



Making Work Work in 21st Century America

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National Press Club
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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

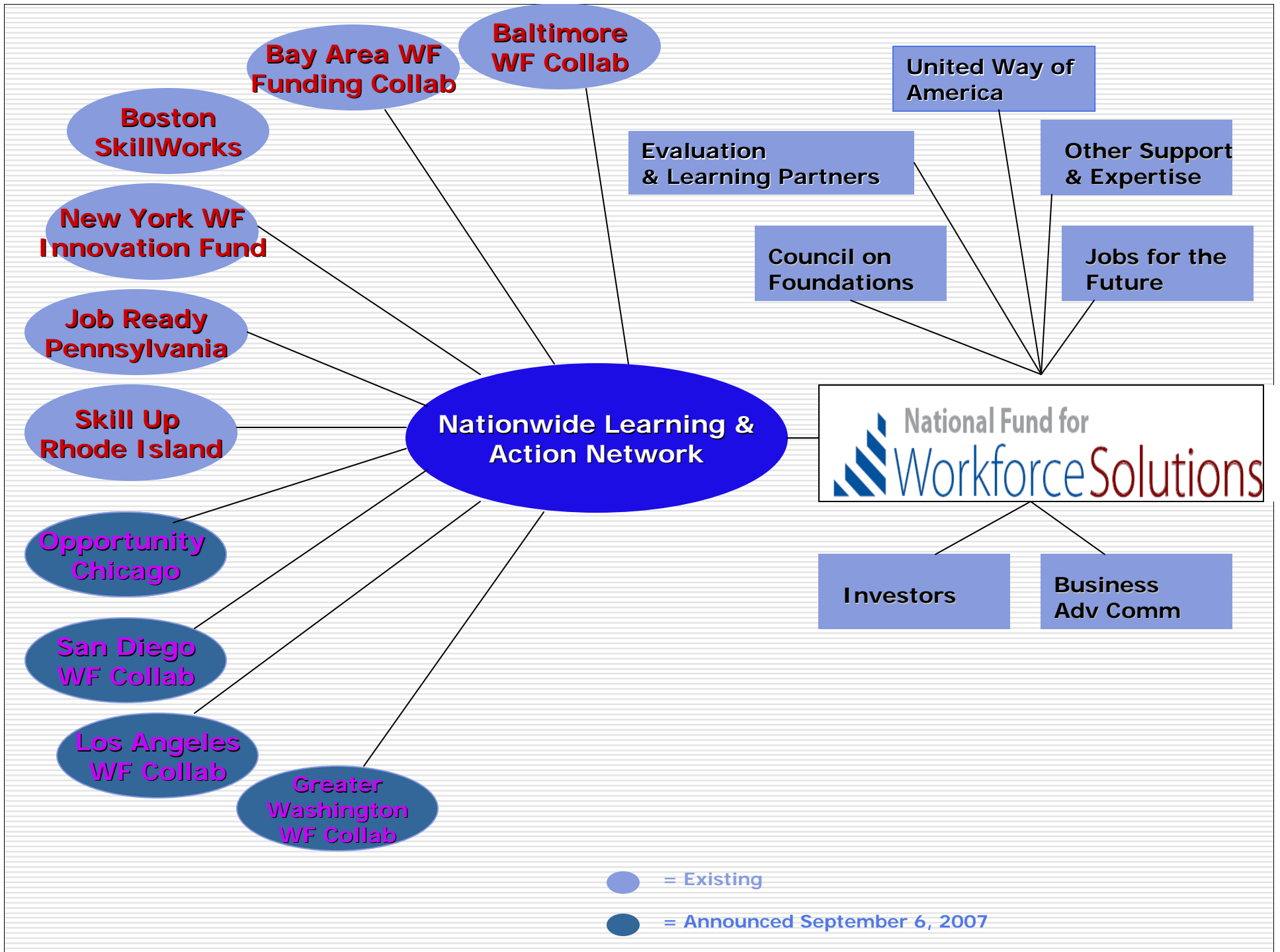
- ❑ \$50m National Fund
- ❑ \$200m local/regional investment
- ❑ 50,000+ people in careers with a future
- ❑ 1,000+ businesses confident about worker competence
- ❑ Lessons inform policy & practice – public, private, & philanthropic

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**