

### Going Beyond Training and Placement

Developed by Connected Nation to meet a growing need, this one-of-a-kind job creation program goes beyond training and placement to encompass highdemand, telework professions.

All of the jobs are remote, economic-base, and in-demand positions — providing new employment opportunities and a larger tax base for the local community. Training is supported through Connected Nation's online-learning platform, called Drive, which also provides ongoing education after graduation.

# Placement and Pay

Digital Works training and mentoring is designed for placement in typically a 4-6 week cycle with a conservative 80% placement rate.

Entry level positions range in salary from \$9 to \$14 per hour. Because Digital Works facilitators mentor graduates through their careers and promote a co-working peer network, retention is typically high and advancement is often quick depending on the skill and will of each participant.

Digital Works has established relationships with more than 70 employers across the country and customizes its training so graduates are learning the skills companies are searching for in employees.

This job creation model is coupled with our long-term experience in mentoring remote workers through career changes and challenges — making Digital Works a workforce and economic development program for the modern era.

# Workforce Development Tailored to YOUR Community

Digital Works fills the need not met through traditional recruiting, hiring, and training channels. The program is community-driven and provides a workforce development platform that can be tailored to large, urban settings, small towns, rural counties, statewide programs, or individually in a brick-andmortar or virtual setting. Whatever your community situation — Digital Works is equipped to address it.

#### Helping Families, Single Parents

Jen Sherwood is a single mother with two school-age children, one of whom has severe health issues, and she was in search of a flexible job that allowed her to care for her children — Digital Works was her answer.

"The Digital Works program has given me an opportunity to be a full-time mom and earn a fulltime paycheck!"

Jen Sherwood, Mother of Two and Digital Works Graduate





### Everyone Belongs in a Connected Nation.

Our mission is to improve lives by providing innovative solutions that expand the access, adoption, and use of high-speed internet and its related technologies to all people.



**Dr. Roberto Gallardo**Assistant Director of the Purdue Center for Regional Development (PCRD)



**Norvinnia McLaurine** U.S. Army Veteran and Digital Works Graduate



#### The New Job Market

The workforce itself and the needs of employers have changed, but many communities are still operating on the old formula. Traditionally, workforce development focused on bringing companies to an area through tax breaks and other incentives.

But a recent study conducted by researchers from Purdue University and Oklahoma State University shows that to focus solely on that approach means missing a big economic opportunity through teleworking and telecommuting.

"We found that both salaried and self-employed teleworkers are seeing a positive impact on their median household income. What communities and states need to do now is modify their economic and workforce development policies — to nurture, attract, and retain teleworkers."

Dr. Roberto Gallardo | PCRD

### Training Veterans, Military Spouses, and family

Norvinnia McLaurine left the U.S. Army after 21 years of service and soon was struggling to find work. McLaurine said he found it difficult to translate his military skills to the civilian workforce. He's also raising his 19-year-old son who has autism, so he needed a flexible work schedule — something Digital Works helped provide through its digital training and job placement assistance.

## Creating Opportunities in All Communities

Penny Rowland loves living in Gallipolis, a small, rural town in southern Ohio. But there were few opportunities for work after manufacturing jobs moved to more-populated areas — Digital Works had the solution.

"Digital Works has the ability to change entire communities because it opens the door for people in a small town to find real work with a schedule that works for them as well as potentially better pay."

Penny Rowland, Digital Works Graduate

#### Funding Your Digital Works Program

Funding sources available for underemployed and unemployed adults are often limited by eligibility requirements that make it difficult for communities and their citizens to get the support they need. Digital Works typically relies on diverse funding sources making it possible to deliver services to a broad range of participants.

## For More Information, Contact:

#### Chris Pedersen

VP, Development & Planning cpedersen@connectednation.org 202.255.6098

connected nation.org digital works jobs.org