

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, June 1, 2023

Contact: Kirstin Alvanitakis, kirstinalv@pa.gov

Lt. Gov. Austin Davis Visits Tec Centro SW in Lancaster to Highlight Shapiro-Davis Budget's Investments in Workforce Development

Shapiro's budget boosts funding by \$23.8 million to build partnerships between career and technical education and industries, trades and entities that need highly skilled workers

Lancaster, PA – At a visit to Tec Centro SW in Lancaster today, **Lt. Gov. Austin Davis** highlighted how **Governor Josh Shapiro's** proposed budget plan invests in workforce development, technical training, and apprenticeships.

"The Governor and I want to make Pennsylvania a leader in innovation, job creation and economic development," said **Davis**. "If we're going to address the workforce shortages facing our communities, we must empower Pennsylvanians to pursue their dreams, no matter what they may be. That's why the Shapiro-Davis budget invests more into apprenticeship programs, expands vo-tech and brings career and technical training back into the classroom, to give students that freedom and help prepare them for the future."

The [Shapiro-Davis budget](#) proposes an increase of \$23.8 million to build partnerships between career and technical education and industries, trades and entities that need highly skilled workers.

Tec Centro is a provider of bilingual education and skill training for those who are unemployed and under-employed, as well as families living in poverty. Tec Centro operates two workforce centers in Lancaster and one in Reading, and they are preparing to open a facility in Lebanon this summer, one in York later this year and one in Harrisburg in 2024.

"Governor Shapiro's proposed budget increase in education-industry partnerships will build a critical information bridge between workers, educational institutions and industries: workers will know what skills they need to get the jobs they want, educational institutions will design programs that teach workers the in-demand skills they need to thrive, and businesses will be able to fill their talent pipeline with highly skilled workers," state Rep. Ismail Smith-Wade-El said. "This is a smart and necessary investment in our people, our communities, and our industries that will pay dividends in the years to come. I want to thank the Lieutenant Governor for coming to visit Tec Centro, which trains over 1,200 workers in Lancaster alone, giving them and their families a shot at a better life."

###