



# Strategies to Activate Employers & Make Jobs Better

Ohio Workforce Coalition July 28, 2022 Virtual Icebreaker

In the chat, put your
Name
Organization
1-3 characteristics about the best job you've ever had

# National Network of Changemakers

Workforce Innovation and Implementation Network



## **Core Partners**

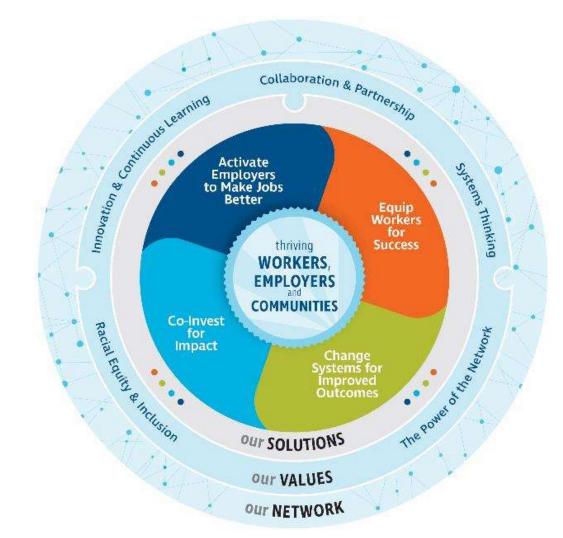
- Philanthropy
- Employers
- Workforce Investment Boards
- Community colleges
- CBOs
- Workers



We collaborate with workers, employers, and communities to advance a skilled workforce, promote good jobs, and invest in equitable outcomes



Integrated solutions implemented through the lens of racial equity and inclusion



# **CareerSTAT: A National Network**

**Promoting increased employer investment in frontline healthcare** worker skill development and career advancement

## **Network Members**

- Employers from across the continuum of care
- Healthcare industry partnerships
- Workforce intermediaries
- Philanthropy



# **Employers Need a People Strategy**

- To grow, employers need to attract the right workers, and retain them. That takes a strategy.
- At NFWS, we talk about this as "job redesign."
  - Companies can design their jobs and workplaces as intentionally as they design their products or services.
- The Job Design Framework and other tools you will hear about today are building blocks for developing such a strategy



Photo by Timothy Barlin on Unsplash

## Job Design Framework Overview

## What is it?

- The Job Design Framework is a tool to help understand job quality
- This framework allows you to choose the combination of items that best fit the needs of your business and your employees.
- Designing jobs for equity and inclusion will help build a company where employees thrive

## How should you use it?

- Companies should bring the same intelligence, creativity, and purpose to job design as they do to product design.
- Employers should discuss job design with frontline workers to identify the most impactful changes.

Originally conceived by former National Fund Senior Advisor Steven Dawson and published in the 2017 Pinkerton Papers

# Job Design Framework

## **An REI Frame**

• Racial equity is essential for good jobs and good workplaces. You can start wherever you want in this framework, but job elements listed below will have the most impact if you apply them with an equity mindset.

## **The Pillars**

Core	Support	Opportunity	Voice
The basic elements of a good job	<i>Help workers perform well and achieve stability</i>	<i>Help employees advance in their careers and develop skills</i>	<i>Employees are empowered, engaged, and have agency</i>
<ul> <li>Compensation</li> <li>Work Environment</li> <li>Supervision Quality</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Training</li> <li>Internal Assistance</li> <li>External Supports</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Career Development</li> <li>Mentoring and Coaching</li> <li>Acknowledgement</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Engagement</li><li>Improvement</li><li>Participation</li></ul>

## **The Results**

- Becoming an employer of choice is a strategy, not an accident.
- Designing your jobs for equity and inclusion will help you build a great company where your employees thrive.

## The Job Design Framework Pillars

The basic elements			
of a good job	Help workers perform well and achieve stability	<i>Help employers advance in their careers and develop their skills</i>	Employees are empowered, engaged, and have agency
<ul> <li>Sustainable pay and benefits</li> <li>Work Environment</li> <li>Stable hours and scheduling</li> <li>Safety</li> <li>Job security</li> </ul>	Internal Assistance • Supervisory training • Financial counseling • Cash assistance • Formal HR practices External Supports • Tax credits	<ul> <li>Career Development</li> <li>Specialized training</li> <li>Educational benefits</li> <li>Formal career pathways</li> </ul> Mentoring and Coaching <ul> <li>Peer mentorship</li> <li>Job coaching</li> </ul> Acknowledgement <ul> <li>Internal and external recognition</li> <li>Leveling of perks</li> <li>Individual and team bonuses</li> <li>Other financial incentives</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Engagement</li> <li>Measurement of engagement</li> <li>Meaningfulness</li> <li>Mattering</li> </ul> Improvement <ul> <li>Inclusive, continuous improvement processes</li> </ul> Participation <ul> <li>Participatory management</li> <li>Autonomous teams</li> <li>Formal representation</li> <li>Employee stock ownership</li> </ul>

## **Business Impact Areas**



Workforce Availability



Employee Competency & Advancement



Community Health



Patient Experience





## **Programmatic Best Practices**

Accessible frontline talent development programs and support services					
Inclusive Hiring	Accessible Learning	<b>Career Advancement</b>			
Recruit from the community	Basic skills development	Enhanced training to meet new standards			
Create an incumbent worker pipeline	Work-based learning	Career exploration tools & opportunities			
Structured onboarding of new hires	Competency-based instruction	Career coaching and counseling			
	Flexible learning options	Career pathways			

## **Organizational Best Practices**

Infrastructure, resources, and leadership needed to have the greatest impact on the business and employees

Engaging Leaders	Developing Infrastructure	Leveraging Resources
Alignment with organizational priorities	Dedicated workforce units or staff	Seed funding and co- investment strategies
Senior leader support and sponsorship	Employee skill and educational assessment	Industry partnerships with other employers
Managers as coaches and champions	Supportive HR policies	Leveraged partner expertise
	Workforce planning and analytics	Integration with business operations

## Integrated Workforce Investments



# The Business Case for Improving Job Quality is Strong

Strong research evidence supports the business case for making jobs better

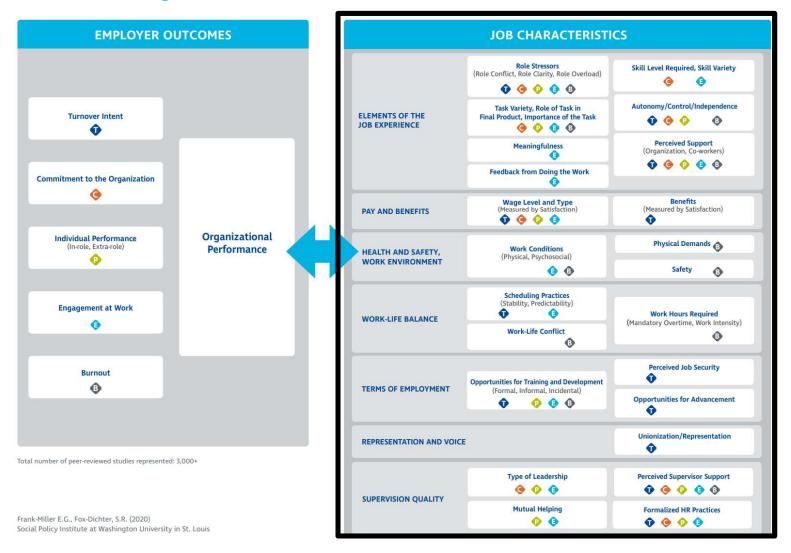
- Cluster randomized study at The Gap Improving job quality (scheduling practices) sharply increased median sales and labor productivity
- Gallup's 2020 engagement survey Highest engagement companies ranked 23% higher in profitability, 18% lower in turnover, and 81% lower in absenteeism
- JUST Capital's living wage rankings Top quintile of companies returned 12.3% compared to bottom quintile companies (only 1.1% return relative to industry peers)

# How Do Job Design Choices Relate to Employer Outcomes?



# JOB CHARACTERISTICS Elements of the Job Experience Pay and Benefits Health and Safety, Work Environment Work-Life Balance Terms of Employment Representation and Voice Supervision Quality

## **Correlated Job Characteristics**



# *Turnover Intention*

I am thinking of leaving this job in the next 6 months.

## **JOB CHARACTERISTICS**



# *Commitment to the Organization*

*This organization's problems are my problems* 



## JOB CHARACTERISTICS

18

# Individual Performance

I believe I am good at my job.



# Engagement at Work

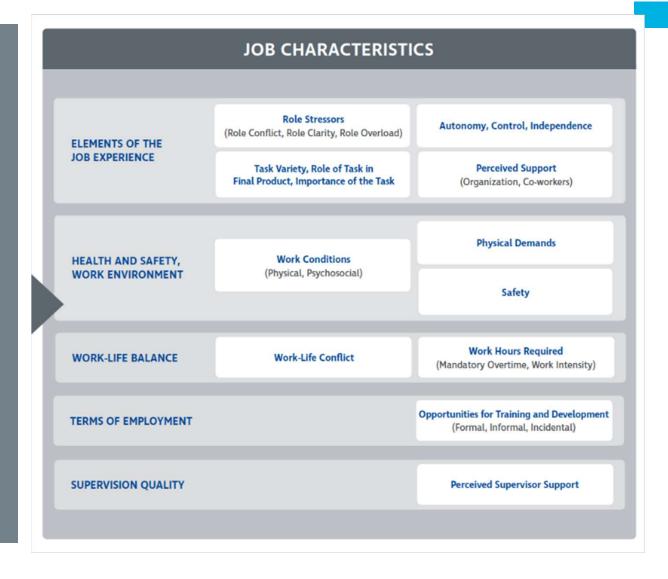
*How much attention and energy do I give to my work?* 



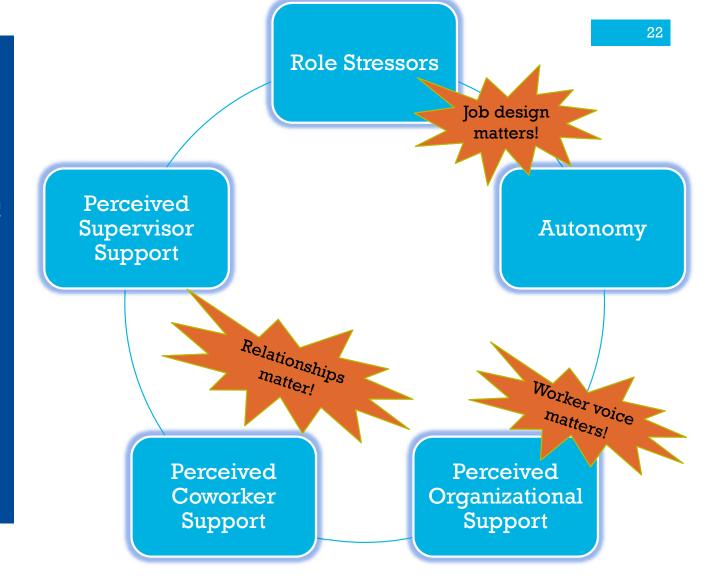
### JOB CHARACTERISTICS

## Burnout

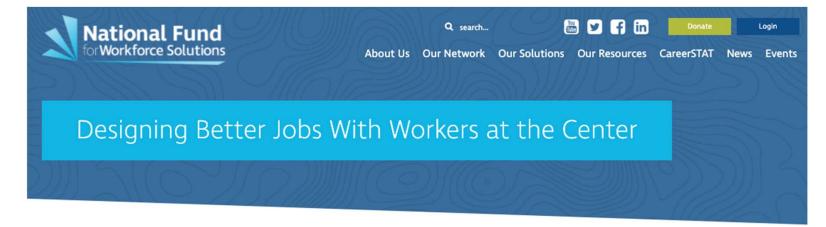
Am I mentally, physically, and/or emotionally exhausted by my work?



Job Characteristic Superstars associated with all 5 key outcomes



# Guide to Designing a Human-Centered Workplace



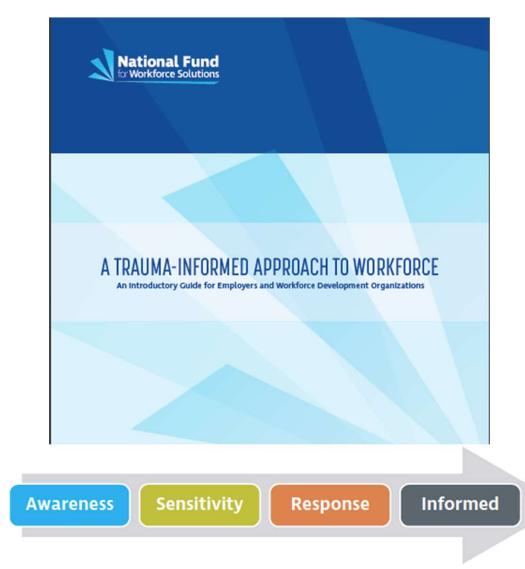
**INTRO TO THE GUIDE** 

#### WE KNOW HIGHER QUALITY JOBS IMPROVE ORGANIZATIONAL OUTCOMES.

We also know that workers understand what a quality job looks like. This guide makes it easier for employers to center frontline workers in the job design process, and realize the full potential of their people and their performance.



A selection of organizational strategies and practices to advance traumainformed approaches in employee management.



## **Additional Tools**

- CareerSTAT <u>Resource Center</u> and <u>Member Directory</u>
- Job Design Framework NFWS menu of options
- Job Quality Outcome Maps NFWS/WORC
- <u>A Trauma informed Approach to Workforce</u> NFWS compilation of practices
- Guide to Employee Financial Wellness NFWS step by step guide for employers
- Worker Voice definition
- Women's Fund Employer Toolkit nearly 60 policies to support, stabilize and retain employees
- Opportunity Navigator Talent Rewire/Grads of Life 10-minute assessment of best practices
- Working Metrics Platform -Aspen Institute/Working Metrics benchmark companies vs. national industry standard for job growth, retention, and wage growth

## **Contact Information**

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Join the CareerSTAT Network

www.nationalfund.org/careerstat