



# NEWS

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### MontcoWorks Awarded Next Generation Industry Partnership Grant

**Norristown, PA (Jan. 12, 2018)** – The Montgomery County Workforce Development Board, MontcoWorks, and the Montgomery County Commerce Department are pleased to announce that MontcoWorks is the recipient of a Next Generation Industry Partnership grant, awarded by the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry. The \$25,000 grant, announced by the Office of the Governor on Jan. 4, 2018, will allow an existing healthcare and biomedical partnership serving Montgomery, Bucks, and Philadelphia counties to grow into the Next Generation model.

Next Generation Industry Partnerships gather business leaders by sector to address shared workforce or other needs within an industry. Public partners from economic development, workforce development, education and training, and other community organizations coordinate efforts to help meet these needs.

The goal of the Healthcare and Biomedical Partnership of Bucks, Montgomery, and Philadelphia Counties is to provide targeted support as needed for these vital regional companies.

As the grant recipient, MontcoWorks will utilize funding to convene industry leaders from the healthcare and biomedical fields in Bucks, Philadelphia, and Montgomery counties. Initial meetings will use a professional facilitator to implement the Next Generation Industry Partnership model. This model is designed to generate in-depth conversations amongst industry champions, focused around specific needs.

The initial conversations will be used to develop specific action plans for economic or workforce development endeavors. Depending upon those established needs, the partnership will then be in a position to apply for additional grant funding, scheduled to become available later this year. While MontcoWorks will receive the funds, those funds will be used as a regional, collaborative effort.

“MontcoWorks is proud to serve as fiscal agent for this endeavor, broadening the reciprocal relationship between a thriving company and a strong workforce,” says MontcoWorks’ Executive Director Jennifer Butler.

MontcoWorks is part of the Montgomery County Commerce Department, the County's lead entity for coordinated economic and workforce development service delivery and assistance. For more information about the Next Generation Industry Partnership, please contact Jennifer Butler, Executive Director of the Montgomery County Workforce Development Board & Deputy Director of Workforce Development for the Commerce Department, at 610-278-5950 or via email at [jbutler@montcopa.org](mailto:jbutler@montcopa.org).