SkillWorks Fellowship: Process & Timeline

- March 2022: “Call for Pitches” sent to 19 workforce development organizations; 15 confirmed intent to participate
- Apr-Jun: Pitch presentation prep with SkillWorks staff; external Fellowship Review Team identified
- May: 2 full-day “Pitch Days,” half-day Review Team deliberation and decision day; selection of 9 awardees (3 Solutions Grants, 6 Design Grants)
- June: Awardees notified; public announcement & event
- Sept 2022-May 2023: Design Lab convenings (at least 3); external coaching and technical assistance; access to peer networking and collaboration
- June 2023: Design Idea Showcase event
SkillWorks Fellowship:
External Review Team

Vetto Casado, The Boston Foundation
Andre Green, SkillWorks
Karen Groce-Horan, United Way of Massachusetts Bay & Merrimack Valley
Jerry Roberts, Milwaukee Area Workforce Funding Alliance

Carolyn Ryan, Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce
Abby Marquand, New Profit
Navjeet Singh, Independent workforce development consultant
Rafia Zahir-Uddin, JPMorgan Chase
SkillWorks Fellowship Solutions Grants

- $200,000/2 years ($100,000 per year) General Operating Support for implementation of Solution Idea
- Up to additional $25,000 per year for consulting, technical support, 1:1 coaching
- Includes optional participation and access to Solution Design Lab, coaching, and technical assistance
Solution Idea: Hack.Hub

Hack.Hub is a marketplace that connects talent at varying stages of their careers into upwardly mobile roles by directing employers to evaluate through a Racial Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (REDI) lens.
Solution Idea: Job Quality Benchmarking Index

JVS’s Job Quality Benchmarking Index (JQBI) leverages the market to raise the floor and partner with companies to make meaningful job redesigns, in some cases increasing annual earnings by up to $15,000 per year. Scaling this model will impact entry-level workers across the region and nationally through JQBI licensees.
Solution Idea: GROW Center

NECAT's GROW Center will provide a physical space for students to improve their skills, gain valuable experience and continue to build relationships with industry experts. The Center will be available to all students and alumni.
SkillWorks Fellowship
Design Grants

• $50,000/1 year General Operating Support for planning and development of Solution Idea
• Includes required participation and access to Solution Design Lab, coaching, and technical assistance
Solution Idea:
Integrated on-ramp to healthcare careers

Entry level health care jobs provide workers with requisite experience and references for employment and advancement. HEART and its CBO partners will construct an integrated, cohort-modeled welcoming and accessible on-ramp to health skills training connected to jobs with structured onboarding.
Solution Idea: SelfCorps

Modeled on the skill-building and leadership development goals and activities of service member programs, SelfCorps is a project designed to help under and unemployed refugees and immigrants improve meaningful personal engagement in and achievement of professional development, career success, and lasting self-sufficiency.
Solution Idea: Expanded Alumni Services Program

Just A Start will be working on expanding its Alumni Services Program and focusing on career advancement and economic mobility for graduates in the biomedical field. Expanding coaching, training, and networking opportunities will enable alumni to not only enter the biomedical field but to advance professionally in their companies.
Massachusetts Workforce Association (MWA)

Solution Idea: Advocacy Academy

MWA seeks to develop an Advocacy Academy that can prepare a diverse network of professionals to advocate on important workforce development issues in Massachusetts.
Solution Idea: The HUB – Workforce development with reentry & recovery support

THE HUB will serve as a strategic center combining STRIVE’S proven success with work readiness with holistic wrap-around supports and partnerships with community, employer, and justice system partners. We will create a multi-pronged approach to address workforce barriers for returning and recovering citizens.
Solution Idea:
Place-based employment pipeline

TND’s CONNECT program is working with allies to strengthen workforce development ecosystems both within and across Chelsea and Revere. A SkillWorks Fellowship planning grant will support development of a jobs pipeline and on-the-job training program for immigrants and People of Color who have one or more barriers to employment.