Athen Miller
Canon-McMillan School District ESY



Lynzi Smith
The Lemoyne Community
Center Feeding Program



Hilary Wingertsahn
Ellsworth Apartments



Left: **Daniel Hetrick**
Right: **Kammi Collins– Woolley**
Carmichaels Area High School



Kristin McCall
Greene County
Parks & Recreation



Landi Smith
The Lemoyne Community
Center Feeding Program



Illias Willis
Trinity West Elementary School



Glenn Thompson Jr.
Trinity West Elementary School

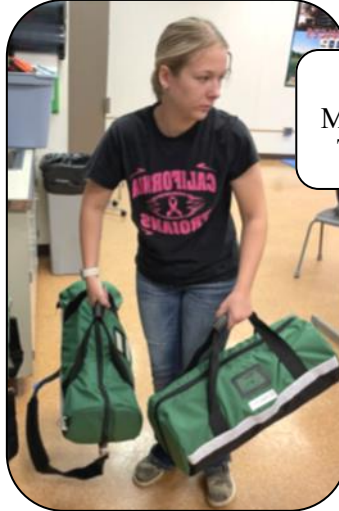


Sara Roscoe
Carmichaels Area High School

Ryan Prowitt
Western Area Career &
Technology Center



Arria Mitchell
Mon Valley Career &
Technology Center



Tyler Kaecher
Western Area Career &
Technology Center



Isabella Mann
Kid Biz - East Maiden



Grace Wallace
California Area
School District



David Lambert
Ellsworth Apartments



Lauren Martin
Eva K. Bowlby Library



Jack Jost
PA Trolley Museum



Stephen Semerod
PA Trolley Museum



Jessica Jost
PA Trolley Museum

A NEW ROLE FOR MRS. KATIE SLEASMAN — Greene County CTC

"My name is Katie Sleasman. I have had the pleasure of being the school counselor at Greene County Career and Technology Center since 2016. During the 2023-2024 school year, I was promoted to Greene County CTC's Assistant Executive Director."

"Prior to joining Greene County CTC, I completed my master's degrees in Clinical Mental Health Counseling and School Counseling from California University of Pennsylvania. Most recently, I completed the Administrative Program for Principals Certification K-12 through Penn West University. In addition to my degrees, I am a Nationally Certified Counselor (NCC), and Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC), in the state of Pennsylvania, and have additional training in Trauma-Focused Counseling."

"I have had the great pleasure of working collectively with all of the school counselors in Greene County for the previous 8 years to provide various opportunities and services to our students. I am now looking forward to serving our school, students, and county in a new capacity starting this year."

"I am so fortunate to have had the opportunity to work with the amazing staff from all 5 school districts in our county throughout my time at the CTC. Our local business partners and agencies are also essential to our school and have made my experience at the CTC even better."

"Most importantly, the students that I have been honored to help throughout the years has been the best part of being at Greene County CTC. The CTC students are passionate for learning a trade; seeing students excel to pursue something they love, motivates me both personally and professionally. I have loved working with the students, parents and businesses of Greene County so much that I recently moved to Greene County with my family. I look forward to having many more years in helping our county and students continue to grow and improve in my new role."



Mrs. Katie Sleasman
Asst. Executive Director -Greene Co. CTC



CELEBRATE KINDNESS! 11-13-23

World Kindness Day

November 13, 2023



World Kindness Day is celebrated each year on **November 13th**. The purpose of World Kindness Day is to highlight and encourage good deeds in your community. It also serves as a reminder to all that simple acts of kindness have power and that together, we can all work to create a kinder world.

Sometimes the simplest acts of kindness can make the most significant difference!

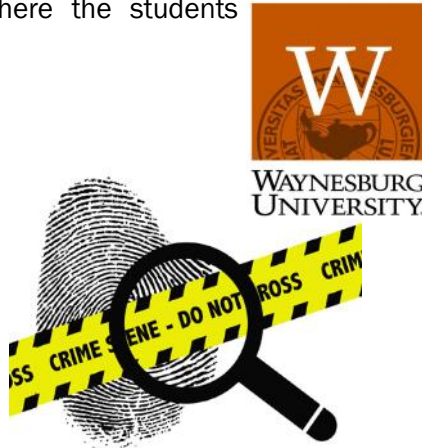
Remember in a world where you can be anything— BE KIND!

YOU
DON'T HAVE
TO BE
perfect
TO BE
Amazing

CSI CAMP @ WAYNESBURG UNIVERSITY

Once again this summer, Waynesburg University offered their CSI Camp and we were happy to be able to sponsor 5 students to attend! The CSI Camp was designed to give students (grades 11 & 12) hands-on experience of what they can expect in the forensic science and criminal justice majors and, ultimately, occupations. This camp was a five-day and four-night experience where the students were able to learn about:

- ⇒ DNA Profiling
- ⇒ Fingerprints
- ⇒ Crime Scene Processing
- ⇒ Surveillance Techniques
- ⇒ Burial Excavation Training
- ⇒ Trace Evidence
- ⇒ And much, much more...



They were also able to train and learn from certified experts. Two of the five students that attended are pictured here →



Mikalyn Good



Wyatt Sutherland

ACHIEVING HER GOALS – Alexa Jolly

Alexa Jolly is a member of our in-school youth program and is a senior at Ringgold High School and is also attending the Mon Valley Career & Technology Center. She is in the Health Occupations program and was elected as secretary of Skills USA.

Alexa is a member of the volleyball, basketball and track & field teams. She also participates in the Future is Mine and the Students Against Destructive Decisions clubs.

She is employed at Dick's Sporting Goods as a salesperson. Her goals following graduation are to attend post-secondary education & major in nursing.

Alexa recently enlisted in the
PA Army National Guard on
October 5th.

Congratulations Alexa!



We are all very
proud of YOU!



Alexa Jolly (right), with her mother, Alyssa Todd, on signing day.

OUT-OF-SCHOOL YOUTH SUCCESS

Giovanni Waters is a member of our out-of-school youth program and is a 2022 graduate of the PA Distance Learning Cyber Charter School where he was consistently on the honor roll. He had been a member of the Boy Scouts & attained his CPR and First Aid certifications.

Giovanni graduated in September 2023, from **Penn Commercial, Inc.'s Welding program**. He was able to earn his Welding Diploma in just 12 Months!

He is employed by
Keystone Crane & Hoist, in Lawrence,
PA.



Congrats G!



POST-SECONDARY SPOTLIGHT: Douglas Education Center

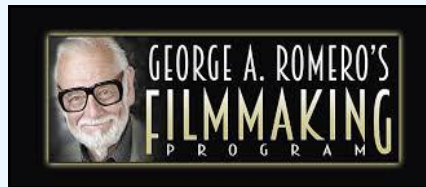
In July, Douglas Education Center (DEC), Monessen, PA, held a tour of their campus and facilities lead by Tony Baez Milan, *Director of Admissions/International Primary Designated School Official*, Aileen Smith, *Admissions Coordinator*, and Ashley Sabo, *Senior Admissions Representative*. As one of our training providers, DEC is also a longtime partner in our PA CareerLink® Mon Valley and Washington County locations.

SWTS, Inc.'s Workforce Development Specialist, Evan Simpson, attended and was led through the Tom Savini's Special Make-up Effects Program, the George A Romero's Film Making Program, the Cosmetology Academy, the Massage Therapy Program, and the Skilled Trades Program for CDL and Heavy Equipment Operator.

With this being his first time to visit Douglas, Evan was blown away by the impressive detail that the school puts into each of the classrooms and workspaces that they provide to their students. The dedication that the staff has for the betterment of their students' education is very clear when you see the enthusiasm each of them has when talking about the school year and their plans for the future. They truly see the potential in every student that walks through their doors.

Thank you to DEC for the invitation!

For more information, please visit: www.dec.edu



PROTECT YOUR TECH

The Internet gives you access to information, places, and people. It also gives cybercriminals access to you. But don't worry—there are lots of things you can do to stay safe. Here are some Internet Safety tips for you to remember!

Change your passwords regularly. Some hackers steal personal information from computers and phones. Changing your passwords—and making them complicated by using numbers, letters, and symbols—helps keep them safe.

Think twice about uploading to the cloud. A good rule to follow: If you wouldn't want people to see it, don't upload it! That includes photos, and personal information, and even text messages.

WAYS IN WHICH VIRUSES COULD INFECT YOUR DEVICE



Block viruses and other malware. Virus-protection software and firewalls — programs that block certain kinds of data — can block attacks to keep your computer safe. Ask a trusted adult if your computer is protected.

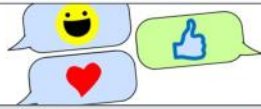
Beware of email scams. It's easy to avoid opening emails from people you don't know, but cybercriminals can hack your contact list and send emails pretending to be someone you do know, from addresses you might recognize.

If you've opened a message that seems off, don't click on any links, don't download any attachments, and don't hit reply. Reach out to your contact in a new email.

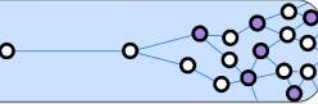
ONLINE SAFETY TIPS!

8 tips to stay safe online

1 Be nice to people online.



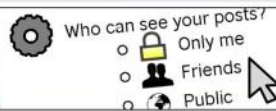
2 Take care with what you share.



3 Keep personal information private.



4 Check your privacy settings.



5 Know how to report posts.



6 Keep your passwords safe.



7 Never meet anyone in person you've only met online.



8 If you see anything online that you don't like or you find upsetting, tell someone you trust.



THINK BEFORE YOU



Is It **T**TRUE?
Is It **H**ELPFUL?
Is It **I**NSPIRING?
Is It **N**ECCESSARY?
Is It **K**IND?

EXPLORE CAREERS and MORE @ www.workstats.dli.pa.gov

What is PAWORKSTATS? PAWorkStats is the website for the Center for Workforce Information & Analysis (CWIA). This is a website that has a listing of materials available from the PA Department of Labor & Industry. It is never too early to start exploring careers!! Visit the website at: www.workstats.dli.pa.gov to find the following plus much more:

- ⇒ Whether you are a student, an educator, a first-time jobseeker, a parent or a person considering a career change, you will find that the **Pennsylvania Career Guide** is a valuable resource as you make those all-important career decisions.
- ⇒ **PA Occupational Outlook Handbook** — This is a guide to career information about hundreds of occupations.
- ⇒ **High Priority Occupation Lists** - (HPO) lists for PA workforce areas are available.
- ⇒ **PA County Employer Data** including the top 50 employers by county and demographic and economic profiles of each county in PA. *Did you know that there are 67 counties in PA?*
- ⇒ **Industry clusters** bring together industries linked by common economic ties. Learn more about the 12 industry clusters identified for workforce strategies in informative 'Industry Cluster Snapshots'.



Center for Workforce
Information & Analysis

WHAT IS A WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD?

The Southwest Corner Workforce Development Board (SCWDB) was created in 1999 as a result of the Workforce Investment Act (WIA), a major piece of legislation that overhauled the nation's federally-funded employment and training programs. WIA was replaced by the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014 (WIOA), which is the current guiding legislation for all workforce programs.

Board members, appointed by the commissioners of Washington, Greene and Beaver counties in Southwestern Pennsylvania, represent employers, educational institutions and training.



The Director for the Southwest Corner Workforce Development Board is Ami Gatts. Ami is also the President of the Washington Greene County Job Training Agency, Inc.

For more information on our local board, visit: www.southwestcornerwdb.com

MEET OUR SOUTHWEST CORNER WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

| | |
|--|--|
| Linda Andrews , Treasurer CLC Washington Greene Central Labor Council | Mark Krupa , Administrative Director Greene County Career & Technology Center |
| Bryan Baer , General Manager Budd Baer, Inc. | John Lackovic , Vice President-Glass Operations Instabrand |
| Hilary Baker , HR & Administration Manager Almatis, Inc. | Jeff Marshall , Chief Clerk County of Greene |
| Robert Bazant , President Penn Commercial, Inc. | Darla Openbrier , District Administrator Office of Vocational Rehabilitation |
| Mark Beichner , Chief Operating Officer AccuTrex Products, Inc. | Andrew Orr , Vice President Penna Flame Industries |
| Darlene Bigler , Chief Executive Officer Blueprints | Sam Osten , President Impact Guard, LLC |
| Timothy Chesleigh , Council Representative EAS Regional Council of Carpenters | Stephanie Paluda , Community Relations Manager Southwestern Energy |
| Laurie Clemens , VP & Chief Human Resource Officer Heritage Valley Health Systems | Tricia Rutherford , Director of Human Resources Penn Highlands Hospital—Mon Valley |
| Lori Como , Chief Program Officer Literacy Pittsburgh | Brandon Schaffer , Training Manager Washington Penn |
| James Fitzgerald , Advisor-Transmission Construction First Energy Corporation | Lew Villotti , President Beaver County Corporation for Economic Development |
| John Goberish , Dean of Workforce Dev. & Continuing Ed. Community College of Beaver County | James Watt , USW Staff Representative United States Steel Workers District 10 |
| Katie Hager , Workforce Development Manager DMI Companies | Terry Wilttrout , President Washington Health Systems Greene |
| Linda Hall , Administrator Beaver County Office on Aging | Laural Ziemba , Director-Public Affairs Range Resources |
| Gregory Hojdila , Training Director IBEW Local 712 | |

SCIENCE-TECHNOLOGY-ENGINEERING-MATH at Bentworth High School

Conversations about reshaping the high school experience have become commonplace at Bentworth School District. We recently asked Ms. Christine Coyle, STEM Teacher at Bentworth High School about their initiatives with STEM Education. Ms. Coyle's responded: "The goal is for our students to experience more cross-curricular, real-world applications of the knowledge they are acquiring in their coursework and we are all working diligently to provide the resources for that learning and exploration to occur".



"We want our students to get excited about coming to school and the district is willing to think outside the box to make that happen. The STEM program has been in the development stage for a few years now,

with the curriculum consisting of robotics, graphic communications, and computer aided design (CAD). In addition to this line-up, we are excited to introduce a new aviation course this year. Currently, Bentworth is renovating two, joined classrooms to create a new makerspace".

"In addition to renovating the space, the school district has purchased a laser cutter, four 3-D printers and brand new computers to run the software applications. These updates will allow the students to gain exposure to different technologies and build confidence in their abilities to use similar design and manufacturing applications in the future".

"While I am new to the district, it is evident that the students are excited to participate in the STEM classes

and be part of this transformation, which is a testament to the efforts of the administration and previous STEM educators. I am excited to be a part of BHS and the future development of its STEM program".

"From my perspective as an educator, STEM education provides the students a space to further develop



their soft skills, such as creative thinking and collaboration, while ultimately fostering a love of learning".

"I have two focuses this year as I step into this new role. I want my students to be able to work through the design process and become critical thinkers when critiquing their own work and supporting their peers. Secondly, I want my students to begin to understand the importance of community engagement in project-based learning; therefore, I am actively seeking ways to provide them with opportunities to share their talents and products with the local community.

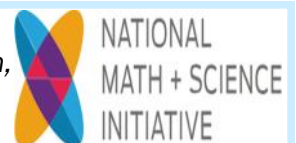


Ms. Christine Coyle — STEM Teacher



Over 50 percent of the fastest growing jobs in the U.S. are math, science or technology related.

@NMS



Scholarships open doors, don't miss out...

Applying for a scholarship takes time and effort, and students can begin to believe it's not worth the struggle. However, with student fees rising and universities getting more competitive, getting a scholarship for post-secondary education carries more significance. Scholarships can help students receive financial aid as well as lend some firepower to their applications.

Scholarships are important because they allow prospective students the opportunity to get an education they may not otherwise be able to afford.

There is a wide variety of scholarships available. Ultimately, scholarships can help you become more financially independent and reduce the number of student loans.

Applying for a scholarship is always a smart decision. Aside from financial gain, it is an excellent addition to your portfolio and a good way to connect with experts in their desired field. Therefore, it's definitely worth putting in the extra effort to apply if it increases your chances of academic success.

A few scholarship websites to view are:

- ⇒ <https://www.niche.com/colleges/scholarships/>
- ⇒ <https://www.unigo.com/scholarships/by-state/pennsylvania-scholarships>
- ⇒ <https://www.smartscholar.com/scholarships/pennsylvania-resident-scholarships/>
- ⇒ <https://scholarships360.org/scholarships/pennsylvania-scholarships/>

Advice for your scholarship application

-  Use a personal email address, not your school email.
-  Give yourself plenty of time to complete a quality application.
-  Check your essay for spelling, punctuation, and capitalization.
-  Read the questions and answer options carefully.
-  Scholarships can be used for trade schools and apprenticeships too!



COMMUNITY FOUNDATION RESOURCES

Did you know our local **Community Foundations** are great resources for scholarships? If you did know, are you checking out these resources and applying for any scholarships? Many of these scholarships target students graduating from specific high schools, some for specific areas of study, and others for financial need. Visit their websites to see what is available for you to apply to!

The Community Foundation of Greene County - visit their website at: <http://www.cfgecpa.org>

108 East High Street • Waynesburg, PA 15370

Phone: 724-627-2010 Email: cfgecpa@gmail.com

The Washington County Community Foundation - visit their website at: <https://www.wccf.net>

1253 Route 519, P.O. Box 308 • Eighty Four, PA 15330

Phone: (724) 222-6330 Email: scholar@wccf.net



THE ROSCOE SISTERS — 2 SCHOOLS x 2 GOALS = SUCCESS x 2

"My name is **Emily Roscoe**, and I am a junior at Carmichaels High School. I also attend the Greene County Career & Technology Center. I am in the Health Assistant program. This is my second year attending the Career & Technology Center. I have received my OSHA certification through this program as well. I enjoy this program so much. It is very helpful if you want to go into any healthcare related field. They teach us how to take care of patients and teach us how to do medical math. It is helping me work towards my goal as a pediatric nurse."

"My name is **Abigale Roscoe**, and I am a junior at Carmichaels High School. I also attend the Greene County Career & Technology Center and I am in the culinary program. This is my second year attending the Career & Technology Center. I enjoy this program because I get to learn and do what I love all at the same time. This program benefits me because it is helping me reach my goal of becoming a pastry chef. I also have received my OSHA certification from this program. This is a great program."

GOOD LUCK **Emily** and **Abigale** on achieving your goals.
You are both well on your way!



(L to R) Emily Roscoe; Abigale Roscoe



CONGRATULATIONS - KAPRICE JOHNSON

We are very proud to announce that in-school youth participant, **Kaprice Johnson**, who is a current senior at Washington High School, was recently chosen as the **2023 Homecoming Queen** for Washington High School.

Kaprice is also a member of the National Honor Society and is active in Peer Jury and Student Council. She is a member of the basketball, softball, volleyball, and track & field teams. In her spare time, she enjoys volunteering for several organizations.

She has been employed through our SWTS summer workforce experience program at the Lemoyne Community Center.



**Congratulations
Kaprice!**



DO WHAT MATTERS!



SOME KIDS ARE **SMARTER** THAN you,
SOME KIDS HAVE **cooler clothes** THAN you,
SOME KIDS ARE BETTER AT **SPORTS** THAN you.

It doesn't matter!

You HAVE **YOUR** THING Too.

BE THE KID WHO CAN **GET ALONG**.

BE THE KID WHO IS **generous**.

BE THE KID WHO IS **HAPPY** FOR OTHER PEOPLE

BE THE KID WHO DOES THE **RIGHT THING**

BE THE NICE KID

-BRYAN SCAVIAK

“POWER OF HER” SUMMIT—Empowering the Next Generation

Southwest Training’s youth program coordinator, Ester Barnes, and youth case manager, Morgan North, participated in the “Power of Her” summit which was sponsored by Range Resources and Dress for Success Pittsburgh. The event, which was held at Range’s Southpointe location on October 4th, had female speakers from a variety of community organizations who spoke to a crowd of more than 130 students and 20 educators from several Washington & Beaver County school districts and Western Area Career & Technology Center.

The summit provided attendees with finance, networking, career development, and professional development information, while engaging them in various interactive activities & breakout sessions. The event aimed to inspire confidence and motivation in young women by showcasing powerful and successful female leaders, while also including a session for educators to learn about incorporating wellness in the classroom.



SWTS youth case manager, Morgan North, presents information on careers to the attendees at “Power for Her”

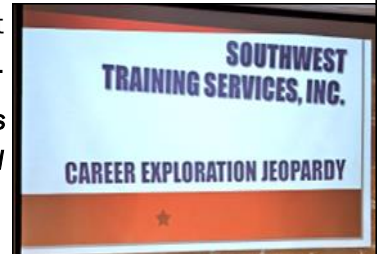
Participating entities included: Host—Range Resources, Dress for Success Pittsburgh, Southwest Training Services, Inc., Waynesburg University and Chrome Federal Credit Union. There was also a Women in Leadership Panel which was moderated by Stacey Brodak, VP of Institutional Advancement & University Relations at Waynesburg University



Women in Leadership Panel discussion

and panelists including: Jessica McKelvey—DJ Jess, Bronwyn Maggi-Kolovich—Chartiers Township Supervisor/Chartiers Houston teacher, Ebiaye Okoro—Sr. Reservoir Engineer at Range Resources, and Liz Mims—Director of Community Engagement at Dress for Success Pittsburgh.

Thank you Range Resources for hosting this fun and empowering event!



Southwest Training Services, Inc.

Youth Programs and Services are sponsored by the

Southwest Corner Workforce Development Board

and the

Commissioners of Beaver, Greene and Washington Counties

Southwest Training Services, Inc. is an equal opportunity employer/program.

Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

The Stevens Amendment, Public Law 101-166, Section 511, is an appropriations provision that requires grantees of the Department of Labor (DOL), Health and Human Services (HHS), and Education to disclose for a grant program the percent of the costs financed with federal funds.

- **Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) programs** are federally supported 100% by the U.S. Department of Labor, with \$0 (0%) state, local and/or non-governmental funds.
- **Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) programs** are federally supported 100% by the U.S. Department of Human Services with \$0 (0%) state, local, and/or non-governmental funds.

For detailed information see: [Stevens-Amendment-1.pdf](#) (southwestcornerwdb.com)

