

Mark Edwards

Mark Edwards served as the President and CEO of Philadelphia Works, Inc., the city's workforce development board, from 2010 to 2016. With an annual budget of more than \$62 million, Philadelphia Works invests in solutions and services to grow Philadelphia's economy by connecting employers to workforce talent and career seekers to jobs; it also influences public policies that support economic growth, and optimizes funding and resources to invest in regional solutions to build a skilled and thriving workforce. Under Mark's leadership, Philadelphia Works modernized and integrated its operations, expanded its use of data and technology to better meet the needs of both employers and job seekers, significantly increased both the number of employers using its services and the total number of placements annually. It also deepened its strategic linkages with other key city agencies involved in economic development and commercial revitalization, and raised over \$16.5 million for local neighborhood revitalization and economic development through private fundraising and government investment.



At the national level, Mark served as the 1st Vice President of the U.S. Conference of Mayors (USCM) 2016 Workforce Development Council (WDC) Board of Trustees. The WDC works closely with mayors and their representatives to influence Congress, policy, and the U.S. Department of Labor in directing employment and training funds throughout the country.

Before moving to Philadelphia Works, Edwards served as Executive Director with the Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC), where he led its Philadelphia office; during his tenure Philadelphia LISC the company implemented a five-year investment strategy that committing \$100 million to the Philadelphia market and raised and invested more than \$43 million in communities throughout Philadelphia. Edwards previously served as Senior Vice President and COO of Germantown Settlement, Senior Vice President of the Urban League of Philadelphia; and Deputy Executive Director, City of Philadelphia, Mayor's Anti-Graffiti Network from 1987 to 1996.

Edwards served on the board of trustees for Community College of Philadelphia and the board of advisors for PNC Bank Community Development and the Mayor's Office of Community Empowerment and Opportunity. He currently serves as a Trustee of Pierce College and is a Fellow for Temple University's Center on Regional Politics. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Morehouse College.