

National Institute for Work and Learning



BRIDGE TO EMPLOYMENT (BTE)

BTE sites operate around the globe focusing on college and career readiness communicating that learning can be meaningful, engaging and relevant.

BTE reaches approximately 6,000 students.

Staff from the National Institute for Work and Learning (NIWL) have been working to improve teacher preparation, teacher professional development, college and career readiness, and workforce development. Our goal is to improve the life chances for students and youth throughout the United States and in several other countries around the world. Examples of our recent and current work include:

WORK WITH UNIVERSITIES

For the Bush Foundation, staff have been coaching faculty, administrators and P-12 partners from 14 Universities in Minnesota, South Dakota, and North Dakota. Our work has focused on four pillars – recruitment, preparation including clinical practice, employment, and induction. In addition we have worked with representatives from the universities to develop a common metrics system that includes entry, exit, and first year teaching surveys as well as a survey of the supervisors of first year teachers. Coaching in 2016 and 2017 will focus on leadership and sustainability.

COACHING TO IMPROVE INSTRUCTION

Coaching has been a growing strategy to improve teacher instruction and student engagement and achievement. For the Pennsylvania Institute for Instructional Coaching (PIIC), we have undertaken annual surveys of teachers and coaches and recently completed a case study of instructional coaching in one school district. We completed an interview study of school principals to better understand how instructional coaching fits into the mission and activities of schools; how administrators work with and support coaches; and how PIIC influences coaching in schools.

About FHI 360: FHI 360 is a nonprofit human development organization dedicated to improving lives in lasting ways by advancing integrated, locally driven solutions. Our staff includes experts in health, education, nutrition, environment, economic development, civil society, gender, youth, research, technology, communication and social marketing — creating a unique mix of capabilities to address today's interrelated development challenges. FHI 360 serves more than 70 countries and all U.S. states and territories.

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PARTNERING WITH REGIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATIONS

NIWL and School and Community Services (SCS) staff have been working with the eight Regional Education Associations (REA) in North Dakota to improve the transition from school to college and careers for all students in the state. Staff have served as liaisons to the REAs providing intensive technical assistance and support related to education, workforce development, capacity building, and processes for program development and implementation related to college and career planning, success in rigorous academic and career and technical education programs, and targeted support services.

REPLICATING INNOVATIVE PRACTICES

For the Department of Corrections, NIWL staff held a video contest engaging local, state and federal entities from across the country; hosted a national convening with four federal agencies, representatives from national organizations, and experts from the field; and started a series of webinars highlighting how to replicate innovative practices from the video contest winners.

CONNECTING COLLEGES AND EMPLOYERS

For the National Center for Innovation in Career and Technical Education (NICITE), funded by the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education (OCTAE), NIWL staff are working on a study looking at how community and technical colleges engage employers in their health sciences, manufacturing, and information technology program areas. Through document collection and interviews with key staff from the colleges and employers, the study will capture best practices around employer engagement and document the range of employer engagement activities. The final report will disseminate findings from the research and will serve as a guide for other community and technical colleges looking to engage employers.

BRIDGE TO EMPLOYMENT INITIATIVE

For Johnson & Johnson NIWL staff manage the Bridge to Employment (BTE) initiative. BTE sites operate around the globe focusing on college and career readiness communicating to at-risk students that learning can be meaningful, engaging, and relevant. Our work builds long-term partnerships among business, educators, community groups and parents to have a meaningful impact on students' future success in college and the workplace. We host an annual Alliance Building & Training Session to encourage cross-site communication, learning, and knowledge building. In addition, each site receives technical assistance on a variety of topics, including mentoring, work-based learning, and strategic planning throughout the year.

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