

2025 IMPACT REPORT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



Networks
Northwest
Talent / Business / Community

Networks Northwest serves as headquarters to more than 40 different programs that help the Talent, Businesses, and Communities of our region. By pooling administrative costs across so many programs, we enable more resources to flow to direct services. This focus on customer service ensures effective use of funding and amplifies our impact.

TALENT

Our workforce development programs are delivered through our non-profit arm, Northwest Michigan Works! We support job seekers from all walks of life, equipping them with the technical and adaptive skills required for today's job market. Our programs clear a path to employment by helping people navigate challenges and by providing "earn-and-learn" opportunities.

» **10,000+**

Adults served with general job search support.

» **2,000+**

Adults served via specialized programs.

» **1,500+**

Youth served with soft skills coaching and career planning services.

» **1,300+**

People trained in locally in-demand occupations.



Jobs for Michigan's Graduates

"JMG has had a big impact on my life, and it has been nothing but positive! I have discovered that I want to help and lead the youth as my JMG Specialists and mentors have done for me. JMG has helped in every aspect of my life, especially in the professional aspect as well as opening numerous doors for me!"

Riley Brown,

JMG Participant and Michigan Youth Advisory Council President



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nwm.org/impact



BUSINESS

In a rapidly shifting economy, local small businesses are the economic engine of our region. Our mission is to ensure they have every advantage to succeed. We act as a strategic partner to small businesses, offering a suite of resources—from talent recruitment and customized training through Northwest Michigan Works Business Services to support in procuring government contracts through the APEX Accelerator. By empowering employers to adapt to new challenges, we create a more stable and prosperous environment for everyone who calls Northwest Michigan home.

» **1,900+**

Local jobs filled.

» **\$1.9 million+**

Grants to local businesses.

» **\$250 million+**

Economic impact from our combined business services programs.

Apprenticeships

"Northwest Michigan Works has been essential to building and sustaining our apprenticeship programs and workforce in Northern Michigan. ... In a region with a limited skilled labor pool, this partnership has allowed us to develop a highly capable, dependable pipeline of electrical workers that supports both our company's growth and the communities we serve."

Wolfline Construction



Blair Township Master Plan

"Networks Northwest Staff provided exceptional guidance throughout our Master Plan process. Their expertise, clear communication, and collaborative approach ensured that our vision was translated into a practical, forward-thinking plan. We greatly appreciated their responsiveness, attention to detail, and ability to navigate complex planning requirements. Their work along with our Planning Commission has laid a strong foundation for our future growth."

Nicole Blonshine, Blair Township Supervisor

COMMUNITY

Our Community Development work supports local governments and economic development organizations with planning, grants, and regional alignment. By serving as a central resource, we empower communities to protect their unique character while planning for the changes they want to see.

40+ «

Projects with local governments and regional entities.

\$6 million+ «

In Transportation funding.

2,770 «

Lane miles evaluated.

\$500,000+ «

In grants for economic development.

