# The INSTITUTE

at Wilkes University

Summer 2019 Volume 15 Issue 4

## "Turning Information into Insight"

# Post-Graduation Student Poll, Spring 2019

- What are the factors for those who plan to relocate?
- How big of a role do internships play for those who plan to remain in the region?
- What are the most important factors graduates consider when evaluating job opportunities?



See the results here.



- Moses Taylor Foundation Raising Awareness Surrounding the 2020 Census
- Research in Action
- Farewell to an Esteemed Colleague
- QEQ Summer Edition
- Intern Appreciation
- Client Services
- Research Underwriters

The 2019 Indicators Report is now online!

Access it here



A collaboration among Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine, Johnson College, Keystone College, King's College, Lackawanna College, Luzerne County Community College, Marywood University, Misericordia University, Penn State Scranton, Penn State Wilkes-Barre,
The Wright Center for Graduate Medical Education, University of Scranton, and Wilkes University

# Moses Taylor Foundation: Heightening Awareness Surrounding the 2020 Census



The U.S. Census is critical to communities, regions, and states across the country. The Census serves as a basis to allocate federal funding for programs in health, social services, housing, education, and infrastructure as well as congressional representation. Everyone has to be counted in order to maintain and grow our economic vitality.

Thanks to the support of the Moses Taylor Foundation, The Institute is distributing educational material to community members and professionals throughout the region. These handouts and posters are available in five languages and cover a multitude of topics—all of which are influenced by census count.

### View the literature here

The Census Awareness Initiative to educate the community on the importance of participating in the census is funded by the Moses Taylor Foundation.



**Research is in action all over the region!** The Citizens Voice has published an <u>article</u> on the health effects of fast food, and Fox 56 produced a <u>story</u> on limited access to healthy food items in the area. Both media outlets referenced The Institute's <u>study</u> on the ways environment, access, and literacy impact healthy food options.

That's not all! The Times Leader has <u>reported</u> that the SHINE after-school program is expanding into two more schools. Several years ago, Institute research revealed that programs like SHINE help reduce gang activity. Then in 2015, the after-school program was born in Luzerne County. Last year, almost 500 students participated in this amazing academic enrichment and career exploration program! Great job by all at SHINE who are keeping things moving in the right direction in NEPA!



# All the best, Chris!

The Institute's research team extends well wishes and a fond farewell to analyst Chris Ritter, who is embarking on a journey to earn his PhD at Duke University.

# Are you ready to learn about the region's latest economic data and trends?

The Summer 2019 issue of the Quarterly Economic Tracker, is here!

# **Check it out!**

We would like to thank the Willary Foundation for the seed capital to start the QET and the Sordoni Family Foundation, our Signature underwriter, of the QET and Supporting Underwriter, UGI Utilities.



### Best regards to our talented interns!

Many thanks and warm wishes to the bright and committed students who completed research internships with The Institute throughout the summer...

- Gardyney Deshommes , Misericordia University
- Miranda Pace, Penn State University
- Shawn Reilly, Keystone College
- Courtney Skovish, Wilkes University
- James Vitale, Wilkes University



#### **Client Solutions**

Market & Feasibility Studies	Survey Research	Economic and Demographic Profiles
Indicators- Indexes	Industry Studies	Grant and Program Evaluation Support
Community Needs Assessments	Workforce Studies	Research Validation and Peer Review
Housing Studies	Education Studies	Tourism Strategic Plans
Economic Development Strategies	Policy Analysis	Comprehensive Plans
Economic and Tax Impact Studies	Site Selection Research	Asset Maps
	Arts & Culture Studies	

## Are You Interested in a Partnership?

Do you feel a personal connection to the culturally-rich northeast? Would you like to further invest in the region? If so, we invite you to join our growing list of generous community of supporters. Your underwriting will help the Institute provide our community with data and research that promotes informed decision-making and leads to greater economic vitality for the area.

Your partnership will contribute to:

Task Force Research
Indicators Report
Quarterly Economy Tracker
Regional College Student Poll
Regional College Internship Program
Special Community Based Research Projects

Please contact Susan Magnotta at <a href="magnotta@institutepa.org">magnotta@institutepa.org</a> to discuss the possibilities!

#### **Community-Based Research**

Access the latest regional research on the Institute's website. www.institutepa.org

#### **Regional Indicators Data & Research**

Indicators data tracks the region's progress over time. They include economy, healthcare, environment, education and infrastructure measures. https://institutepa.org/perch/resources/indicators18.pdf

#### **Task Force Research**

Recent and archived research studies identify and address the region's challenges. This research is a driving force behind many important economic development and community revitalization initiatives , which produce positive outcomes for our area.

https://institutepa.org/indicators.php

#### **Quarterly Economic Tracker**

This quarterly electronic publication explores the region's economic and business trends.

https://institutepa.org/economy-tracker.php

#### **Polling Program**

Better understand the student perceptions of the region, post graduation plans, public policy views, and civic engagement of our local college students and future leaders. https://institutepa.org/polling-program.php

#### Who We Are

The Institute is dedicated to empowering business and community leaders with researched-driven strategies for informed decision-making.

We conduct community-based, empirical research to identify the opportunities and challenges unique to our region, and offer innovative solutions for the problems facing our communities. This research is funded by generous academic partners and sponsors who share our vision for a strong regional economy and vibrant communities.

# Thank you to our 2019 Research Underwriters!

The Institute would like to sincerely thank our generous stakeholders who share our vision for a strong regional economy and healthy communities.

Your support makes our work possible!

#### **Signature Underwriters**

Andrew J. Sordoni Foundation
Luzerne County
PPL Electric Utilities
Sordoni Family Foundation

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