

## Lehigh Valley Manufacturing & Supply Chain Industry Partnership - Meeting Minutes

Meeting 7 | Monday, April 20, 2026 | 2:00PM-4:00PM

### Participants:

Organization	First Name	Last Name
Allentown EDC	Lauren	Caine
Allentown EDC	Manuela	Guevara
Allentown EDC	R. Scott	Unger
Amrize Building Materials	Lorraine	Faccenda
B. Braun Medical Inc.	Vincent	Beller
Bradley Pulverizer Enterprises	Felipe	Arango
C.F. Martin & Company	Steve	Hess
Da Vinci Science Center	Julie	Ambrose
Da Vinci Science Center	Abby	Wertman
Dynalene	Jennifer	Pearage
Freshpet Kitchens	Mindy	Deeds
German American Chamber of Commerce	Matthew	Allen
German American Chamber of Commerce	Kevin	Hughes Jr
Ledvance	Nancy	Williams
Lehigh Carbon Community College	Mike	Brody
Lehigh Career and Technical Institute	Dr. Dipal	Kapadia
Lehigh Valley Economic Development Corporation	Trisha	Nardone
Lehigh Valley Planning Commission / WBLV	Minsoo	Park
Lehigh-Northampton Airport Authority	Christopher	Heckman
Lutron Electronics Company	Ken	Borger
Manufacturers Resource Center	Juan	Morales
MosAL Consulting LLC	Dr. Andrea	Grannum-Mosley
Northampton Community College	Shelly	Mule
Northampton Community College	Ken	Nasatka
Northampton Community College	Erin	Rudolph
PA CareerLink® Lehigh Valley	Ryan	Knepp
Penn College of Technology	Angelo	Fattore
Penn State Lehigh Valley	Jamie	Merida
Sharp Packaging Services	Kristine	Chimics
SkillsUSA	Andrew	Hammer
Workforce Board Lehigh Valley	Sarah	Lutz
Workforce Board Lehigh Valley	Nanse	Wolfington

**Location:**

**Amrize**

5160 Main St

Whitehall Township, PA 18052

**Summary:**

**1. Welcome & Introductions**

**Sarah Lutz**, Assistant Executive Director of the Workforce Board Lehigh Valley (WBLV), welcomed attendees to the seventh Industry Partnership meeting, thanking the meeting hosts from Amrize for providing their space and offering a manufacturing tour following the meeting.

**2. Announcements & Partner Updates**

**Updated Industry Partnership Timeline**

**Sarah Lutz** announced that the Industry Partnership grant has been extended through December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2026. This will include three more meetings, taking place bimonthly beginning in July, and will extend the period during which funding can be utilized to support workforce development projects. Please note that training and examinations for eligible funding workforce training with industry recognized credentials must be completed by December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2026. To request funding, email Sarah Lutz at [lutzs@workforcelv.org](mailto:lutzs@workforcelv.org).

In regards to the Train the Trainer seminars funded by the grant, the one scheduled for April was postponed due to insufficient enrollment. The program in May will take place. Up to two representatives from each Partnership employer are eligible to attend. To sign up for the program, complete the registration form at this link:

[Train-the-Trainer Registration Form – Fill out form](#)

Please note that you will need to complete the registration form even if you already submitted an interest form previously, as this form includes additional fields.

The second Train the Trainer seminar funded by the grant will be scheduled during the second half of 2026.

A website for the Industry Partnership is also in development. Please send the following information to Sarah Lutz at [lutzs@workforcelv.org](mailto:lutzs@workforcelv.org) to be included on the site:

- A high-quality image of your company logo
- Links to any jobs or training you would like to share
- Company photos or videos
- Any suggestions of what you would like to see included or featured on the site

### **Event Announcements**

**Sarah Lutz** shared the following updates regarding resources for Industry Partners:

1. “What’s So Cool About Manufacturing” took place last month. Congratulations to all of the participants and awardees.
2. For National Apprenticeship Week, there are three events planned at the Workforce Board Lehigh Valley:
  1. B.Braun’s Journey into Registered Apprenticeship (April 27 at 10am)
  2. GACC’s Pathways to Apprenticeship (April 28 at 10am)
  3. Cetronia Ambulance Corps’ Unlock Your Future: Apprenticeships and How to Get Started (April 30 at 12pm)

Participants in the meeting shared the following updates:

1. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Lehigh Valley High School Seniors Only Job Fair will take place on Tuesday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at ArtsQuest. Complete the survey at <https://forms.gle/wofq3knbrz8PAw246> if you are interested in taking part. For questions regarding event registration, contact Dr. Andrea Grannum-Mosley with MosAL Consulting at [mosalconsulting@outlook.com](mailto:mosalconsulting@outlook.com) or 917-412-2719.
2. Lehigh Carbon Community College announced their new Director of Amazon Training, Brandon Dopira, who will be taking over for Don Worman upon his upcoming retirement.
3. Northampton Community College is now offering two new courses:
  - a. **CSCMP Certification** which is a global recognized supply chain certification.
  - b. **Freight Broker Certification**
4. Da Vinci Science Center hosted a workshop last weekend regarding AI in industry and are currently applying for a state grant. Anyone interested in input

or participation should email Julie Ambrose at

[julie.ambrose@davincisciencecenter.org](mailto:julie.ambrose@davincisciencecenter.org).

5. Train-the-Trainer mentorship training programs are available for Industry Partners to take advantage of using Partnership funding. To join please complete the form: [Train-the-Trainer Registration Form – Fill out form](#)

### **Presentation: Allentown EDC presents Allentown Works**

**Scott Unger** and **Manuela Guevara** presented the Allentown Economic Development Corporation (AEDC) and the Allentown Works project. AEDC is a private non-profit with a focus on brownfield redevelopment. The Allentown Works project aims to reduce prime age employment by facilitating employment for 650 residents of their target region between the ages of 25 and 54. They intend to connect participants with resources, provide navigators and career coaches, basic skill development, training, and career pathways. They are partnering with LCTI to offer a “Multi-craft Junior Engineering Pathway” program to provide foundational skills needed for manufacturing at the Donley Center, LCCC in Allentown.

Employers can get involved by sharing your hiring needs, shaping the training pipeline, and investing in candidate readiness (offering mock interviews, information sessions, job shadowing, or site visits). To learn more, contact Manuela Guevara at [mguevara@allentownedc.com](mailto:mguevara@allentownedc.com).

### **3. Discussion: Planning Ahead – Future of the MCS Industry Partnership**

The following questions were posed to the group:

- Which types of meetings do you find most valuable?
- What topics would you like to see covered in future meetings?
- Are there specific guest speakers or organizations you’d like us to invite?
- How can we better balance information-sharing vs. Networking time?

Responses included:

- Meeting format responses were mixed, with some perspectives that in-person meetings and tours were valuable, while virtual/hybrid meetings could offer more flexibility. One suggestion was to perhaps alternate between in-person and virtual each meeting session.

- Regarding timing, Mondays were seen as ideal by some and challenging by other participants. Some responses noted that a calendar invitation was all they needed to work around their schedules, while others highlighted business or other meeting commitments on Mondays that were consistently prohibitive for joining. One suggestion was to hold each meeting on a different day, although others suggested that could cause more confusion.
- A request came for more discussion and focus on Supply Chain and Logistics, especially non-traditional warehousing, inventory analysis, and robotics. This developed into a discussion on growing the participation of companies from those industries. **Participants are encouraged to share the invitation with your network to welcome additional employers to join.**
- Suggested topics for future discussions included:
  - o AI in industry
  - o Education/Training resources and how to align with industry needs
  - o Jobseekers from the community to engage directly with the Partnership
  - o Barrier remediation (Childcare and transportation resources)

#### **4. Closing**

**Sarah Lutz** announced that the next meeting would take place at Heidelberg Materials on May 18th. The discussion was adjourned at 3:15PM and followed by a tour of Amrize.

#### **Next Meeting:**

**DATE:** Monday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2026

**TIME:** 2:00PM – 3:30PM

#### **LOCATION:**

**Heidelberg Materials**

7535 Windsor Dr #300

Allentown, PA 18106