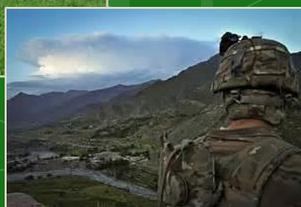


> A Local Advantage

November 2014



Local Workforce Investment Boards work hard to coordinate, collaborate and design a local workforce system that meets local expectations but also falls in line with the Kentucky Workforce Investment Board's vision, while complying with state and federal guidelines. This is just a glimpse inside the local level to help establish an understanding of best practices, local workforce development system building, and successful local planning that help employers, job seekers, and students every day.

Barron River

ACE – Academy for Career Excellence ... a Series for Youth

The ACE program combines the BRADD Workforce Investment Board's successful Teacher Academy program with new career prep resources to serve their students. A Monster.com kickoff event held on September 24th and 25th brought in motivational speakers to get the students fired up about their careers. Students visited the Career Marketplace where area employers discussed their companies and career opportunities. Monthly workshops took place in the schools which focused on the Seven Habits of Highly Effective Teens. Junior Achievement also covered additional topics that directly related to seeking and gaining future employment. Participating students had monthly homework Challenges tied to Industry / Education site visits. Career fairs were held at the conclusion of the workshops to put the skills learned in the ACE program to use and students were given information about tuition assistance and funding for post secondary education opportunities.

Workforce Investment Act Career Counselors and/or Career Center Staff Being Trained Extensively:

WIA Career Counselors were certified to teach the Workplace Excellence Series in September 2014 and certified to be proctors for the NRF Foundation (National Retail Federation) certification series. This training will assist counselors in more effectively helping people understand and deliver the essential workplace skills that companies demand today as well as to shape retail's future by fostering career growth among their customers (both job seekers and employers) who work in retail. Counselors now better understand and address the skills gaps determined by feedback from the local employers.

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Customized Career Fairs for Employers:

The WIA team along with OET, the Bowling Green Chamber, Goodwill, Experience Works, etc. are working together to have **Customized Job Fairs** for area employers. These job fairs consist of pre-registering and obtaining fast passes, pre-screening, completing job applications before the event, and follow-up for those customers who are not hired to assist them in overcoming their barriers and finding self sufficient employment.

A Recent Article Published by Mo Miller, Chair of the Lincoln Trail Workforce Investment Board and Owner of Stone Works Inc. in Elizabethtown...

Excerpt from article...

“Having served on the Lincoln Trail WIB for nearly six years, and as the current chairman for 18 months, I’ve heard many success stories about the positive impact the WIB’s efforts are having in the region. Emily Turner, office manager at Alliance Endodontics, turned to the Kentucky Career Center when her employer was seeking dental assistants. The Career Center staff worked with Turner to identify job candidates and arrange interviews with more than 30 applicants. According to Turner, the Career Center is an excellent source for employers looking for specific skillsets – using the free website and array of services to recruit talented workers.”

Hendrickson USA is another company working with the Kentucky Career Center – Lincoln Trail to screen applicants. As the company looks to open a new facility in Elizabethtown, the Career Center is assisting by setting up workshops on interviewing skills and sharing information on the company with candidates prior to interviews. Hendrickson’s company leadership has reported that they’re pleased with the quality of job candidates and the employment services provided by the Career Center.

Whether it’s providing assistance to a small business or a large manufacturer, it’s essential to have programs that create a diversified and skilled workforce in our region. A trained workforce makes regions more attractive to potential employers looking to build or expand a business. In turn, this economic expansion creates more opportunities for large and small businesses already here. This ripple effect across our local economy is especially crucial for sustaining entrepreneurs and start-up businesses. Investing in a trained and skilled workforce, creating opportunities for entrepreneurs and connecting businesses with the right employees are all examples of how the WIB is helping to strengthen the local economy.



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100 Ideas for Now Event...

Hopeful entrepreneurs learned how to go downtown to start a business and much more at the Kentucky Innovation Network’s first ever **100 Ideas for N.O.W.** event. An excerpt from The News-Enterprise read...

“Participants toured businesses in downtown Elizabethtown, including Wild Earth Gallery and Pub, Couch Pictures Productions and Heartland Wholelife Natural Foods to learn from those whose risks paid off before returning to the Brown-Pusey House to brainstorm for their own Aha moments. And there were plenty, organizers said.

When you put something like this together, you worry about how it will go, if anyone will show up,” said KIN Lincoln Trail Area Director Lisa Williams, who organized the event. “But we got our 100 ideas and more.” A fresh seafood market, a mobile dog groomer, a brewpub, a mobile safety app for Realtors and others who work one-on-one with strangers, and a “hipster-hangout” where children could make their own ice cream were all written on white boards after participants divided into small groups to brainstorm. “I saw a lot of ideas for entertainment and restaurants that could really make it,” Williams said.”



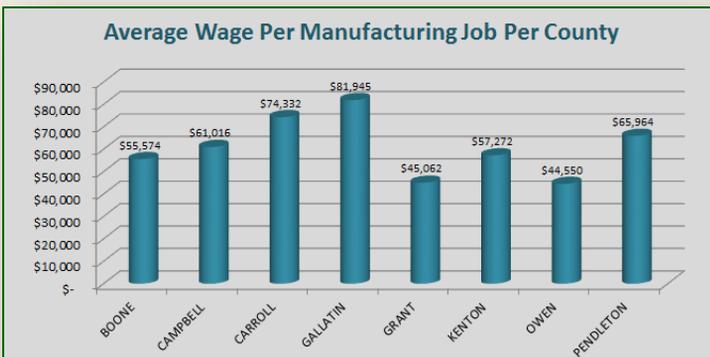
Northern Kentucky's Girl's Day Out

Local Manufacturers have indicated a need for more potential employees in the pipeline. Due to an unprecedented number of retirements, Advanced Manufacturing is facing a shortage in workers and are partnering with workforce and education to turn the tide of incoming potential workers.



This year, eighty-four girls from five local counties came together at Carroll County High School to learn about Advanced Manufacturing. The event, hosted by the Northern Kentucky Area Development District, Jefferson Community and Technical College, Kentucky Career Center and Brighton Center brought the girls together with local business (including Dow Corning, Gallatin Steel, North American Stainless and Abzac) and education to hear from women working in the Advanced Manufacturing field and to interact with local businesses on topics such as wage ranges, career options, short term certificates, funding options and employment availability.

A survey completed by the girls before departure indicated that 100% of those who completed the survey learned something about Advanced Manufacturing and 44% are now interested in pursuing a career in the field.



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Ignition Program Showcases Youth Talent

Ignition – a Youth Entrepreneurial Project, was designed by the Northern Kentucky Workforce Investment Board conducted for 10 weeks and includes students from Holmes and Dayton High Schools.

Ignition teams were chosen based on interest, aptitude and Workforce Investment Act eligibility. The students split their time between a paid internship and creating a business model in a classroom setting. The students learn about professionalism, budgeting, marketing, branding and a myriad of topics related to starting a business, as well as, work readiness.

The intent is to increase work readiness and entrepreneurial knowledge to result in students with excellent work habits, work experience and a valid work recommendation to use in future job searches or business startup endeavors.



The following partners contributed their knowledge, time or funds to the students; Gateway Community and Technical College, Brighton Center and Northern Kentucky Community Action Commission, and Partners for Competitive Workforce.

Cumberlands

Top 5 Initiatives You Need to Know About!

- 1 - Unbridled Careers is being piloted in nine of the local schools.
- 2 - We are working with secondary schools and business leaders to build career pathways that will be of benefit to local employers.
- 3 - We are building sector partnerships daily!
- 4 - Our Regional Business Service Teams are being refined to more so meet the needs of employers and work with sector partnerships.
- 5 - Through our efforts to improve our Career Center locations, we will house more partners and become a higher functioning team for all stakeholders involved.



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Bluegrass

Medical Career & Science Institute 2014

The Medical Career and Science Institute is a one-week health careers non-residential camp hosted by the Bluegrass Healthcare Consortium that provides students an opportunity to jump start their career in the health field. MCSI is designed for middle school students who are seriously interested in pursuing a career in a health profession. MCSI provides an opportunity to learn about the variety of careers in health professions and to learn educational requirements leading to those careers.

During the week, students will become acclimated with the Spencerian College (Lexington) campus and its facilities, as well as receive instruction from college professors. Students accepted into the program will spend the week learning from college faculty along with area health professionals. Faculty and area health professionals will teach students first hand what it takes to succeed as a health professional. Students will participate in a structured educational curriculum and will have various hands-on activities and clinical observation opportunities throughout the camp. A couple of camp highlights will include trips to the Sullivan School of Pharmacy in Louisville and the Minimally Invasive Surgery Lab/Outreach Science Center at the University of Kentucky.

Not many middle school students get to have an experience like the Medical Career and Science Institute. The camp is a unique opportunity for students who want to learn more about pursuing a career in a health profession.

Barren River

<http://www.bradd.org/index.php/workforce-development/workforce-development-board.html>

Bluegrass

<http://bgwib.com/>

Cumberlands

http://cumberlandsworkforce.com/organization/wib_board.html

EKCEP

<http://www.ekcep.org/ekcepworkforceindex.htm>

Green River

<http://www.gradd.com/WD/WIB/>

Kentuckiana Works / Greater Louisville

<http://www.kentuckianaworks.org/>

Lincoln Trail

<http://www.ltadd.org/wia.shtml>

Northern Kentucky

<http://nkadd.org/>

TENCO

<http://www.btadd.com/TENCO/WorkforceDevelopment.htm>

West Kentucky

<http://www.peadd.org/employ/default.aspx>



