



# PWDA 42ND ANNUAL CONFERENCE MAY 6, 2026 - MAY 8, 2026

## Wednesday, May 6, 2026

### Round 1 - 2:30 pm - 3:20 pm

- The Future of Pennsylvania's Workforce - **Dr. Kyle Kopko**, County Commissioners Association of PA - **CRYSTAL A**
- Collaborative Partnerships Alleviate Barriers to Employment, **Heather Jo Saly**, PA CareerLink, Cambria County and **Dave Grimaldi**, Johnstown Area Regional Industries - **EMPIRE A**
- Driving Young Adult Careers Forward Toward Apprenticeships, **Kelly King, Roy Dalton, and Jill Payne**, U.S. Department of Labor, Job Corps - **EMPIRE B**
- Building Workforce Pathways: A Replicable Cross-Sector Partnership Model, **Heather Major**, Independence Blue Cross Foundation - **EMPIRE C**
- When Hiring Isn't the Fix: Leveraging AI and Robotic Process Automation to Address Employer Challenges, **Carter Cerully**, PA CareerLink Blair County and **Aaron Thomas**, PA Careerlink Somerset County - **EMPIRE D**
- Expanding PA Registered Apprenticeship Program (RAP) through Sector Strategies, **Chelsie Pineiro**, PA Apprenticeship and Training Office **Jennifer Rawson**, Bucks IU, and **Michelle Shearer**, Dairy Excellence Foundation - **MAGNOLIA A**
- Skills On-hand and In-Demand: The Currency of the Future of Work and Learning, **Amber Gaither**, NASWA, **Carrie Amann**, PA State Board of Higher Education, and **Richard Maher**, Adaptive Human Capital - **MAGNOLIA B**
- Stronger Together: How LWDB-CTC Partnerships Elevate Employer Engagement. **Jenni Butler**, Montgomery County Workforce Development Board and **Dave Livengood**, Western Montgomery Career and Technical Center - **MAGNOLIA CD**
- The Future Forward Manual "Shift Gears, Move Forward, Change Lanes, Just Don't Stop!" **Dr. Alberta Lloyd**, WorkReady - **WILD ROSE AB**

### Round 2 - 3:30 pm - 4:20 pm

- Closing Pennsylvania's Credentialing Gap: Using Data to Drive Workforce Development. **Carrie Amann**, PA State Board of Higher Education - **CRYSTAL A**
- From Intake to Retention: Ethical AI + Veteran Hiring Credits to Strengthen Career Pathways. **Dr. Andrea Grannum-Mosley**, MosAL Consulting LLC - **EMPIRE A**
- Supporting Survivors to Success & Stability, **Megan Rose**, Women's Center & Shelter of Greater Pittsburgh, and **Julie Evans**, Pennsylvania Women Work - **EMPIRE B**
- The Untold Workload: Money, Menopause, Motherhood, and the Messy Middle. Real Talk for the Real World. **Suzanne Foran and Jessica Lodermeier**, Eckerd Connects - **EMPIRE C**
- Aligning Strategies: Responding to Evolving Federal Workforce Legislation **John Flanagan**, Grant Associates - **EMPIRE D**
- Driving Forward Together: Meeting WIOA Regional and Local Area Requirements. **Crystal Houser**, Bureau of Workforce Partnerships & Operations - **MAGNOLIA A**
- Beyond Job Placement: How Philadelphia Works & Magnolia Measure Real Economic Mobility at Scale. **Marcus Hall**, Philadelphia Works, **Roopa Seshardi, and Vibhat Nair**, Magnolia Impact Solutions - **MAGNOLIA B**
- Developing a Workforce Ecosystem and Collaborating, Not Competing for Workforce Resources to Support Your Community. **Anna Ramos and Carrie McCullough**. Lancaster County Workforce Development Board. **MAGNOLIA CD**
- 558 Pennsylvanians Later: How to Leverage Technology & National Employers for Local Program Success. **John Casella**, JobWorks, and **Allison Braund-Harris**, Hardly, **WILD ROSE AB**

WORKSHOP SCHEDULE



# PWDA 42ND ANNUAL CONFERENCE MAY 5, 2026 - MAY 8, 2026

## Thursday, May 7, 2026

### Round 3 - 10:00 am - 10:50 am

- There's a Pony in That Pile! Building a Workplace Culture That Masters Change. **Richard Maher**, Adaptive Human Capital LLC - **CRYSTAL A**
- Working Together to Drive the Future Forward: Strong Partners in The North Central Region, **Pam Streich**, Workforce Solutions of North Central PA, **Kelly O. Davis**, **KayLynn Hamilton**, North Central Workforce Development Board Area, **Josh McConnell**, North Central Workforce Development Area, and **Ron Hammersley**, PA CareerLink McKean, Elk Cameron, and Potter Counties - **EMPIRE A**
- Supporting Those in the Box... While Thinking Outside the Box, **Stephen Barron**, Workforce Board Lehigh Valley - **EMPIRE B**
- Successful Pathways for Youth Employment. **Helene Santora**, Bureau of Juvenile Justice Service, **Jacklyn Conklin**, Justice Works, and **Shauna Ventress**, South Central Workforce Development Board - **EMPIRE C**
- Come for the Mountains, Stay for the Careers: A Regional Talent Strategy, **Morgan Romeo** Greater Roanoke Workforce Development Board - **EMPIRE D**
- Who, me? How Career Advisors Ensure Cost Allowability Every Day, Part 1. **Brenda Dupstadt**, Bureau of Workforce Development Administration- **MAGNOLIA A**
- Walk a Mile: A Reentry Simulator. **Tracey Carey** and **Carolyn Harper**, Midwest Urban Strategies - **MAGNOLIA B**
- How to Turn Big Ideas Into Action: Sector Strategies and Operating a True Demand-Driven System—Made Practical. **Aaron Leson**, TAD Grants - **MAGNOLIA CD**
- From Talent Shortage to Talent Infrastructure: Rebuilding America's Healthcare Workforce. **Dr. Bridgett Willey**, and **Eric Dunker**, UW Health WorkForward - **WILD ROSE AB**

### Round 4 - 11:00 am - 11:50 am

- Work Matters: Creating a Talent Pipeline Through Probation, Workforce, and Trade Alignment, **Jarred Williams**, REFORM Alliance - **CRYSTAL A**
- Opportunity for All: Best Practices to Diversify the pipeline. **Claire Kovach**, Keystone Research Center, **Stephen Herzenberg**, Keystone Research Center, **Joe Gusler**, Building and Construction Trade Council - **EMPIRE A**
- The Bubble Gum Gamble, **Sheila Jones**, Whicked Results - **EMPIRE B**
- Data, Performance & Continuous Improvement: Using AI to Stay Relevant and Competitive. **Steve Edwards**, Career.io - **EMPIRE C**
- Building Bridges: Designing Employer Partnerships that Stick. **Mohona Siddique** and **Angela Wilhelm**, CAEL - **EMPIRE D**
- Who, me? How Career Advisors Ensure Cost Allowability Every Day, Part 2, **Brenda Dupstadt**, Bureau of Workforce Development Administration, Part 2 (*Must attend Part 1 to attend*) **MAGNOLIA A**
- rabbitWORKS Vanpool Program for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Shifts. **Kristin Paradise**, Rabbit Transit - **MAGNOLIA B**
- Preparing Workforce Programs for Medicaid Work Requirements. **Amanda Wagner**, Equus Workforce Solutions - **MAGNOLIA CD**
- Ghost Jobs and Deep Takes: The New Frontier of Workforce Scams. **Matthew McFadden**, Commonwealth of PA - **WILD ROSE AB**

WORKSHOP SCHEDULE



# PWDA 42ND ANNUAL CONFERENCE MAY 5, 2026 - MAY 8, 2026

## Thursday, May 7, 2026

### Round 5 - 2:30 pm - 3:20 pm

- Future-Proofing Careers: Bridging Human Strengths and AI Smarts. **Jennifer Schley and Jessica Trutt**, Goodwill Keystone Area - **CRYSTAL A**
- Crossing the Finish Line: Accelerating Successful Job Placements through Innovative Employer Engagement. **Dianne Malley**, Drexel University, Susan **Schonfeld**, and **Julia Blackwell**, Community Integrated Services - **EMPIRE A**
- You Can Expand Opportunities and Serve More Young Adults! – Ohio’s Braiding of WIOA Youth and TANF. **Jennifer Meek-Eells**, Ohio Workforce Association- **EMPIRE B**
- So, You’ve Got the Skills- Now What? The Power of Credentials for Workforce Professionals. **Alexis Frank**, NAWDP - **EMPIRE C**
- What You Need to Know to Connect with Agribusiness in PA. **Jodi Gauker**, Penn State Extension - **EMPIRE D**
- On the LMI Olympics Podium, **Kim DeLellis**, Center for Workforce Information and Analysis - **MAGNOLIA A**
- Bridging Generations in Career Coaching: Building Trust Through Humor. From “Bet” to “Back in My Day”: Coaching That Slaps, **Suzanne Foran and Jessica Lodermeier**, Eckerd Connects - **MAGNOLIA B**
- Federal Workforce Priorities and Pennsylvania Implementations: What Local areas Should Prepare for in the next 12-24 months. **Eric Nelson and Margaret Weisser**, U.S. Department of Labor, and **Patricia Blumenauer**, Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry - **MAGNOLIA CD**
- A School Embedded Model for TANF Youth Engagement and Workforce Success. **Jesse McCree**, SCPa Works **John Harlow**, Knovva **Ellie Lamison**, Central York School District - **WILD ROSE AB**

### Round 6 - 3:30 pm - 4:20 pm

- What Everyone Needs to Know: A Reentry Employment Simulation, **Jeffrey Abramowitz**, Petey Greene Project - **CRYSTAL A**
- Driving the Future Forward with Opportunities for Staff Growth, **KayLynn Hamilton**, One Stop Operator, **Jenn Kacimi**, Delaware County Workforce Development Board Area, **Melinda Hines** and **Darrell Thompson**, PA CareerLink Delaware County - **EMPIRE B**
- From Policy to Practice: Using Workforce Pell for Registered Apprenticeship Programs. **Melissa Schroeder** and **Alan Dodkowitz**, Safal Partners - **EMPIRE C**
- Shifting Gears: Navigating Partners to Outcomes through Cross-Training. **Loretta Lininger**, **Elizabeth Wilson**, **Kelly Davis**, and **Jamie Woods**, Penn State University - **EMPIRE D**
- Driving Forward Together: Meeting WIOA Regional and Local Area Plan Requirements, **Cassandra Grilli-Clark**, Bureau of Workforce Development Administration, - **MAGNOLIA A**
- Why Placement Isn’t Enough: Fixing What Happens After Day One. **Daniel Foglia**, HolyCity HR - **MAGNOLIA B**
- Performance, Accountability, and Funding Alignment in the Evolving Federal Landscape. **Tara Drennan**, U.S. Department of Labor, and **Crystal Houser**, Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry - **MAGNOLIA CD**
- Activating Partnership - How to Equip Apprentices to Lead. **Kara Gooch**, Route to Rise - **WILD ROSE AB**

WORKSHOP SCHEDULE