

Press Release

For Immediate Release



**CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
130 KELLY SQUARE, SUITE 1
LEWISBURG, PA 17837
PHONE: 570.568.6868 • FAX 570.568.6867 • www.cpwdc.org**

**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT:
TERI MACBRIDE, CPWDC BOARD CHAIR, 570.416.5135
RACHEL SMITH, CPWDC, 570.568.6868**

SMITH NAMED EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR LOCAL WORKFORCE CORPORATION

Lewisburg, PA – Teri MacBride, Chair of the Central Pennsylvania Workforce Development Corporation (CPWDC), has announced the appointment of Rachel V. Smith as the organization’s Executive Director effective March 23, 2012. During her 11 ½ year tenure with CPWDC, Ms. Smith has held various positions within the organization as she has assumed progressively more responsibility. She most previously served as CPWDC’s Assistant Director before being named Acting Director in January.

MacBride explained that Smith’s workforce experience and knowledge of Central Pennsylvania made her the winning candidate in the national search. “The 41-member Board of Directors of the CPWDC is confident in Smith’s leadership and vision for the organization. She understands the operations, the policy and the key players in the workforce development arena. During her tenure, Smith has been critical in expanding CPWDC’s strategic portfolio by securing millions of dollars in competitive grants and developing CPWDC’s internal research department which provides labor market support to other workforce investment areas, economic developers and employers.”

Smith intends to position CPWDC as the visible leader in cultivating a regional conversation about workforce issues. “In addition to the important oversight we provide to the region’s six PA CareerLink[®] facilities, CPWDC has expertise and dedicated staff to be a key partner in planning, executing and evaluating workforce solutions. I am excited to build on the organization’s strong foundation and relationships with many local and regional partners”, Smith stated. Regardless of economic conditions, the importance of having a qualified workforce never goes away. Smith and her team will continue to think critically about the next generation of workforce development.

CPWDC serves as the local Workforce Investment Board (WIB) for Centre, Clinton, Columbia, Lycoming, Mifflin, Montour, Northumberland, Snyder and Union Counties. CPWDC, incorporated in 1999, is responsible for coordinating and developing Central Pennsylvania’s workforce system. CPWDC is one of 22 local WIBs across the Commonwealth.

Smith is a graduate of Middleburg High School, Shippensburg University and Virginia Tech, where she earned her Master’s degree in Public Administration. Smith resides with her family in Union County.