MANUFACTURING SECTOR PARTNERSHIP

**Key Driver**

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**

1. Peer-to-Peer Leadership Support
2. Pipeline Solutions
3. Training Solutions
4. Sector Awareness & Promotion

**Achievements/Milestones**

- 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

- 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

- 1,089 College credits earned in the supervisory training program towards associate’s degrees
- 473 Job seekers served through Pathways and Food Manufacturing Science Certificate (FMSC) programs
- 223 Industry credentials earned
- 116 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

- 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
- Sparkfun, VEX Robotics, and Race Car Engineering summer STEM camps with local newspaper coverage
- 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
- Optimize employment practices and systems
- Articulated regional career pathways
- Improved manufacturing youth apprenticeships
- Potential process training
- Leverage FMSC curriculum

**Philanthropic investment in innovative sector based dual-customer solutions.**

**Workforce Central Collaborative**

Investing in rural workforce partnerships, focused on strengthening central Wisconsin’s economy through training and support for job seekers, workers and employers.