

President's High Growth Job Training Initiative

Building Talent, Jobs and Entrepreneurs for Growth in the New Economy

Grant amount: \$2,599,979

Grantee: Lorain County Community College

Key partners: Lorain County Chamber of Commerce and its Small Business Development Center; The Workforce Institute of Lorain County Lorain County Commissioners and the Lorain County Development Office; Great Lakes Innovation and Development Enterprise (GLIDE); The Enterprise Ohio Skills MAX Center; Mid-Ohio Securities; KS Associates; Ross Environmental Services; Beckett LogiSync; The Braye Group; JD Munch Integrated Solutions; Cash Strategies; CyStorm; Banyan Technology; Accurate Processing; Catalyst Strategies; Hot Dog Heaven.

Leveraged amount: \$ 2,462,000 in cash and in-kind contributions.

Grant activities will take place in northeastern Ohio

Challenge:

The principal challenge of this project is to aggressively stimulate and accelerate both job and business growth by focusing on high growth targeted industries. Critical to surmounting this challenge is the development of a system that addresses workforce development needs, promotes growth of existing businesses, and creates an environment that supports, nurtures, and values the entrepreneur. All three components, pursued with equal vigor, create a compelling design for comprehensive workforce and economic development that virtually ensures a thriving economic future.

Addressing the Challenge:

Lorain County Community College will meet this challenge by developing a system of resources that not only address workforce development needs, but also promote growth of existing businesses, especially small and medium business sector, as well as new business development -- all within identified targeted industries. This strategy is referred to as: Simultaneously Building Talent and Growing Businesses and Jobs. The funds for this project will be concentrated among three primary interrelated objectives. The first project objective is to develop a comprehensive education continuum and support system that provides a K-12 to master's degree pathway to prepare workers, at all levels, for high demand jobs. The second primary objective is to create a support system that combines economic and workforce development to collectively focus on providing easy access to resources that address the unique needs of existing businesses attempting to transition to the knowledge economy. The third primary objective is to grow and attract new high-growth businesses in the area to create jobs, and enhance objectives 1 and 2 through immersing entrepreneur and intrapreneur education and support resources for both workers and businesses to create a pipeline of creative and innovative ideas.



EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION
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***Non-Sector Specific Demonstration Grants
Announced on March 2005***

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Projected Outcomes:

- A model that can be replicated in other settings for comprehensive workforce development at the community level built by partnerships with education, business and government, complete with strengths and weaknesses of the project, a gross impact analysis as well as both qualitative and quantitative outcomes of specific goals and strategies.
- A curriculum model for creating career pathways in high-growth industries equipped with the support system to fulfill workforce development challenges of businesses.
- A model for flexible delivery of entrepreneurial curriculum and access to resources to accelerate growth and advancement of workforce and small and medium businesses to create jobs.
- An innovative strategy to spark entrepreneurial activity and create an environment that fosters innovation through educational programs and real life experiences as a new way to create economic success.
- A new approach for tracking the impact and success of goals and objectives by using web-based technologies that will provide real-time analysis of data, lessons learned, total impact and activity tracking.

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