

Philadelphia Works Welcomes Sarah Steltz to its Board of Directors

Philadelphia Works, The City of Philadelphia's local Workforce Development Board (WDB), has a 25-member Board of Directors that serves as an advisory, planning, and policy board under the guidelines of the federal [Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act \(WIOA\)](#) of 2014. In addition, the Board of Directors also serves as the governing body of the 501(c)(3).

Membership of the Board is composed of business, education, labor, community, and government leaders. Members are appointed by the Mayor of the City of Philadelphia and membership is guided by WIOA. The Board Chair must be a business representative, and the Board must have a majority of business/private sector members. This assures that the business community is a leading voice in our local workforce system.



Sarah Steltz is the Deputy Commerce Director and Chief of Staff in the Department of Commerce for the City of Philadelphia.

Prior to joining the City in February of 2021, Sarah served as University City District's (UCD) Vice President of Workforce Solutions and Executive Director of the West Philadelphia Skills Initiative (WPSI), a nationally recognized professional development program that connects unemployed city residents with high-quality opportunities at many of the region's premiere employers. Under Sarah's leadership, WPSI served a record number of participants while maintaining its 95% placement rate, connecting those participants to the highest average starting wage in the program's history.

Sarah joined UCD after ten years at Drexel University, playing a variety of roles in economic development, inclusion, program development, talent management, and training. In the role of Director, Workforce & Economic Inclusion at Drexel, Sarah examined business practices across human resources, procurement, construction, and facilities, ensuring that processes were changed, programs were developed, and policies were in place to increase opportunities for local and diverse residents.

Sarah worked in the corporate sector prior to joining Drexel in 2008. She is a Certified Human Resources Professional (PHR) and holds a B.A. from Susquehanna University and an M.S. in Adult Education and Organizational Development from Drexel University. She lives in South Philadelphia with her family.

Philadelphia Works, Inc., the city's workforce development board, is a non-profit, quasi-public organization serving employers and connecting career seekers to employment and training opportunities. We invest public resources in a variety of workforce solutions that drive economic growth, influence the public workforce policies, and optimize funding and resources to build a skilled and thriving workforce. For more information, please visit philaworks.org.