

Wilmington: A top destination for tech talent

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THE FUTURE LOOKS BRIGHT for Delaware. With unemployment rates in the state not seen since 1988, and a huge demand for technologists, now is the perfect time for reinvestment in The First State.

M&T Bank aims to be part of the solution in cultivating and bringing talent to Delaware and to that end, we're working to make Wilmington a top destination for tech talent.

Earlier this spring, we announced plans to hire hundreds of professionals including 200 technologists in Delaware over the next few years. Our new tech hires will be embedded along with our other employees to drive growth in our downtown Wilmington offices. To put it simply, we're bringing our use of technology in-house and placing it within the communities we serve. We think this gives us an edge in differentiating our products and services, while challenging us to build a strong tech community in Delaware.

Choosing Wilmington was no mistake.

Wilmington offers businesses a unique opportunity to work with local government, higher education, non-government organizations, startups, and other private corporations to create a unique ecosystem conducive to the very tech talent hub we are working to build. Not to mention the lower cost of living and stronger sense of community when compared to the top-tier cities competing for the very same tech talent.

Collaboration across sectors and strong workforce development will be critical factors in building a tech hub here in Delaware. To create alternate pipelines for hard-to-find tech talent, we will establish a technology development program in partnership with higher education institutions such as the University of Delaware and other colleges. We have also committed to partnerships with programs such as Zip Code Wilmington, which coaches motivated people from diverse backgrounds into skilled, professional developers. It's through these public/private partnerships that amazing things will happen.

As a company, we recognize that our success is dependent on our ability to drive an internal culture of innovation. By utilizing various pipelines to find and develop talent, we have pledged to cultivate an environment that allows for team members to collaborate and innovate to achieve common goals.

All in all, we expect to grow Delaware into a compelling destination for talented, innovative, tech-savvy professionals who are dedicated to solving the issues of our quickly changing world.

Together, we can create a culture and community of innovation that will drive sustainable job growth and overall economic development in Delaware. ■

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