



Introduction to the National Fund for Workforce Solutions:

Making Work Work in 21st Century America

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Barbara Dyer, Hitachi Foundation

National Fund for Workforce Solutions

- To Improve the Quality of Work, Workers and Workforce Systems**
- An Investor Partnership**
- Local → Regional → National**

Work Is Changing

21st Century Businesses Need to Be:

- Decentralized
- Networked
- Flexible
- Adaptive
- Technologically Adept

All Work Is Skilled

Every worker must:

- Exercise sound judgment**
- Learn continuously**
- Adapt to rapid change**
- Use technology**
- Cultivate transportable skills**

21st Century Workforce Systems

- Dual Focus - Workers & Employers**
- Decentralized, Networked, Flexible**
- Real Time *and* Over Time**
- Create Value**

National Fund for Workforce Solutions

- **Builds from Local Strategies**
Regional Adaptation & Differentiation
- **Laser Focus**
Low-Wealth Workers & Employers
- **Aligned/Leveraged**
Local & National, Private & Public

National Fund for Workforce Solutions

Proof of Concept

Piloted In Baltimore, SF Bay Area, Boston, New York City, Pennsylvania, & Rhode Island

- **Public/Private Resources Aligned**
- **16,000 Workers Trained**
- **5,000 Businesses Engaged**
- **12.89% Average Wage Increase**
- **83% Retention**

2007 New Sites

- Opportunity Chicago – Partnership for New Communities**
- Los Angeles Workforce Funders Collaborative**
- San Diego Workforce Collaborative**
- Greater Washington Workforce Development Collaborative**

Five Year Goals

Quality Workers in Quality Work

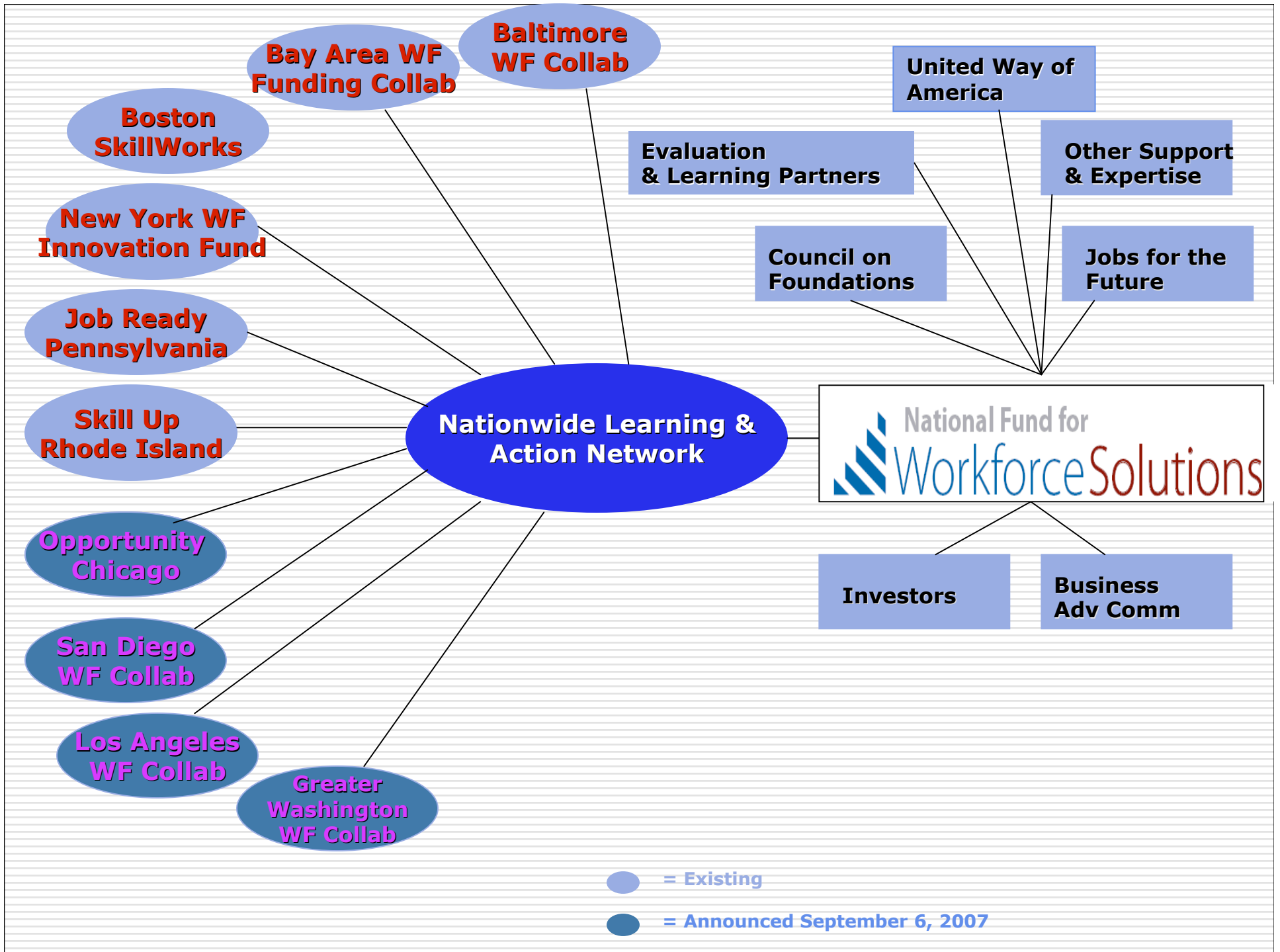
- ❑ \$50m National Fund
- ❑ \$200m local/regional investment
- ❑ 50,000+ people in careers with a future
- ❑ 1,000+ businesses confident about worker competence
- ❑ Lessons inform policy & practice – public, private, & philanthropic

First Year 2007-2008

- Expand fund and resource partners**
- Support 10 sites**
- Develop pipeline -- 30 sites**
- Release Request for Proposals**
- Elevate the issue as a national priority**
- Clarify what we know, need to know**
- Create a community of collaborative learning & action**

Request for Proposal Criteria

- Committed local leadership**
- Dual customer oriented**
- Focused on career advancement and low-wealth workers**
- Employer involvement**
- Ongoing funding – \$4:\$1 match**
- Influence state/regional policy**



- View from the business front lines**
- View from community front lines**
- Unusual collaboration**
- Effective model**
- Time is ripe for action**