

ISSUE 2 · MARCH - APRIL 2024

AREA 14 WORKFORCE WIRE

Newsletter of the Area 14 Workforce Development Board

In-Demand Jobs Week 2024

MAY 6 - MAY 10

Ohio's In-Demand Jobs Week is scheduled for May 6 - 10. This is the seventh annual In-Demand Jobs Week. During this time, we celebrate many of the top jobs in which Ohio has to offer, as well as the emerging industries and essential skills needed to fill these roles.

In-Demand Jobs Week works to promote the most in-demand and growing industries and sectors, throughout our state. The goal is to not only bring awareness, but to bring attention to hiring, training and educational events.

Our local OhioMeansJobs centers will be participating with events at their respective centers.

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Other News & Updates



Workforce Development Area 14
Athens, Meigs & Perry Counties

A proud partner of the American Job Center network



Director's Update

JOE FRAZIER, CWDP

Over the past two months, I have continued to settle into my role as Workforce Development Board Director. Since the last newsletter, I have continued to meet and work alongside a multitude of community partners and stakeholders on workforce and career pathway development initiatives. Our Annual Job Fair has also been a large project, in which I have been able to work in conjunction with staff at our local OMJ centers to plan and host the event. The SE Node for Broadband and 5G training has had multiple training cohorts and enrollments are increasing. HAPCAP's Broadband Coordinator is working with local participants to deliver quality-driven case management services. I have also been spending time at each OMJ center, learning about their individual needs as well as assisting with policy and a variety of projects.

Finding new funding streams that will benefit the employers and residents of Area 14 has been an important focus and I have been able to submit and or assist with multiple funding proposals in the past two months. I will continue to monitor for promising opportunities and pursue grant funding that aligns with the needs of our local communities.

With all this in mind, I am very optimistic about what the future holds for our local communities and look forward to the journey ahead.

Best regards,

QUEST Grant Update

BROADBAND & 5G

Staff in Area 14 have been working hard on promoting Broadband & 5G careers, as well as enrolling participants in training programs. HAPCAP's Broadband Coordinator, Jocelyn Howard has been attending community events to promote awareness, developing marketing items and working with trainees to enroll them in QUEST funded programming. To date, 11 participants have been enrolled in approved training programs, utilizing QUEST funds. Director Frazier was also able to present at Tri-County Career Center and Hocking College's Broadband Business Advisory Council.



Sam Jones Trimble Promise

HOCKING COLLEGE

Director Frazier was on hand for an exciting announcement at Trimble High School, where Hocking College President Young, announced the Sam Jones Trimble Promise Scholarship. This is a pilot program in which every 2024 Trimble High School graduate will be able to attend Hocking College in the fall of 2024, with no out-of-pocket expenses.





GRIT Conference & Funding

LEAP FORWARD WITH GRIT

Director Frazier was in attendance at the 2024, Leap Forward with GRIT Conference. GRIT works to help both students and adults meet their self-sufficiency goals through employment.

Director Frazier was able to bring back information and new connections to partners in Area 14, with multiple local entities pursuing GRIT funding for their programs! OhioMeansJobs-Athens County recently received funding from GRIT, which will be used for training and supportive services for customers!



Business Partner Team

ATHENS, MEIGS, PERRY

Just over a year ago, Director Frazier (while still employed at OMJ-Athens) convened a group meeting with multiple non-profit organizations and community stakeholders to discuss our current workforce system and develop solutions to implement on a local level. The Business Partner Team currently meets on a quarterly basis and has grown steadily, in terms of attendance and participation. The group has participants from 27 different non-profit and community-based organizations.

The next meeting is scheduled for June 4th.

New Board Members

ROBIN FOWLER - MEIGS COUNTY
TREVIS THOMPSON - ATHENS COUNTY

It is with great excitement I would like to announce the addition of two new Board Members, to the Area 14 WDB! Please join me in welcoming Robin Fowler and Trevis Thompson. Robin and Trevis were appointed by their respective county Commissioners to serve two-year terms, beginning on April 1, 2024.

Robin is the owner of Robin Fowler State Farm, with offices in Gallipolis and Middleport. Trevis is a Manufacturing Lead, at Ametek Sunpower, located in Athens.

I had the pleasure of meeting with both Robin and Trevis at their local OMJ centers. Robin and Trevis were able to tour their county's OMJ, meet staff, learn more about OMJ services, ask questions and provide insight.



TREVIS THOMPSON



ROBIN FOWLER

CCMEP Best Practices

OHIO MEANS JOBS-MEIGS

OMJ-Meigs Supervisor, Shelly Adams recently presented at the ODJFS CCMEP Community of Practice webinar. Shelly presented on best-practices in which OMJ-Meigs County employs when assisting youth participants. Shelly gave a first-hand success story of a customer who found self-sufficiency, with the help of CCMEP.



SPRING JOB FAIR SEASON

Sheridan High Career Fair

MARCH 6, 2024

Staff from OhioMeansJobs-Perry County were on-site for Sheridan High School's Career Fair. Over 40 employers and training providers attended and were able to network with students and their families.



OMJ-Meigs Hands-On Apprenticeship Day

MARCH 6, 2024

OhioMeansJobs-Meigs County hosted a successful Hands-On Apprenticeship Day at the Meigs County Fairgrounds. Local students and job seekers were able to meet with local trade professionals and observe demonstrations.

NYHS Career Day

APRIL 5, 2024

Project Rise assisted Nelsonville-York High School with their career day. Staff from OhioMeansJobs-Athens County, as well as Director Frazier were present for the event and observed a strong employer turnout and great student engagement.

Tri County Employment Extravaganza

APRIL 9, 2024

Area 14 WDB, Project Rise, OhioMeansJobs-Athens County and Tri County Career Center partnered together to put on TCCC's annual career event. Graduating seniors were able to view a variety of career opportunities and complete interviews with local businesses actively hiring.

Memorial Health Hiring Event

APRIL 10, 2024

OhioMeansJobs-Athens County hosted a hiring event for Memorial Health System, in which 21 job seekers attended. OMJ-Athens staff have been working closely with talent acquisition staff at Memorial Health, as they prepare to open their new Athens location. The Athens facility will create nearly 160 new jobs!

Area 14 Job Fair

APRIL 25, 2024

Staff from all three job centers in Area 14, as well as our partners from ODJFS came together to host the 20th Annual Area 14 Job Fair. This event was held at the Athens Community Center and featured over 70 different employers. This year's job fair saw an increase in job seeker attendance as well, nearly doubling it's attendance from 2023!



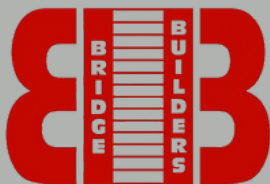


THANK YOU!



Thank you to everyone who assisted in promoting our 20th Annual Job Fair! A special thank you goes out to Tomcat Bridgebuilders, Pure Rock 105, Athens County Job & Family Services and Athens County Children Services. Tomcat Bridgebuilders utilized their digital sign to display an ad for our job fair. ACCS placed one of our job fair banners on their front lawn, facing East State Street. ACDJFS placed a banner in their front lawn, facing SR 13. ACDJFS's PR Specialist, Christy Denney, also helped design job fair flyers and coordinated radio advertisements. Pure Rock 105 attended the event and set up a broadcast table to further promote the job fair in real time.

OhioMeansJobs-Athens County received a generous donation of items for their Reentry Program, from the Phi Alpha Delta Pre-Law Fraternity. Pictured below is Melissa Maccabee, Reentry Coordinator at OhioMeansJobs-Athens County, along with two members of Phi Alpha Delta.



"Don't depend on drugs when our future depends on you"

Athens County Job & Family Services

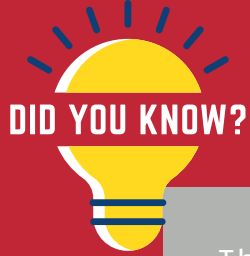


Athens County Children Services

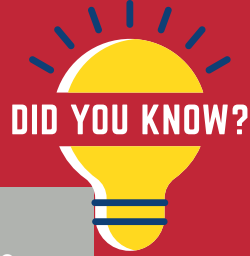
On April 11th, staff members from all three Area 14 OMJ centers participated in a training session with ApprenticeOhio. In total, 12 staff members from Area 14 attended this training. Director Frazier would like to extend a huge thank you, to Julie Mettler and the entire ApprenticeOhio team!



Department of Job & Family Services



WORKFORCE 101



What is CCMEP?

The Comprehensive Case Management and Employment Program is Ohio's employment program for young adults (ages 14-24). Designed to assist one of Ohio's most vulnerable populations, CCMEP provides employment and training services to eligible, low-income individuals based on a comprehensive assessment of employment and training needs, as well as a basic skills assessment.

CCMEP can provide:

- Career coaching
- Job placement
- Tuition assistance
- Mentoring
- Financial aid
- Transportation support

What impact does CCMEP have on our local businesses and organizations?

- Opportunities to shape the future of the emerging workforce
- Work experience provided with a real-world component
- Educate and prepare local youth on job readiness skills
- Skilled labor
- Remove barriers to employment such as:
 - o Transportation
 - o Driver's License
 - o High School Diploma
 - o Childcare
- Develop and maintain strong partnerships

UPCOMING EVENTS

- MAY 1: AREA 14 WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD MEETING
- MAY 6 - 10: IN-DEMAND JOBS WEEK
- MAY 6: IN-DEMAND JOBS EVENT AT PERRY JFS
- MAY 9 - 10: OJFSDA CONFERENCE
- MAY 14: APPALACHIAN OHIO STATE OF THE REGION CONFERENCE
- MAY 15: OWA AT THE STATEHOUSE
- MAY 16: CAREER FAIR AT PERRY JFS
- JUNE 4: BUSINESS PARTNER TEAM MEETING