

## **NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS BY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT, INC. 2016 TO 2017**

- WDI served some 4,790 adults, placing over 2,800 in living wage jobs & helped 500 youth gain employment and work maturity skills in the past year.
- Met or exceeded all of our standard WIOA outcome measures for the year, contributing to the State's over-all performance that put it at one of the top 3 states in the nation.
- Averaged a return on investment of 519% for the past year.
- Set a record adult average wage at placement last year at \$13.08/hr.
- For the second year in a row, WDI was recognized by the Minneapolis Star Tribune as one of the 'TOP 100' non-profits in the State; WDI also qualified as one of the 'Best Places to Work' for the 8th year in a row.
- Increased the racial diversity of WDI staff from 5% to 19% in the last 3 years.
- Increased the racial diversity of program enrollees to 37%, with 43% attending training; note: the overall racial diversity of our region is just 13.7%.
- Once again, passed an unqualified financial audit, with no questioned costs for 32 years in a row.
- Attracted private competitive grants at a record pace - \$195,000 under contract in PY16, and \$250,000 already secured for PY17.
- Successfully re-established our SE MN Workforce Development Board under the new Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, and subsequently had our local plan approved by the State.
- Helped create and organize a SE Regional Workforce Development Board with Winona, subsequently receiving approval for a combined regional strategic plan.
- Successfully responded to a competitive RFP, establishing the One-Stop Operating Consortium of WDI, Job Service and VRS as the official One-Stop Operator for WIOA in SE MN.
- Assisted in the development and support of taskforces that serve jobseekers and employers related to: those with disabilities (MaxAbility), veterans (Salute Southern MN), and ex-offenders.
- Executive Director re-elected by peers to a 4th term to the national US Conference of Mayors' Workforce Development Council; Co-Chair of their Policy and Advocacy Committee, responsible for developing the Workforce Development Platform for the USCM.
- Chair of the MWCA Legislative Committee, responsible for developing and promoting the annual legislative platform for our 16 Workforce Development Boards.
- Helped develop and promote State legislation that has provided \$1,000,000 for Rural Regional Career Counseling Coordination per year for the last 2 years.
- Promoted unique State legislation that will fund the Bridges to Healthcare program for \$250,000 for this coming year.