### North Texas 2050 Action Package

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue: Economic Development</th>
<th>Dr. Whelan's Team/Burns Development Group</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Action Tool Title</td>
<td>Skills Development Fund</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Description of the tool:

These are funds set up to promote technical based schools and higher education job training.

#### How Well Does It Work?

This contributes to the future of North Texas because the funding allows for training to be job creation and retention.

#### How valuable is this tool? How important is its contribution to achieving North Texas' vision for the future?

#### How does it actually work?

The Texas Workforce Commission funds the training, a college administers the grant, businesses then create new jobs and/or improve jobs they already have to fill workers needs.

#### What are the costs and who will they affect?

- The cost are to businesses and or employees that are not covered in the $500,000 grant such as: travel expenses, drug testing, certain equipment purchases are not covered

#### What are the benefits and who will they help?

- The benefits are to the private businesses, trade unions, and business consortiums
  - Job creation and retention, this benefits the 20% of citizens in the area that are below the poverty line, according to Census.

#### What are the biggest stumbling blocks?

#### How can they be addressed?

#### Who Would be Responsible?

**Primary (lead) responsibility**

Texas Workforce Commission: Dale A. Robertson, Manager of Workforce Business Services Department, Workforce Development Division of Texas Workforce Commission

**Secondary responsibility**

Workforce Business Services Outreach & Customer Support today at (877) 463-1777 or Skills@twc.state.tx.us

#### Need for coordination

#### How Should it be Funded?

**Primary (lead) responsibility**

This is funded by state benefits and incentives which include: state sales and use tax refunds

**Secondary responsibility**

It can also be funded by transferring of public buildings at or below market cost to companies, low interest loans, waving certain fees for qualifying enterprise zones.
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</tr>
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<tr>
<td><strong>How Does It Connect?</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>What other VNT issues are helped by this tool?</strong></td>
<td>Increasing education in the surrounding community and giving the community a more viable workforce.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>What other VNT issues could be hurt by this tool?</strong></td>
<td>Competing businesses for limited grant money</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>How Should It Be Implemented?</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>What will be done?</strong></td>
<td>Proposals for the Skills Development Fund can be made at any time.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>There are 4 forms that must be filled out completely and they are available at the following link: <a href="http://www.twc.state.tx.us/svcs/funds/sdf_proposal.pdf">http://www.twc.state.tx.us/svcs/funds/sdf_proposal.pdf</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The first step is having the SDF paperwork filled out correctly and after that they are notified within 10 days if they have met all the required components or not.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Public Community Colleges, Public Technical Colleges, Texas Engineering Extension Service or a Community Based Organization only in partnership with the Public Community College or Technical College can receive grants or are considered to be eligible training providers.</td>
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### What Examples Can We Follow?

#### North Texas Case Studies

CoServInc.

CoServ Inc. in Corinth, Texas partnered with TWC and North Central Texas College for a $161,845 Skills grant. Skills helped address a shortage of qualified professionals within the electrical industry. 143 employees trained as electrical engineers, meter readers, power line installers, and support staff.

#### Other Texas Case Studies

Northwest Texas Healthcare System

Northwest Texas Healthcare System partnered with TWC and Amarillo College for a $266,885 Skills grant. The project addressed a growing need for health care staff. Skills helped develop 15 certification courses and train 269 health care professionals.

#### Other U.S. Case Studies

**Supporting Research**

The two Texas cases can be found along with more information on Skills Development Fund Website http://www.twc.state.tx.us/svcs/funds/sdfintro.html

**Related Information**

Acknowledgements

Recognize the people who have provided assistance to VNT for this tool

Burns Development Group