

Strategies to Activate Employers \&
Make Jobs Better
Ohio Workforce Coalition
July 28, 2022

## Virtual Icebreaker

In the chat, put your

- Name
- Organization
- l-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


## National Fund for Workforce Solutions

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.

## 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

## The basic elements of a good job

- Compensation
- Work Environment
- Supervision Quality

Help workers perform well and achieve stability

- Training
- Internal Assistance
- External Supports

Help employees advance in their careers and develop skills

- Career Development
- Mentoring and Coaching
- Acknowledgement


## Voice

Employees are empowered, engaged, and have agency

- Engagement
- Improvement
- Participation


## 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.


## Core

The basic elements of a good job

## Compensation

- Sustainable pay and benefits


## Work Environment

- Stable hours and scheduling
- Safety
- Job security

Supervision Quality

- Fairness and respect
- Open communication
- Anti-discrimination and anti-profiling policies
- Transparent grievance process


## Support

Help workers perform well and achieve stability

## Training

- Entry-level training
- Cross-training

Internal Assistance

- Supervisory training
- Financial counseling
- Cash assistance
- Formal HR practices


## External Supports

- Tax credits
- Childcare support
- Transportation support
- Housing support, etc.


## Opportunity

Help employers advance in their careers and develop their skills

## Career Development

- Specialized training
- Educational benefits
- Formal career pathways


## Mentoring and Coaching

- Peer mentorship
- Job coaching


## Acknowledgement

- Internal and external recognition
- Leveling of perks
- Individual and team bonuses
- Other financial incentives


## Voice

Employees are empowered, engaged, and have agency

## Engagement

- Measurement of engagement
- Meaningfulness
- Mattering


## Improvement

- Inclusive, continuous improvement processes


## Participation

- Participatory management
- Autonomous teams
- Formal representation
- Employee stock ownership


## Business Impact Areas



Workforce
Availability
 Health


Employee
Competency \& Advancement


Patient
Experience


Employee Engagement


Quality
\& Safety

## Programmatic Best Practices

\(\left.\begin{array}{|l|l|l|}\hline Accessible frontline talent development programs and support <br>

services\end{array}\right]\)| Inclusive <br> Hiring | Career Advancement |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Recruit from the community | Basic skills development | Enhanced training to meet <br> new standards |
| Create an incumbent worker <br> pipeline | Work-based learning |  <br> opportunities |
| Structured onboarding of <br> new hires | Competency-based <br> instruction | Career coaching and <br> 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 <br> Infrastructure | Leveraging Resources |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Alignment with <br> organizational priorities | Dedicated workforce units or <br> staff | Seed funding and co- <br> investment strategies |
| Senior leader support and <br> sponsorship | Employee skill and <br> educational assessment | Industry partnerships with <br> other employers |
| Managers as coaches and <br> champions | Supportive HR policies | Leveraged partner expertise |
|  | Workforce planning and <br> analytics | Integration with business <br> 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


Representation and Voice

## Correlated Jo.b Characteristics





## JOB CHARACTERISTICS

## Individual Performance

I believe I am good at my job.

## JOB CHARACTERISTICS

Role Stressors
(Role Conflict, Role Clarity, Role Overload)
Autonomy, Control, Independence

Perceived Support
(Organization, Co-workers)
in Final Product,
Importance of the Task

## Wage Level and Type

(Measured by Satisfaction)

Opportunities for Training and Development
(Formal, Informal, Incidental)

## Type of Leadership

Mutual Helping

Perceived Supervisor Support

Formalized HR Practices


## 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

National Fund<br>forWorkforce Solutions

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Designing Better Jobs With Workers at the Center

## INTRO TO THE GUIDE

## Guide Menu

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Intro to the Guide

Who Should Use the Guide

- Business Outcomes Impacting Organizational Performance

What is Job Design?

- Why Center Workers in Job Design?


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

National Fund
for Workforce Solutions

A TRAUMA-INFORMED APPROACH TO WORKFORCE An introductory Guide for Employers and Workforce Development Organizations


## Additional Tools

- CareerSTAT Resource Center and Member Directory
, Rember
- Job Design Framework - NFWS - menu of options
- Job Quality Outcome Maps - NFWS/WORC

■ A Trauma informed Approach to Workforce - 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 <br> www.nationalfund.org/careerstat

