



## March Members in the Spotlight



**BERKSHIRE  
WORKFORCE BOARD**

**Our Mission** - To provide leadership for workforce development in Berkshire County by aligning education and training with local labor market needs.

**Our Background** - The Berkshire Workforce Board (formerly known as Berkshire County Regional Employment Board, Inc) has been the region's primary catalyst and convener to address workforce development issues since 1983. The Berkshire Workforce Board is a business driven, non-profit corporation that oversees and sets policy for federally funded employment and training services in the region. Starting in 1992, we began implementing the region's college and

career readiness programming, connecting thousands of K-12 youth with career awareness, exploration, and immersion activities annually.

The Berkshire Workforce Board has the broad role of addressing critical labor market issues and developing strategic partnerships with local leaders in economic development, the K-12 and higher education system, government agencies, chambers of commerce, community-based and labor organizations. The Berkshire Workforce Board also charters and oversees MassHire Berkshire Career Center which assists the 32 Berkshire County communities.

**Our Blueprint for Success** - The Berkshire Workforce Board's blueprint for success comes in 4 different parts. First, we are a business resource for labor market data, regulatory issues and job creation. Secondly, we help employers thrive by assisting in bridging the skills gap, offering sector training programs as well as incentive programs for employers. We also connect people with jobs and basic skills through overseeing the MassHire Berkshire Career Center and specialized programs for veterans, people with disabilities and older workers. Lastly, we help youth (ages 14-21) succeed in partnership with the region's public school districts and youth serving organizations by offering an array of career development opportunities such as career interest activities, career fairs, job shadowing, work readiness training and internships.

### **Contact Information -**

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