

**News Release**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
March 21, 2016

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## **Employers Invited to Participate in Retain and Attract Talent Symposium**

PETOSKEY, MI—The challenges faced by local employers trying to keep and find employees will be discussed at a Retain and Attract Talent Symposium April 14 in Petoskey. The event will run from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the North Central Michigan College (NCMC) Library Conference Room.

The event will include a keynote presentation by Northwest Michigan Works! Chief Operating Officer Janie McNabb. She will discuss the cause and effect of the jobs gap in northwest Michigan. There will also be a panel featuring employers from healthcare, hospitality, and manufacturing. They will talk about issues in retaining and finding talent and how they are addressing those needs.

Following the keynote and panel presentations there will be an opportunity for audience discussion. Businesses attending the event will be encouraged to participate in a May 6 Spring Career Fair in Petoskey. The Career Fair will be promoted throughout the State and will focus on college students looking for internships or summer employment so they can get to know the businesses and resources in the area. Businesses attending the Career Fair will also be able to provide information on current full time employment and the event will be open to the public.

There is no charge to attend the Retain and Attract Talent Symposium and the event includes lunch. Businesses interested in participating should RSVP to NCMC Corporate and Community Education at: 231-348-6613. They can also register online at: [caps.ncmich.edu/cce/signup.php](http://caps.ncmich.edu/cce/signup.php) or [MCEEA.org](http://MCEEA.org).

The Symposium is sponsored by the Michigan Career Educator and Employer Alliance (MCEEA), NCMC, and Northwest Michigan Works!

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NOTE to Media: Images are oftentimes available upon request by e-mailing Dan Boss at [danboss@networksnorthwest.org](mailto:danboss@networksnorthwest.org) and stating

preferences for resolution (300 dpi?), file format (.tif? .jpg?) and file size (1MB or less?). Or, phone (231) 929-5047. Check our online Media Room at: [networksnorthwest.org/media](http://networksnorthwest.org/media)

Founded in 1974, Networks Northwest facilitates and manages various programs and services for the 10 county region. These programs include Northwest Michigan Works, Small Business Development Center, Procurement Technical Assistance Center, various business services, and many different regional planning initiatives in response to our communities' requests and needs. You will see the broad spectrum of workforce, business and community services Networks Northwest offers if you visit our web site, [networksnorthwest.org](http://networksnorthwest.org)

Networks Northwest's member counties are: Antrim, Benzie, Charlevoix, Emmet, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Leelanau, Manistee, Missaukee, and Wexford.