

[Back to the Profile](#)

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

CENTRAL BRADFORD INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (CBIDC)

PURPOSE:	CBIDC's mission is to provide full-service community- and economic-development services to retain and create jobs and enhance the region's quality of life.
ORIGIN:	An economic-development organization formed in 1993 in an inter-municipal cooperative effort by Towanda Borough, Towanda Township, North Towanda Township, and Wysox Township was re-named the Central Bradford Progress Authority (CBPA) in 1996. In 2001, CBPA merged with the Towanda Area Industrial Development Corporation and renamed that entity CBIDC. CBPA and CBIDC share office space and staff.
HOW IT WORKS:	CBIDC facilitates industrial-development projects and obtains financing from the Pennsylvania Industrial Development Authority (PIDA) for area businesses. It works very closely with CBPA, a public entity that applies for public grants and facilitates tax-free financing.
SERVICE AREA:	CBIDC serves central Bradford County. It is currently developing an outreach program to serve other areas in Bradford County.
TRACK RECORD:	CBIDC has assisted in the expansion of many industrial firms, including three businesses in North Towanda Township — a DuPont x-ray division, an Osram Sylvania chemical and metallurgical plant, and Frontier Industrial Technologies' web-based business. It also assisted in the development of a Metadyne, Inc. manufacturing site in Towanda. It obtained a Pennsylvania enterprise zone designation for Towanda Borough, Towanda Township, North Towanda Township, and Wysox Township.
FUTURE PLANS:	CBIDC will continue to seek PIDA financing for area industrial firms and will try to spur new private development.
WHAT ARE THE CREDIT NEEDS IN YOUR COMMUNITY:	Area credit needs include low-interest business loans and tax-exempt financing.
BUDGET FY 2000:	Not available
FUNDING SOURCES:	CBIDC's funding sources include fees for services and state grants.
STAFF:	CBIDC and CBPA share a staff consisting of an executive director, administrative assistant, and one part-time staff member.
CONTACT PERSON'S BACKGROUND:	Anthony Ventello has 15 years' experience in economic development and has been executive director of CBIDC and CBPA and their predecessor organizations since 1993.

**CONTACT
INFORMATION:**

Anthony Ventello
Executive Director
Central Bradford Industrial Development Corporation
One Progress Plaza, Suite 3
Towanda, PA 18848
(570) 265-0937
(570) 265-0935 (fax)
E-mail **cbpa@epix.net**
Web Site: **www.cbprogress.org**

OFFICERS:

Paul Kreischer	President
Dr. Thomas Henson	Vice-President
Philip Kaminsky	Treasurer
Robert Sheets	Secretary

NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA ALLIANCE

- PURPOSE:** NPA provides a non-partisan organizational framework to promote the social and economic development of a seven-county region. It seeks to promote the retention and expansion of industrial, commercial, research, and educational activities and to improve the region's environment, recreational facilities, and quality of life.
- ORIGIN:** NPA was created in 1964 as a research and service organization. The founding members were development leaders from Lackawanna and Luzerne counties who decided that a regional organization was needed to coordinate economic development activities, to bring together different economic and planning groups, and to provide a neutral data and information source.
- HOW IT WORKS:** NPA operates business-development and finance programs designed to attract businesses to its service area and to guide them through the application process for a range of financial-assistance programs. It operates 15 primarily economic development-oriented loan funds. NPA assists businesses in obtaining funds from state programs offered by the Pennsylvania Industrial Development Authority and the Pennsylvania Economic Development Financing Authority.
- It is active in state business programs, including a Team Northern Pennsylvania Entrepreneurial Network that assists businesses with mentors and other services. The network, organized in conjunction with Northern Tier Regional Planning and Development Commission (Northern Tier), serves a 13-county region. The network's web site is: www.pabizhelp.com.
- NPA and Northern Tier are two of seven local development districts (LDDs) that serve rural regions in Pennsylvania. The seven are participating in a microloan program for entrepreneurs that is operated in the LDDs' service areas by the Pennsylvania Appalachian Community Alliance (PACA), which is located in Harrisburg. Loans of \$2,500 to \$50,000 are provided through the program for working capital, machinery and equipment, and building acquisition.
- It also is active in providing technical assistance for affordable-housing development. NPA's housing-advisory committee identifies issues and opportunities in affordable-housing development in northeastern Pennsylvania. NPA, which conducts an annual survey of housing needs, operates a federally funded revolving loan fund that seeks to stimulate development of affordable housing for low- and moderate-income individuals. It uses the fund primarily to acquire, construct, or renovate housing.

In some of its other activities, NPA provides economic and other data on northeastern Pennsylvania, organizes flood-mitigation and other environmental programs, assists in rural-transportation planning, coordinates a regional education task force, and assists nonprofit organizations in identifying funding sources.

SERVICE AREA:

NPA serves Carbon, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Monroe, Pike, Schuylkill, and Wayne counties.

TRACK RECORD:

NPA has been a catalyst in stimulating regional initiatives designed to attract higher-technology businesses to the region. It has identified affordable-housing needs and helped develop both owner-occupied and rental housing in its region. It has developed close working relationships with city, county, state, and federal government agencies as well as with financial institutions.

FUTURE PLANS:

NPA expects to work more closely with county economic-development agencies in the future.

WHAT ARE THE CREDIT NEEDS IN YOUR COMMUNITY:

The region's credit needs include financing for start-up and microbusinesses, venture capital, and mezzanine financing.

BUDGET FY 2000:

\$2.9 million

FUNDING SOURCES:

NPA's funding sources include the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development, the Appalachian Regional Commission, federal and county agencies, banks, utilities, and businesses.

STAFF:

NPA has 30 full-time and part-time employees.

CONTACT PERSON'S BACKGROUND:

Thomas Pellegrini, director of NPA's community economic development department, has been with NPA for 24 years.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Thomas Pellegrini
Director
Community Economic Development Department
Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance
1151 Oak Street
Pittston, PA 18640
(570) 655-5581
(570) 654-5137 (fax)
E-mail: tompel@edcnp.org
Web Site: www.edcnp.org

OFFICERS:

David Donlin	Chairperson
Mahmoud Fahmny	First Vice Chairperson
Paul Canevari	Second Vice Chairperson
Gary Boam	Treasurer
Annetta DeYoung	Assistant Treasurer

John Hanosek
Ernest Preate

Secretary
Assistant Secretary

GREATER HONESDALE PARTNERSHIP (GHP)

PURPOSE:	GHP's mission is to promote retail businesses in the Honesdale area.
ORIGIN:	GHP was formed in 2000 in response to the increasing number of vacant storefronts on Honesdale's main street.
HOW IT WORKS:	GHP provides business assistance, marketing, and recruitment. GHP has a Helping Hand program that assists new businesses by providing small grants for business cards, façade improvements, advertising, and other purposes. It also assists Wayne County residents who are starting new businesses to obtain working-capital loans of up to \$10,000 from a local trust fund.
SERVICE AREA:	GHP serves the Borough of Honesdale and an area of three miles around the boundaries of the borough.
TRACK RECORD:	From June 2000 to June 2001, GHP assisted 10 new retail businesses in its service area. These new businesses created approximately 20 new service-industry jobs.
FUTURE PLANS:	<p>GHP has applied for funding from USDA to provide financial assistance to area businesses with computer and other technology-related needs.</p> <p>It also plans to help develop a web site to make Honesdale better known as a tourist destination and to enable area retailers to conduct business through the Internet.</p>
WHAT ARE THE CREDIT NEEDS IN YOUR COMMUNITY:	Low-interest loan pools are needed to attract and support new and existing retail businesses in the greater Honesdale area.
BUDGET FY 2000:	\$75,000
FUNDING SOURCES:	GHP's funding sources include grants from area businesses.
STAFF:	GHP has a full-time executive director and part-time volunteer administrative assistant.
CONTACT PERSON'S BACKGROUND:	Carson Mader, executive director of GHP, has over 20 years of management and business experience. He is a former executive director of the Wayne County YMCA and director of the Honesdale branch of Lackawanna Junior College.
CONTACT INFORMATION:	Carson L. Mader Executive Director Greater Honesdale Partnership 303 Commercial Street

Honesdale, PA 18431
(570) 253-5492
(570) 253-1517 (fax)
E-mail: waynecoc@sunlink.net
Web Site: **none**

OFFICERS:

Michael O'Day	President
Annetta DeYoung	Vice President
Cindy Williams	Secretary
Fredrick Eck	Treasurer

MONTROSE AREA INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY, INC. (MAIDA)

PURPOSE: MAIDA's mission is to promote economic development in the Montrose area of Susquehanna County.

ORIGIN: MAIDA was formed by community business leaders in cooperation with the Montrose Area Chamber of Commerce.

HOW IT WORKS: MAIDA is an organization of 10 volunteers who respond to inquiries from businesses looking to locate or expand in Susquehanna County. MAIDA helps businesses apply for Pennsylvania Industrial Development Authority financing. MAIDA meets as needed, typically every other month.

SERVICE AREA: MAIDA serves the greater Montrose area.

TRACK RECORD: MAIDA has helped about 10 businesses locate in the Montrose area since 1970. It has also assisted businesses with financing options, thereby increasing employment opportunities available to area residents.

FUTURE PLANS: MAIDA will continue to respond to inquiries from businesses interested in locating or expanding in the greater Montrose area.

WHAT ARE THE CREDIT NEEDS IN YOUR COMMUNITY: Banks should offer innovative, flexible products for low-income home ownership and for new and expanding small businesses and industrial firms.

BUDGET FY 2000: None

FUNDING SOURCES: MAIDA occasionally receives fees for its preparation of public-financing applications.

STAFF: MAIDA has an all-volunteer staff.

CONTACT PERSON'S BACKGROUND: William Robinson, president of MAIDA, has operated a small business in the Montrose area since 1973.

CONTACT INFORMATION: William Robinson
President
Montrose Area Industrial Development Agency, Inc.
P.O. Box 144
South Montrose, PA 18843
(570) 278-1444
(570) 278-9054 (fax)
E-mail: **none**
Web Site: **none**

OFFICERS: William Robinson President
Edward Fish Vice President

Gerald Lathrop
James Considine

Treasurer
Secretary

**NORTHERN TIER REGIONAL PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
(NORTHERN TIER)**

- PURPOSE:** Northern Tier Regional Planning and Development Commission helps businesses expand their markets and seeks to generate employment, improve the economy, and plan for future development of the region.
- ORIGIN:** Northern Tier is a local development district established in 1970 as a union between the Northern Tier Regional Planning Commission and the Northern Tier Economic Development Association.
- HOW IT WORKS:** Northern Tier provides small businesses with entrepreneurial training and development assistance, job-training programs, export-marketing services, and low-interest loans. Northern Tier assists businesses in obtaining funds from such state programs as Small Business First, the Pennsylvania Industrial Development Authority, and the Pennsylvania Economic Development Financing Authority. It also operates several revolving loan funds that can generally be used for land acquisition, building and renovations, machinery and equipment, site preparation, and working capital.
- Northern Tier also assists applicants in preparing state and federal loan and grant packages for housing rehabilitation and water, sewer, and recreational projects. Other Northern Tier programs concern government procurement, regional-transportation planning, and workforce development.
- SERVICE AREA:** Northern Tier serves Bradford, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Tioga, and Wyoming counties.
- TRACK RECORD:** In 2000, Northern Tier assisted 90 businesses. With Northern Tier's assistance, 3,301 full-time jobs have been created in the past 10 years.
- FUTURE PLANS:** Northern Tier hopes to create more partnerships with area financial institutions to take advantage of state and federal economic development programs.
- WHAT ARE THE CREDIT NEEDS IN YOUR COMMUNITY:** Area needs include small-business and microbusiness financing.
- BUDGET FY 2000:** Not available
- FUNDING SOURCES:** Northern Tier's funding sources include the Appalachian Regional Commission, U.S. Department of Commerce, U.S. Department of Defense, U.S. Department of Labor, Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development, and the counties that it serves.

**CONTACT PERSON'S
BACKGROUND:**

Kevin D. Abrams has been executive director of Northern Tier Regional Planning and Development Commission since 1993. He previously was director of the Elk County Planning Commission from 1983 to 1993.

STAFF:

Northern Tier has 26 full-time staff members.

**CONTACT
INFORMATION:**

Kevin D. Abrams
Executive Director
Northern Tier Regional Planning and Development Commission
312 Main Street
Towanda, PA 18848
(570) 265-9103
(570) 265-7585 (fax)
E-mail: abrams@northerntier.org
Web Site: www.northerntier.org

OFFICERS:

Janet Lewis	Chairperson
Erick Coolidge	First Vice-Chairperson
James Rogers	Second Vice-Chairperson
Gary Marcho	Secretary
Judy Mead	Treasurer

SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY HABITAT FOR HUMANITY (SUSQUEHANNA HABITAT)

- PURPOSE:** Susquehanna County Habitat is an interfaith ministry working through partnerships to eliminate substandard housing.
- ORIGIN:** Susquehanna County Habitat became an affiliate of Habitat International in 1999 after a group of interested residents began meeting with a common belief that substandard houses in the county must be eliminated.
- HOW IT WORKS:** Susquehanna County Habitat renovates houses through volunteer labor in partnership with families in need. Applicants are screened according to their need, ability to work with Habitat, and ability to make mortgage payments.
- SERVICE AREA:** Susquehanna County Habitat serves Susquehanna County.
- TRACK RECORD:** Susquehanna County Habitat has renovated one house in Montrose and is currently renovating a house in Susquehanna Borough.
- FUTURE PLANS:** Susquehanna County Habitat plans to renovate at least one property per year and may build one new house in 2002.
- WHAT ARE THE CREDIT NEEDS IN YOUR COMMUNITY:** Area credit needs include low-interest mortgage loans for low-income families.
- BUDGET FY 2000:** Not available
- FUNDING SOURCES:** Susquehanna County Habitat's funding sources include local service organizations, businesses, churches, a local community foundation, individuals, loan payments, and fundraisers.
- STAFF:** Susquehanna County Habitat has no paid staff.
- CONTACT PERSON'S BACKGROUND:** George L. Hill, Jr., publicity chairperson of Susquehanna County Habitat, is a retired banker who previously served as treasurer of a Habitat for Humanity affiliate in Salem County, New Jersey for eight years.

**CONTACT
INFORMATION:**

George L. Hill, Jr.
Publicity Chairperson
Susquehanna County Habitat for Humanity
P.O. Box 203
Susquehanna, PA 18847
(570) 853-0926
Fax: **none**
E-mail: **heartglh@epix.net**
Web Site: **none**

OFFICERS:

James E. Bucci	President
Kathryn M. Burdick	Vice President
Suzanne E. Needham	Secretary
Theodore L. Brewster	Treasurer

VALLEY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION (VEDA)

PURPOSE:	VEDA's mission is to assist and promote economic development in north-central Bradford County and adjacent areas in New York.
ORIGIN:	VEDA was formed in 1948 to spur economic development. VEDA is incorporated in both Pennsylvania and New York since its service area includes parts of both states.
HOW IT WORKS:	VEDA assesses and addresses needs of existing businesses and seeks new business opportunities.
SERVICE AREA:	VEDA primarily serves the north-central area of Bradford County, Pennsylvania, which includes Athens Township, Athens Borough, Sayre Borough, and South Waverly Borough. Its service area in New York includes the village of Waverly and the towns of Barton and Chemung.
TRACK RECORD:	From 1948 to 1985, VEDA helped attract industrial firms that created more than 1,500 jobs. It has purchased and sold land, developed several business parks, and established a revolving loan fund. In 1996, it established a workforce-education program, which evolved into an independent nonprofit organization in 1998.
FUTURE PLANS:	VEDA will work with other business organizations to address workforce education and other needs.
WHAT ARE THE CREDIT NEEDS IN YOUR COMMUNITY:	Area businesses need better access to competitive commercial-banking services.
BUDGET FY 2000:	Not available
FUNDING SOURCES:	VEDA's funding sources primarily include membership dues and a grant for operating support from the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development.
STAFF:	VEDA currently employs one full-time administrator. It is governed by a 21-member board of directors.
CONTACT PERSON'S BACKGROUND:	Sherry Reynard, administrator of VEDA, has two years' experience in the economic-development field. She previously worked in real-estate development.
CONTACT INFORMATION:	Sherry L. Reynard Adminstrator Valley Economic Development Association The Enterprise Center 703 South Elmer Avenue Sayre, PA 18840

(570) 888-2166
(570) 888-0814 (fax)
E-mail: valleyeda@cyber-quest.com
Web Site: none

OFFICERS:

George Gutierrez	President
Bill Soprano	First Vice President
Cathy Pientka	Second Vice President
Don Jayne	Treasurer
Sherry Reynard	Secretary

WAYNE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (WIDCO)

- PURPOSE:** WIDCO works with the public and private sectors to stimulate industrial development and improve the quality of life in Wayne County.
- ORIGIN:** WIDCO was formed in 1955 by local business and community leaders in response to the closure of the Husco Shoe Company facility in Wayne County.
- HOW IT WORKS:** WIDCO promotes business expansion and relocation to Wayne County, assists businesses in obtaining public financing, and promotes regional development efforts, including development of Keystone Opportunity Zones.
- SERVICE AREA:** WIDCO serves Wayne County.
- TRACK RECORD:** WIDCO processed low-interest loans and grants for area businesses totaling more than \$2 million in 2000, which helped create more than 400 new jobs.
- WIDCO has conducted 180 interviews in the region in connection with the Team Pennsylvania Business Calling Program and will complete 40 interviews in 2001.
- FUTURE PLANS:** WIDCO will seek to develop business parks and sites with infrastructure.
- WHAT ARE THE CREDIT NEEDS IN YOUR COMMUNITY:** Banks should support loan pools designed to attract industrial and smaller commercial business to Wayne County.
- Banks and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania should continue to develop innovative, flexible products for new and expanding businesses.
- BUDGET FY 2000:** \$135,000
- FUNDING SOURCES:** WIDCO's primary funding sources are public- and private-sector memberships, fees for services, and state grants.
- STAFF:** WIDCO has one full-time and two part-time employees.
- CONTACT PERSON'S BACKGROUND:** Robert J. Suhosky has 16 years of financial-management experience, including three years' experience as executive director of WIDCO.
- CONTACT INFORMATION:** Robert J. Suhosky
Executive Director
Wayne Industrial Development Corporation
100 Fourth Street

Honesdale, PA 18431
(570) 253-5334
(570) 253-0818 (fax)
E-mail: wayneidc@ezaccess.net
Web Site: www.widco.org

OFFICERS:

Paul Meagher	President
Paul Lloyd	Vice President
Kelley Lalley	Secretary
Eugene Molessa	Secretary