

Wyandot Employment Task Force
Inaugural Meeting Minutes
August 15, 2018 – First Citizens National Bank

Our esteemed inaugural stakeholders in attendance:

Steve Seitz – Wyandot County Commissioner

Heather Ward - Kalmbach Feeds

Tami Galloway - Marion Tech

Tammy Meeker – Angeline Industries

Bonnie Shaw - First Citizens National Bank

Jennie Dranschak – Kasai North America

Frank Gibson - Facilitator

Laurie Vent - Upper Sandusky Schools

Leanna Barnes - Vaughn Industries

Brian Kimmel - Kimmel Corporation

Steve Dunn - Engineered Wire Products

Kyle McColly – Wyandot County Recycling SWD

Greg Moon – Wyandot Economic Development / Wyandot Chamber of Commerce

Jason Eibling – Mid-American Therapy / Wyandot Chamber of Commerce

Kathy Grasz – Wyandot Chamber of Commerce

Don Schwenning – Kalmbach Feeds / Wyandot Chamber of Commerce

Introduction: Jason Eibling

Identified the strength of our work force as a highest tier issue for Wyandot County

Dialogue: All

A well informed, collaborative dialogue developed as we matriculated around the stakeholder table with introductions and experiences.

Some specific shares from those in attendance:

- It was noted that many times we are now choosing from a “pool of one” to hire.
- Some employers are hiring any candidate who seems able to work.
- The local schools are interested in finding career pathing (internship, job shadowing) opportunities for students who do not have a clear idea of what they would like to do following high school.
 - High school juniors all take a career exploration course. USHS is seeking local businesses who would like to speak to these classes each week.
- There is a significant difference in the characteristics of more experienced workforce in the area compared to younger generations.
- There are little resources for those workers from outside to integrate into the community.
 - Some employers are utilizing programs to bring in workforce from areas overseas.
- There are many resources and experts available to provide presentations surrounding many topics of discussion that were mentioned.

Facilitator: Frank Gibson

Described and presented a collaborative model that identified the need for involving all five Communities of Interest. It was noted that “The Talent” is often missing from the engagement.

Additional Dialogue: All

Excellent sharing continued around cooperative efforts:

- Also mentioned was the need for the group to recognize that a rising tide lifts all boats.
- The chamber's goal to present a survey to the workforce at the fair was announced and received excellent reviews and contribution.
- The need for focus/action groups was identified.
- An initial conversation surfaced about welcoming new members to our local workforce/community.
- Multiple other salient points and opportunities arose with contributions from all regarding innovation, meaningful jobs and the connectedness of young, incoming workers.
- Held a brief discussion on next steps, pathing forward and future meeting style.

Scheduling of next meeting of Task Force:

September 19th 2018 – 8:00 a.m. at First Citizens National Bank in Upper Sandusky

Thank you and Adjournment