Philanthropic investment in innovative sector based dual-customer solutions, funding “The Lab”

**MANUFACTURING SECTOR KEY DRIVER**

- **AGE 45-64** 62%
- **AGE 25-44** 31%
- **AGE 19-24** 4%
- **AGE 65+** 2%
- **AGE 14-18** 1%

Source: QWI Online

**MANUFACTURING PARTNERSHIP**

Using the dual-customer strategy (employer and employee) and leveraging labor supply and demand to provide access to family sustaining career opportunities for those with barriers.

**Four Focus Areas**

**Peer-to-Peer Leadership Support**
- Shared best practices in areas such as safety, quality, process improvement, policies, and retention practices
- System change in employment practices to signal true needs for skills and credentials
- System changes to collaborative technical college partner with greater focus on true business needs
- Collective feedback and input to local utility providers resulting in improved reliability
- Multiple sector training strategies developed for dislocated workers, incumbent supervisors, incumbent employees
- Formation of other needed workforce/economic development initiatives
- Stronger relationships established resulting in increased trust and communication

**Pipeline Solutions**
- Respect for needs of businesses, students, and the educational systems
- Collaboration of public and private school systems as well as technical college (MSTC)
- Educator and administrator business tours to increase understanding of the modern manufacturing environment and technological advancements
- Business tours of high schools to develop understanding of real constraints on the educational systems and the current curriculum offerings
- Increasing STEM student demand through summer camps and curriculum changes
- Constellation “Energy to Educate” grant to expand STEM curriculum in area high schools
- Expansion of youth apprenticeships into area manufacturing facilities
- UW La Crosse, 3 credit summer educator course immersion in the region’s business sectors

**Training Solutions**
- 684 College credits earned in the supervisory training program towards associate’s degrees
- 329 Job seekers served through Pathways and Food Manufacturing Science Certificate (FMSC) programs
- 223 Industry credentials earned
- 102 Incumbent participants in the supervisory training program
- 27 Trained in Hazard Analysis for Critical Control Point training (HACCP) for area food processors
- 24 Trained in Lean Six Sigma
- 18 Incumbent non-supervisory participants completed the MSSC CPT

**Sector Awareness & Promotion**
- Published “The Ultimate Source of Manufacturing Competitiveness, the Case for Corporate Training Investments”
- Building Your Local Economy” whitepaper on economic development via leveraging community assets and supply chain
- National & state advocacy on rural strategies/challenges, and the use of a place-based, community-driven model to address
- Vital Signs, economic data to stakeholders including educators and CEOs for strategy development
- High school career discovery days as well as community and school presentations about local job opportunities
- Local media coverage including newspaper, television, and radio show coverage of key work and events
- Support and collaboration on study and report on the aftermath of the Port Edwards mill closure

**ADVANCED WORK**

- Implementation of a sustainable infrastructure
- Entry and advanced maintenance training solutions
- Optimize employment practices and systems
- Expansion of “advanced” manufacturing methods
- Articulated regional career pathways
- Increased student demand for STEM skills
- Expanded manufacturing youth apprenticeships
- Potential process training
- Leverage FMSC curriculum
- Increased appreciation of manufacturing careers

**Achievements/Milestones**

- Constellation “Energy to Educate” grant to expand STEM curriculum in area high schools
- Expansion of youth apprenticeships into area manufacturing facilities
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**Advancements**

- Increased student demand for STEM skills
- Expanded manufacturing youth apprenticeships
- Potential process training
- Increased appreciation of manufacturing careers

**Major Partners**

- MANUFACTURING PARTNERSHIP
- Sector Awareness & Promotion
- Training Solutions
- Pipeline Solutions
- Peer-to-Peer Leadership Support