Enhancing Workforce Skills that Match Local Industry Needs: County-Based Approaches for Improving Employment Outcomes for Local Residents

NACo Webinar | April 27, 2021 | 1 PM – 2 PM ET
Welcome and Introductions

Dr. Jeff Schwartz
Education Program Manager,
Appalachian Regional Commission
Appalachian Regional Commission

The Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) is an economic development partnership agency of the federal government and 13 state governments focusing on 420 counties across the Appalachian Region. ARC’s mission is to innovate, partner, and invest to build community capacity and strengthen economic growth in Appalachia.

A Region of Great Opportunity

ARC invests in Appalachia's economic future by providing grants, publishing research, and sponsoring learning experiences – all to help the Region's communities seize their opportunities, address economic disparity and advance prosperity.

Learn More about Appalachia
Housekeeping

- Introduce yourself in the chat!
- Keep your eyes on the chat box for links to resources
- Use the chat box or raise your hand to ask questions.
- The webinar is being recorded. The slide deck and recording will both be available on NACo’s website after the event!
Counties at Work

Counties Support Post-Secondary Education and Workforce Opportunities for Residents

THE COUNTY ROLE IN POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION INSTITUTION TYPES

Post-secondary education institutions provide education beyond high school and offer rich learning and academic experiences for students. They also offer skills-based training for adults who are interested in a certain profession or trade. Four-year universities and colleges create a traditional learning environment that is rooted in academic culture. Typically, students graduating from a 4-year institution obtain a Bachelor of Science or Liberal Arts degree. Community or junior colleges typically provide students with a two-year education where they can obtain an associate degree or transfer credits to a 4-year institution to continue their education.

Some graduate schools and 4-year universities have institutes of technology that specialize in engineering, technology, applied science, and natural sciences.

Career and Technical Education (CTE) schools also offer students with an associate degree or short-term certificate of advanced education. CTE programs provide students with academic and technical skills, knowledge and training for gaining the necessary skills to be competitive in the job market and for transfer credits to a 4-year institution. These options prepare students for careers such...
Welcome and Introductions

Dr. Laura Leatherwood
President, Blue Ridge Community College, Transylvania County, N.C.

Hon. Roy Charles Brooks
Commissioner, Tarrant County, Texas; Past President, NACo

Laura Catherman
Workforce Development Board Director, Waukesha-Ozaukee-Washington Workforce Development Board

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Laura B. Leatherwood, Ed.D.
President

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Transylvania County

- Population: 33,775
- Average Age: 50.7
- Unemployment Rate: 4.9%
- Economic Development Tier: 3
- Median Household Income: $51,398
- Top Industry Sectors: Tourism, Health Care & Social Assistance, Manufacturing (Life Sciences)
- Higher Education: Blue Ridge CC and Brevard College

100,000 acres in public lands
Cycling Capital of the World
250 Waterfalls
Hon. Roy Charles Brooks
Commissioner, Tarrant County, Texas; Past President, NACo
Tarrant County, Texas

COUNTY DETAILS
- County Seat: Fort Worth
- Year Organized: 1849
- Total Square Miles: 863
- 2018 Population: 2,084,931
- Persons/Square Mile: 2,414

COUNTY STRUCTURE
- Government Type: County
- Authority: Dillon’s Rule
- Legislative Body: Commissioners Court
- Size of Legislative Body: 5

DEMOGRAPHICS
- 2018 Population: 2,084,931
- 25 to 64 Years of Age: 53.08%
- 65 Years of Age and Older: 11.28%

ECONOMY, 2018
- Gross Domestic Product (GDP): $108.8 B
- Labor Force: 1,062,733
- Unemployment Rate: 3.50%
LAURA CATHERMAN

WAUKESHA-OZAUKEE-WASHINGTON WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Director
THE WOW BOARD

- **1 of 11** workforce development boards in Wisconsin
- **3 suburban counties** just outside of Milwaukee
- Serve as a **strategic convener** to promote and broker effective relationships between local elected officials, economic development, education, and businesses
- **Private sector-led** strategies
## Quick Facts

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Waukesha</th>
<th>Ozaukee</th>
<th>Washington</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population</td>
<td>404,198</td>
<td>89,221</td>
<td>136,034</td>
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<tr>
<td>Median Age</td>
<td>43.2</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>43.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Median Household Income</td>
<td>$87,277</td>
<td>$85,215</td>
<td>$77,663</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unemployment Rate</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>4.0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Employer Establishments</td>
<td>12,624</td>
<td>2,812</td>
<td>3,306</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Higher Education Institutions</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Top Industry Sectors</td>
<td>Manufacturing, Healthcare, Professional Services, Retail</td>
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Questions

Ask your questions using the Zoom chat or by raising your hand!
NACo Staff Contact

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Thank you for joining!