

NEW Manufacturing Alliance
TALENT TASK FORCE MEETING MINUTES
April 4, 2024 | 8:30 AM | at NWTC's Green Bay Campus

ATTENDEES: Pam Blazei-NEWMA, Craig Coleman-FSC, Lisa Francour-NWTC, Ann Franz-NEWMA, Jill Fuss-McClone, Pat Gorski-The Joseph Project, Mark Leupold-Express Employment Professionals, Eugene Smalls-The Joseph Project, Chris Steier-ProSolutions, Debbie Thompson-NWTC, Marney Verhasselt-NWTC

PLAN: FUTURE OF WORK – MENTAL HEALTH IN THE WORKFORCE SUMMIT
MAY 1, 2024 | 8:00 AM TO 12:00 PM | at FVTC'S BORDINI CENTER

Currently, there are 60+ registrants, with a maximum capacity of 200 attendees. Members should [REGISTER](#) if they plan to attend. Speakers are asked to send Ann their resources by April 26, so they can be shared with the full membership.

Agenda

ALL: Welcome, Overview of mental health impact on the workplace, & How to have basic conversations regarding mental health.

3 Breakout Sessions (30 minutes each):

- 1 - De-escalation *or* Leadership, Well-being, & Safety
- 2 - Trauma Informed Workplace *or* Recognizing Signs of Substance Use
- 3 - Create More Happiness in the Workplace *or* Mental Health at Work: Breaking Stigmas in the Trades

ALL: Paula Davis, of the Stress & Resilience Institute, will present the keynote address.

THE JOSEPH PROJECT PRESENTATION – EUGENE SMALLS & PAT GORSKI

The Joseph Project began in Milwaukee in 2015 and extended to Green Bay in 2018. It is a community faith-based initiative to connect those genuinely seeking employment opportunities with jobs. Participants go through a weeklong hands-on essential skills workshop and then are offered at least one interview with a company (mostly manufacturers) that is hiring. The Joseph Project is not government funded. Highlights:

- Self-contained, comprehensive path to employment.
- Completed in one week with mentoring and case management aftercare.
- Standardized process for employers and candidates.
- Market tested critical path that works.
- Nine years' experience in training essential employability skills.
- Scalable model used Statewide.
- Transportation, housing, mentorship, and advocacy are offered.

The essential skills hands-on workshop is focused on interview performance, dealing with change / success, and being part of a successful team. Mock and employer interviews, after care (mentorship, case management) are integrated. Time management, conflict resolution, budgeting, finance, and credit scores are discussed. Participant's confidence level and self-esteem increase. An alumni panel, comprised of past participants, is hosted. Outcomes:

- Celebrating the dignity of work and living a purposeful life.
- Setting positive examples, especially for young people.
- Making restitution, escaping dependency, combatting recidivism, and paying it forward.

The Gateway Collective works to develop affordable and inclusive housing for individuals and families, where there is a sense of community. The top floor of Green Bay's Job Center is being renovated for workforce housing.

Live jobs networks are hosted that unite community members to learn more about each other's services so program participants can be better assisted. Manufacturers are needed to attend the next event on April 16, 2024, 7:30 to 9:00 a.m., at the Brown County Job Center (301 N. Adams St., Green Bay). A Gateway Collective rep will also discuss their initiatives and host a tour of the new apartments. All NEWMA members are welcome to attend to learn how they may be able to support these ministries.

LEADERSHIP TRAINING DIRECTORY

Ann will follow-up with each training provider for a contact(s), website links, and any brief descriptions they would like shared with the full membership.

CNC MACHINING TRAINING FOR AUTISTIC INDIVIDUALS

Think Ability Wisconsin has been working with Milwaukee Technical College to successfully train individuals with autism. 95% of the individuals trained have been hired, with a high retention rate.

Ann will be meeting soon with Think Ability Wisconsin reps in an effort to host a pilot. Government funding is available for the training. Member companies needing machinists and open to hiring autistic individuals will be invited to participate. Company informational sessions will be held. Ann would like to host the pilot in fall 2024 or early 2025.

TYSON JOB FAIR FOR DISLOCATED WORKERS

The Tyson pork plant, located in Perry, Iowa, is closing June 2024, impacting 1,200+ employees. Job fairs will host businesses and organizations from outside the region. Ann will be getting more information and will follow-up with the membership. If there is enough interest, there may be an opportunity to host a booth(s) at one of their job fairs.

UPCOMING NEWMA EVENTS & PROGRAMS

April 10 - Taps + Tours Business after Hours at Appleton International Airport, 4:00 to 6:00 PM, [REGISTER](#)

April 23 - Hiring & Retaining Correctional System/Justice Served Individuals, 12:00 to 1:00 PM, [REGISTER](#)

April 25 - Brown County 12th Grade Student Job Fair at NWTC's Green Bay Campus

May 1 - Future of Work: Mental Health in the Workplace at FVTC, 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM, [REGISTER](#)

May 30 - Industry 4.0 Tours & Dialogue for College Faculty at Johnsonville's Tailgate Village, 1:15 to 3:00 PM

June 5 – President's Cup Scholarship Golf Scramble at Blackwolf Run

June 6 - Quarterly Membership Meeting at Lambeau Field - 4th Floor, 1:15 to 3:00 PM

NEXT MEETING

The next Talent Task Force meeting is scheduled for **July 11, 2024, at HART Design & Manufacturing (Green Bay)**, 8:30 to 9:30 a.m.