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**The Luzerne/Schuylkill Workforce Investment Board  
Receives \$550,000 Grant**

The Luzerne/Schuylkill Workforce Investment Board, in partnership with the Lackawanna, Pocono and Northern Tier Workforce Investment Boards have received \$550,000 in grant money in order to fulfill their mission of aligning economic and workforce development programs to meet the skill needs of businesses, the career goals of workers and to attract and retain quality employers in the Northeastern Pennsylvania region.

The \$150,000 Industry Partnership Grant provided seed money to create the Northeast PA Logistics and Transportation Industry Partnership. The grant allows the Partnership the opportunity to develop a better relationship with schools and businesses in order to educate and recruit a technically advanced workforce into the logistics and transportation industry. This money allows them to develop a more comprehensive curriculum, conduct jobs fairs and industry conferences and advertise their numerous services. Much of the grant money is also allotted for the industry research involved with the Partnership's overall image campaign.

The \$400,000 Incumbent Worker Training Grant presents the Partnership with the funds to provide instructional services to current employees in both the logistics and transportation industries. This money allows the Partnership the opportunity to ensure that current employees are up to date on the skills sets necessary for their positions within the industry.

The Luzerne/Schuylkill Workforce Investment Board is the fiscal recipient of the funds. The Greater Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Business and Industry assists in the coordination of activities for the partnership and in the job training application process.

Area partners who worked with the Workforce Investment Board to secure the \$550,000 include, the Greater Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Business and Industry, Greater Pittston Chamber of Commerce, Penn State Wilkes-Barre, Hazleton and Schuylkill campuses, Luzerne County Community College, Luzerne County Workforce Investment Office and RedCo Group WIN, all of which have strong interest in strengthening the logistics and transportation segment of Northeastern Pennsylvania.

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