

# WORKFORCE, EDUCATION & TRAINING GUIDE

# 2025

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# THANK YOU

## TO OUR SPONSORS



**Junior Achievement of Eastern Ohio**



**Mahoning & Columbiana Training Association**



**Mahoning Valley Manufacturers Coalition**



**Youngstown State University- Division of Workforce Education & Innovation**



**Youngstown Warren Regional Chamber**

# INTRODUCTION

At Lake to River, we are dedicated to strengthening businesses and communities across Eastern Ohio by offering vital workforce resources. This Workforce, Education & Training Guide serves as a comprehensive resource, connecting you with the organizations that drive talent development in our region.

Whether you are a business aiming to upskill your employees, an entrepreneur looking for talent, or a company planning to expand, this guide provides all the information you need. It highlights key education providers, career & technical centers, talent development resources, and business development organizations—all working in unison to promote sustainable economic growth in our area.

Within these pages, you will find insight into the local workforce landscape, details on programs addressing industry needs, and how our partnerships fuel talent development. At Lake to River, we remain committed to supporting businesses through direct introductions, strategic guidance, and resource sharing, ensuring your workforce needs are addressed swiftly and effectively.

Our goal is to foster a skilled, adaptable workforce that is prepared to meet the demands of today's evolving market. If you need support, our team is here to assist with connections and workforce solutions.

**LET'S BUILD A**  
brighter, *more* prosperous  
**FUTURE**  
*for Eastern Ohio together.*

## MATT FALTER

DIRECTOR, TALENT ENGAGEMENT

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# ABOUT **JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT**

Junior Achievement is a global non-profit organization that focuses on delivering high-quality supplemental instructional content to students in grades K-12 in entrepreneurship, financial literacy, and career-readiness. The purpose of Junior Achievement is to inspire and prepare young people to succeed in a global economy. Founded in 1919, it is the nation's largest organization dedicated to giving young people the knowledge and skills they need to own their economic success, plan for their future, and make smart academic and economic choices.

Junior Achievement of Eastern Ohio is proud to serve students in Ashtabula, Columbiana, Mahoning, and Trumbull Counties. Scan the QR codes for more information on Junior Achievement of Eastern Ohio.



Visit our website at [easternohio.ja.org](http://easternohio.ja.org)

Follow us on Facebook  
@ Junior Achievement of Eastern Ohio.



MAHONING & COLUMBIANA  
TRAINING ASSOCIATION

## Powerful Partnerships for Strong Businesses

As the local public workforce development system, the Mahoning & Columbiana Training Association and the OhioMeansJobs centers have been recognized for their responsiveness to employers' opportunities. The MCTA business team, as a partner to the OhioMeansJobs centers, can provide your company with an array of services, including talent matching and job training programs. Team members seamlessly coordinate resources of many partner organizations to promote business growth. The business team can customize a plan to meet your needs. MCTA and OhioMeansJobs centers operate under the direction of the Workforce Development Board of Mahoning and Columbiana Counties.

### **Mary Ann Kochalko**

Director  
Workforce Development Board of  
Mahoning and Columbiana Counties  
330.747.5639 Ext. 6126  
[mkochalko@wdbinc.org](mailto:mkochalko@wdbinc.org)

### **Susie Wickline**

Chief Operating Officer  
Mahoning & Columbiana  
Training Association  
330.747.5639 Ext. 6128  
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**[www.WDBINC.org](http://www.WDBINC.org)**





**MVMC**  
Mahoning Valley  
Manufacturers Coalition



## Solutions for Building a Strong Manufacturing Workforce

The Mahoning Valley Manufacturers Coalition (MVMC) has led regional workforce development since 2011, connecting manufacturers, educators, and partners to ensure a skilled talent pipeline.

### WorkAdvance

- Four-week training program to place job seekers in manufacturing careers
- Participants earn industry-recognized credentials
- Career readiness training addresses critical skills needed by employers

### Apprenticeships and Upskilling

- Assisting manufacturers with opportunities to fill workforce gaps in the most in-demand career fields
- Connecting members to funding sources like TechCred to help cover costs

### Youth Outreach and Career Awareness

- Engaging students in elementary through high school in manufacturing career opportunities
- Hands-on learning experiences through career fairs, community events, plant tours and presentations

## JOIN MVMC!

Collaborate now with our 70+ manufacturers, 50 associate members and 20 education and workforce partners.

**Alex Hertzner – Executive Director**  
Mahoning Valley Manufacturers Coalition  
[Alex@mahoningvalleymfg.com](mailto:Alex@mahoningvalleymfg.com)



The Excellence Training Center (ETC), the Skills Accelerator (SA), and the IT Workforce Accelerator (ITWA) make up the new STEM unit of Workforce, Education, and Innovation (WEI). Advanced manufacturing workforce training courses in the areas of robotics, industrial maintenance, additive manufacturing, and automation are offered in person at the ETC and online through the Skills Accelerator. ITWA offers many IT-related training programs (software development, networking, telecommunications, IT support, cybersecurity, cloud and AI Foundations) that are accessible online through the Skills Accelerator, in person at Silvestri Hall, and hybrid with live virtual class options. The Skills Accelerator is the learning management system that houses WEI's online programs and acts as a registration tool for the in-person classes taught at the ETC and ITWA. Please contact us to discuss your workforce training needs.

Programs may be found here: <https://ysu.edu/skillsaccelerator/catalog>

For more about programs being offered by WEI, contact us at: [Workforce@YSU.edu](mailto:Workforce@YSU.edu)







## Join the 3rd Largest Chamber in Ohio with Approximately 3,000 Members!

The Youngstown/Warren Regional Chamber is the Valley's leading business advocacy organization, providing services and programs to promote the growth of its nearly 3,000 members and their 150,000 employees across the region. Through a robust public policy program and the management of transformational economic development-focused initiatives, the Regional Chamber is working to create a landscape that is favorable for our continued, future and sustained economic growth.



[RegionalChamber.com](http://RegionalChamber.com)

### Community Impact

- Initiatives that support growing the population and increasing workforce participation
- Housing strategy to meet workforce housing needs
- DEIA program that seeks to help businesses expand their supply chain and procurement opportunities
- Center for Nonprofit Excellence that will provide training, resources and individualized consulting services
- Leadership programs

### Advocacy

- Public policy efforts supporting economic development, workforce, education and military affairs
- Individualized legislative advocacy supporting community, business and industry needs

### Member Services

- Regional business connections through networking events and direct introductions
- Discounts on healthcare, energy, payroll, shipping, office supplies, hiring services and more
- Promotion of businesses through features on bi-monthly video broadcasts and quarterly magazine
- Celebration of new and expanding businesses through ribbon cutting events

# THE REGIONAL WORKFORCE ECOSYSTEM



The regional workforce ecosystem in the Lake to River region is a dynamic network of educational institutions, workforce and development agencies, economic development organizations, and community-based partners. This ecosystem that includes regional K-12 school districts and educational service centers collaborates to align talent development efforts with the evolving needs of the local economy, ensuring a resilient, inclusive, and skilled workforce. By leveraging data-driven strategies and industry input, and community engagement, the region ecosystem supports career pathways that connect individuals to high-quality jobs while meeting employer demand.

# LAKE TO RIVER RESOURCE DIRECTORY

## THE ALLIANCE FOR WORKING TOGETHER (AWT) FOUNDATION

8980 Tyler Blvd, Mentor, Ohio 44060  
[www.thinkmfg.com](http://www.thinkmfg.com)

**Teresa Simons**  
Executive Director  
440.462.1995

[Teresa\\_Simons@ThinkMFG.com](mailto:Teresa_Simons@ThinkMFG.com)

AWT is a 500+ member organization committed to promoting rewarding careers in manufacturing for the long-term success and growth of manufacturing in Northeast Ohio. Opened in 2022, the AWT Transformation Training Center located in Mentor, Ohio, is a state-of-the-art training facility and serves as a hub for workforce development and industry sector collaboration. The AWT Training Center addresses the gap in K-12 and adult new and incumbent worker training. This center provides the technically trained workforce area manufacturers need.

AWT provides short-term manufacturing training as well as recognized manufacturing apprenticeships in Tool & Die Maker, Mold Maker, Precision Machinist, Tool Programmer Numerical Control, and Quality Control Inspector. AWT has created pre-apprenticeship pathways for area CTE and High School programs aligned to the AWT Apprenticeship. All AWT apprenticeships are approved for reimbursement through the Ohio TechCred initiative.

AWT introduces thousands of students each year to opportunities in manufacturing through Camps, STEM Days, Think MFG Career Expo, RoboBots, and JuniorBots programs.

## AMERICA MAKES

236 W. Boardman Street, Youngstown, Ohio 44503  
[www.americamakes.us](http://www.americamakes.us)

**Ed Herderick, Ph. D.**  
Education & Workforce Development Director  
330.622.4299  
[ewd@americamakes.us](mailto:ewd@americamakes.us)

America Makes is dedicated to a K-Grey approach across the educational landscape. Our programs celebrate career pathways, awareness and inspiration, along with micro-learning, credentialing, apprenticeship and deep dive training. We also work closely with SMMs with tools to be successful in talent development and recruitment. We drive from national best strategy practices to local impact.

## ASHTABULA COUNTY BOARD OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

2505 South Ridge Road East, Ashtabula, Ohio 44004  
[www.ashtabuladd.org](http://www.ashtabuladd.org)

**Manda Jackson**  
Quality and Community Outreach  
440.335.1586  
[manda.jackson@ashtabuladd.org](mailto:manda.jackson@ashtabuladd.org)

The Ashtabula County Board of Developmental Disabilities supports people with intellectual and developmental disabilities in preparing for and achieving competitive, community employment. We partner with a network of provider agencies that offer vocational habilitation, job-skill training, and on-site job coaching services to help people served succeed in the workforce. Our role is to connect people served, providers,

and local businesses to create strong, inclusive employment opportunities. Employers receive support through our network to ensure successful job matches, smooth onboarding and successful employment. We are committed to building partnerships that strengthen businesses, expand the local workforce, and create opportunities for all members of our community.

## ASHTABULA COUNTY TECHNICAL & CAREER CENTER (A-TECH)

1565 Route 167, Jefferson, Ohio 44047  
[www.atech.edu](http://www.atech.edu)

**Chris Coxon**  
OTC Director  
440.576.6015  
[Christopher.coxon@atech.edu](mailto:Christopher.coxon@atech.edu)

The Ashtabula County Technical & Career Center has earned the designation, Center for Training Excellence, by the Ohio Department of Higher Education. As a Center for Training Excellence, we offer job assessment, employee testing and assessment, technical skills training, customized training for business & industry, job profiling and career counseling. A-Tech offers a wide range of courses ranging from career development to personal enrichment. A-Tech's Knoedler School of Practical Nursing ranks #3 in Ohio, according to [practicalnursing.org](http://practicalnursing.org). We also offer the Aspire Program, HSE testing, job placement and financial aid assistance. A-Tech is accredited by the Council on Occupational Education.

## ASHTABULA COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER

2630 West 13th Street, Ashtabula, Ohio 44004  
<https://www.ashtabulaesc.org/>

**Bailee Mazzaro**  
Human Resources and Outreach Coordinator  
440.576.9023  
[bailee.mazzaro@ashtabulaesc.org](mailto:bailee.mazzaro@ashtabulaesc.org)

The Ashtabula Educational Service Center is a multiservice agency operating a variety of programs for and with the schools and educators in Ashtabula County. We assist with certification and licensure, substitute teacher staffing, alternative schools, cooperative purchasing for the county school, special education programs ages 3-22, preschool education program, as well as student support services. The ESC also administers criminal background checks and provides professional development opportunities.

## ASPIRE TRUMBULL COUNTY

528 Educational Highway, Warren, Ohio 44483  
<https://www.tctchome.com/page/aspire>

**Teri Lacy**  
Director  
330.847.0503 ext.1611  
[Teri.lacy@tctchome.com](mailto:Teri.lacy@tctchome.com)

Aspire Trumbull County provides opportunities for adults who want to improve their skills and advance their careers. The program is FREE and there are no eligibility requirements. Here are some of the benefits of participating in the Aspire program:

- Improve your academic skills and earn your GED
- Build Foundational math, reading & writing skills for your



# LAKE TO RIVER RESOURCE DIRECTORY

career or further education

- Earn an in-demand industry recognized credential at no cost
- Provide adult education and literacy activities in collaboration with an employer or employee organization at a workplace or an off-site location that is designed to improve the productivity of the workforce.

## **CHOFFIN CAREER AND TECHNICAL CENTER ADULT EDUCATION**

200 E. Wood St., Youngstown, Ohio 44503  
<https://choffinctcadulted.com>

**Rhonda Kempe**  
Student Services/Marketing  
330.744.8720  
[rhonda.kempe@youngstown.k12.oh.us](mailto:rhonda.kempe@youngstown.k12.oh.us)

We offer three 10-month, full-time certificate programs in Practical Nursing, Surgical Technology and Dental Assisting. All of these programs provide hands-on training and experience in both the classroom and at clinical sites. Our programs have a strong history and curriculum, with the practical nursing program in existence since the 1950's, and both our surgical tech and dental assisting programs operating over 30 years.

## **COLUMBIANA COUNTY BOARD OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**

7716 OH-16, Lisbon, Ohio 44432  
[www.ccctc.k12.oh.us](http://www.ccctc.k12.oh.us)

**Shirley Bowald**  
Manager, Community Inclusion and Employment  
330.424.788 X133  
[s.bowald@ccbdd.net](mailto:s.bowald@ccbdd.net)

We offer and provide a variety of resources that include Business Engagement personnel and services for employment; services to CCBDD eligible clients for follow-along and other services; coordination of employment and community services for board clients; expanding to include training topics for businesses related to employment and benefits. CCBDD also collaborates with other boards for providers of employment services, in addition to collaboration on grants with other learning institutions, businesses and agencies on grants that involve work-related issues.

## **COLUMBIANA COUNTY CAREER AND TECHNICAL CENTER**

9364 State Route 45, Lisbon, Ohio 44432  
[www.ccctc.k12.oh.us](http://www.ccctc.k12.oh.us)

**Jeremy Corbisello**  
Superintendent  
330.424.9561 ext. 129  
[Jeremy.Corbisello@ccctc.k12.oh.us](mailto:Jeremy.Corbisello@ccctc.k12.oh.us)

The CCCTC provides high school and adult learners with a multitude of opportunities to gain real-world experience and technical skills that will prepare them to continue their education and/ or enter the workforce.

Our high school programs help 11th and 12th grade students develop a passion for a career field where they can participate in

work-based learning opportunities, earn industry-recognized credentials, and earn credits for graduation.

Our adult education programs serve individuals ages 18 and older who are looking to start a career or gain new skills for a career change. We offer outstanding programs that are flexible for individuals who also have work and family responsibilities.

At CCCTC we create a challenging and supportive atmosphere to help all students reach their fullest potential. Students who complete our programs and earn credentials have a competitive advantage entering the workforce. CCCTC can provide you with the skills you need for the future you want!

## **COLUMBIANA COUNTY PORT AUTHORITY**

7860 Lincolne Place, Lisbon, Ohio 44432  
<https://www.ccpa-ohioriver.com/>

**Elise Wallace**  
Project Coordinator  
330.424.1800 ext. 104  
[ewallace@ccpa-ohioriver.com](mailto:ewallace@ccpa-ohioriver.com)

The Columbiana County Port Authority oversees the countywide business retention and expansion program. With dedicated staff conducting confidential visits, the Port Authority can assess the economic health throughout Columbiana County while learning about the successes and needs of our local businesses. This allows us to assist in strengthening and growing existing businesses with incentives and financial resources as well as workforce assistance.

Projects have included: street improvements, workforce dollars, downtown improvements, water and sewer improvements, equipment needs, building improvements, business development, business expansion, economic diversification, and maritime assistance.

Through the Port Authority's broad powers, it can offer assistance with project funding through bonds, capital leases, PACE financing, low interest loans and more.

## **COMMUNITY COUNSELING CENTER OF ASHTABULA COUNTY**

2801 C Court, Ashtabula, Ohio 44004  
[www.cccohio.com](http://www.cccohio.com)

**Julia Evola or Kimberly Boyd**  
Supported Employment Program Supervisor; Director of Adult Recovery Services  
440.998.4210  
[Julia.Evola@cccOhio.com](mailto:Julia.Evola@cccOhio.com)  
[Kim.Boyd@cccOhio.com](mailto:Kim.Boyd@cccOhio.com)

The Supported Employment team assists and supports individuals who experience barriers, such as severe and persistent mental illness and / or substance use disorders reach their employment goals. This is an evidence-based practice that is strength-based and follows the model of SE-IPS (Supported Employment – Individual Placement and Support). The approach is highly personalized and focused on achieving measurable employment outcomes. Work Is Recovery!

# LAKE TO RIVER RESOURCE DIRECTORY

## COLUMBIANA COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER

38720 Saltwell Rd., Lisbon, OH 44432  
[www.ccesc.k12.oh.us](http://www.ccesc.k12.oh.us)

**Marie Williams**  
Superintendent

330.424.9591  
[mwilliams@ccesc.k12.oh.us](mailto:mwilliams@ccesc.k12.oh.us)

The Columbiana County ESC sponsors the Columbiana County Business Advisory Council, an active and engaged group consisting of school districts, student representatives, career counselors, local businesses, local agencies, and community members that work together to facilitate strong career connections for all students. The mission of the BAC is to inspire and empower our youth to reach their highest potential by supporting comprehensive career counseling and strong career connections. For more information, please visit <https://www.ccesc.k12.oh.us/page/bac>.

## EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER OF EASTERN OHIO

7320 North Palmyra Road, Canfield, Ohio 44406  
[www.easternohio.org](http://www.easternohio.org)

**Dr. Traci Hostetler**  
Superintendent

330.533.8755  
[t.hostetler@esceasternohio.org](mailto:t.hostetler@esceasternohio.org)

### Career Counseling Services at the Educational Service Center of Eastern Ohio (ESCEO)

The Educational Service Center of Eastern Ohio (ESCEO) delivers impactful career counseling services to middle and high school students across 26 school districts in Mahoning, Columbiana, Trumbull, Stark, and Portage counties. Serving thousands of students, ESCEO's Career Counseling team collaborates with educators, businesses, and community organizations to enhance career readiness and shape a strong regional workforce.

### Career Exploration

ESCEO provides students with access to career assessments, virtual resources, and live or recorded conversations with professionals from various industries. These tools help students identify potential career paths aligned with their interests.

Supported exploration events include:

- Career Exploration through Virtual Reality Lenses
- Student Lunch and Learn Sessions
- YouScience™
- Pathful Connect™
- Career and Trade Day Events

### Skill-Building Opportunities

To support students' transition into adulthood, ESCEO offers practical learning experiences that go beyond academics:

- Pre-Apprenticeship Programs
- Industry Credentialing Opportunities
- Drone Certification
- Career Exploration and Life Skills Courses
- Mahoning Valley Skilled Trades Expo
- Junior Achievement Inspire Career Day
- Job Shadow Experiences

These programs focus on both technical and essential life skills needed for success after high school.

### Administrative Support

Career Counselors work directly with school staff to monitor graduation progress, including ACT scores, end-of-course points, graduation seals, and industry credentials. They assist in creating personalized pathways for students to meet graduation requirements and prepare for meaningful employment. The team also helps districts prepare for the implementation of the College, Career, Workforce, and Military Readiness Component launching in 2025–2026. Through a combination of exploration, skill-building, and support, ESCEO's Career Counseling team plays a key role in guiding students toward successful futures.

## ETI TECHNICAL COLLEGE OF NILES

2076 Youngstown-Warren Road, Niles, Ohio 44446  
[www.eticollege.edu](http://www.eticollege.edu)

**Julianne Edmundson**  
College Director / President

330.652.9919  
[info@eticollege.edu](mailto:info@eticollege.edu)

ETI Technical College of Niles has multiple workforce training programs offered online, hybrid, and in-person. All skills labs, including a weld shop, are on campus as well as computer labs, medical and nursing labs, and a resource library.

Healthcare programs include an associate of applied science in Nursing; 12-, 16-, or 20-Month Practical Nursing Diploma; 8-Month Medical Assistant Diploma; 12-Day Certified Nurse Aide (CNA) certificate; 8-Day Phlebotomy certificate; and a Medication Aide Certification course.

Industry and manufacturing programs include a 8-Month Combination Welding & Fitting Diploma; 8- and 12-Month Facilities Maintenance Technician diploma; and a four week CDL Training Class A certificate program.

Business programs include online associate degrees of applied business in Business, with elective tracks in Accounting, Human Resources, and Information Systems; Legal Assistant; Criminal Corrections; and a hybrid pre-licensing certificate Real Estate program.

## FLYING HIGH INC.

6 W. Federal St., Suite 705, Youngstown, Ohio 44503  
[www.fhipdc.org](http://www.fhipdc.org)

**Jeff Magada**  
Executive Director

330.797.3995  
[jmagada@flyinghighinc.org](mailto:jmagada@flyinghighinc.org)

Flying HIGH Inc.'s PDC Job Placement Welcome Centers provide a walk-in environment for job seekers to connect with job opportunities, enroll in vocational training, and explore emerging career pathways in the region. Our vocational tracks include STNA, CDCA, Carpentry, and Welding. Case managers assist job seekers in overcoming barriers to improve their marketability to employers. Job Developers, in partnership with the Mahoning Valley Partnership for Employment (MVPE), help job seekers find the right job for them. We offer workshops and pre-employment training in resume development, professional conduct, expungement, job search, and interview skills. Additionally, financial support services are available to help individuals

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complete training, retain employment, and connect with Valley employers.

## GROWTH PARTNERSHIP FOR ASHTABULA COMPANY

35 West Jefferson Street, Jefferson, Ohio 44047  
[www.ashtabulagrowth.com](http://www.ashtabulagrowth.com)

**Greg Myers**

*Executive Director*

440.576.9126

[greg@ashtabulagrowth.com](mailto:greg@ashtabulagrowth.com)

At Growth Partnership for Ashtabula County, we recognize that employees are crucial assets for businesses in Ashtabula County. Hardworking, reliable, and dedicated individuals have supported business development in the county for generations. Ensuring that the local workforce meets the demands of the local economy is essential to the county's growth. Growth Partnership assists businesses in connecting with regional workforce partners and investing in strategies to develop a skilled labor pool. We provide support for companies to access customized training resources, training grants, and future workers through job fairs and other targeted events.

## JOBS FOR OHIO'S GRADUATES

108 Main Ave. SW Suite 800, Warren, Ohio 44481

[Jogworks.org](http://Jogworks.org)

**Terri Peterman**

*Employer & Community Engagement Professional*

330.984.4414

[tpeterman@jogworks.com](mailto:tpeterman@jogworks.com)

Jobs for Ohio's Graduates (JOG) excels in providing workforce development solutions tailored to business needs. Our offerings include specialized training services and a comprehensive curriculum. We focus on career readiness, soft skills enhancement, and technical training assistance, ensuring participants are well-prepared for the job market. Our programs are designed to boost employability and productivity, creating a skilled and adaptable workforce. Partner with JOG to access a pool of candidates ready to drive your organization's success.

## JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT OF EASTERN OHIO

1601 Motor Inn Dr. #305, Girard, Ohio 44420

[Easternohio.ja.org](http://Easternohio.ja.org)

**Michele Merkel**

*President*

330.539.5268 ext. 101

[Michele.merkel@ja.org](mailto:Michele.merkel@ja.org)

### JA Workforce Coaching

A US Department of Labor grant to Junior Achievement USA is funding a historic and visionary initiative: the creation of a new program for JA, JA Workforce Coaching. The Federal grant, Workforce Coaching for Youth, will lead to a national rollout over the next three years, expanding JA's reach into the young adult/workforce space. The initiative targets young adults up to age 21 who are neither in school nor working full-time.

JA USA is developing a three-pillar approach to the workforce

space. Those pillars are: Coaching, Credentialing, and Connections to Employment.

### Coaching

The power of coaching can be a critical tool in developing the potential of young adults. In the robust JA program, participants are matched with a coach for a one-on-one, five-phase program that will provide them with education and career development support, as well as new skills to increase their employability and handle their finances.

Two tracks, Education First and Employment First, are designed to prepare participants to get the education and training they need before entering the workforce, or to transition directly from the coaching program into unsubsidized employment. This could include internship, apprenticeship, gig-based work, or a full/part-time job. A partnership with SmartResume provides participants the opportunity to create skills-based resumes.

### Credentialing

The growing emphasis on skills-based hiring informs JA's credentialing strategy, which seeks to revolutionize how we prepare and credential the workforce of tomorrow. JA will put in place a comprehensive ecosystem of credentials that serve as tangible, portable evidence of a person's competencies, skills, and achievements.

### There are three types of credentialing initiatives:

- Credentials created and issued by JA, e.g. the JA Career-Ready Credential
- Partnerships with third-party organizations that offer pathways to credentialing, including credential prep programs.
- A partnership with Accredible making all badges portable, which is facilitated by the issuance of a digital credential, stored in a wallet.
- A partnership with Accredible allows credentials to be shared in a variety of ways, including digital wallets, social media, and SmartResume.

### Connections to Employment

JA Workforce Coaching for Youth features a variety of supports aligned to career readiness, as well as obtaining actual work experiences. The talent marketplace provides a strong mechanism to connect local JA Workforce Pathway participants to internships, apprenticeships, and part-time and full-time jobs.

The local JA Areas' connections to employers is one of the strongest aspects of JA's work in this space. Leveraging those relationships will help ensure employment opportunities are available for program participants.

## KENT STATE UNIVERSITY AT ASHTABULA

3300 Lake Road West, Ashtabula, Ohio 44004

[www.kent.edu/ashtabula](http://www.kent.edu/ashtabula)

**R. William Ayres**

*Dean & Chief Administrative Officer*

440.964.4212

[Rayres1@kent.edu](mailto:Rayres1@kent.edu)

Focused on providing access to Ashtabula County and surrounding communities, Kent State Ashtabula offers a convenient college option at reduced regional campus tuition. Students choose from bachelor's and associate degrees and



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certificate programs or begin coursework for more than 280 degree programs offered at Kent State and its six other regional campuses. Ashtabula's four-year degrees include Social Work, Criminology & Justice Studies, Information Technology, and Psychology. Two-year degree options include Accounting, Business Management, Cybersecurity, Nursing, Respiratory Therapy, Radiologic Technology, Physical Therapy Assistant, and Occupational Therapy Assistant. Certificate programs include Viticulture, Enology, Medical Assistant, Computer Forensics & Information Security, and Event Management.

## KENT STATE UNIVERSITY AT EAST LIVERPOOL

400 East 4th Street, East Liverpool, Ohio 43920  
<https://www.kent.edu/columbiana>

**Bradley Bielski, Ph.D.**  
Dean and Chief Administrative Officer  
440.964.4212  
[bbielski@kent.edu](mailto:bbielski@kent.edu)

Kent State University at Salem and Kent State University at East Liverpool combined into Columbiana County campuses, offer more than 28 Associate and Bachelor degrees that reflect the demand of the surrounding communities. Our campuses offer students a high-quality learning environment with classes taught by world-class faculty at an affordable cost. At East Liverpool, students find allied health programs, such as nursing, occupational therapy assisting and physical therapy assisting particularly committed to the needs of the community. In addition, on-line options in several degree programs are also available, such as information technology.

## KENT STATE UNIVERSITY AT SALEM

2941 OH-45, Salem, Ohio 44460  
<https://www.kent.edu/columbiana>

**Dr. James Hannon**  
Interin Dean  
330.332.0361  
[jhannon5@kent.edu](mailto:jhannon5@kent.edu)

Kent State University at Salem and Kent State University at East Liverpool combined into Columbiana County campuses, offer more than 28 Associate and Bachelor degrees that reflect the demand of the surrounding communities. Our campuses offer students a high-quality learning environment with classes taught by world-class faculty at an affordable cost. At East Liverpool, students find allied health programs, such as nursing, occupational therapy assisting and physical therapy assisting particularly committed to the needs of the community. In addition, on-line options in several degree programs are also available, such as information technology.

## KENT STATE UNIVERSITY AT TRUMBULL

4314 Mahoning Avenue NW, Warren, Ohio 44483  
[www.kent.edu/trumbull](http://www.kent.edu/trumbull)

**R. William Ayres**  
Dean and Chief Administrative Officer  
330.675.8820  
[Rayres1@kent.edu](mailto:Rayres1@kent.edu)

Focused on providing access to the Mahoning Valley and surrounding communities, Kent State Trumbull offers a convenient college option at reduced regional campus tuition. Students choose from bachelor's and associate degrees and certificate programs or begin coursework for more than 280 degree programs offered at Kent State and its six other regional campuses. Trumbull's flagship programs include four-year degrees such as Bachelor of Nursing Science (BSN), Criminology & Justice Studies, Information Technology, and Psychology. Two-year degree options include Accounting, Business Management, Cybersecurity, Criminology & Justice Studies, Mechanical and Electrical/Electronic Engineering Technology, and Veterinary Technology. Addictions Counseling and Basic Peace Officer Training Academy certificate programs are also available. Kent State's Police Academy, located at Trumbull and Twinsburg locations, provides basic and advanced law enforcement training to a 14-county region in northeast Ohio and applies to a degree in criminal justice.

## LAKE TO RIVER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

City Centre One, Suite 920, 100 East Federal St.  
Youngstown, Ohio 44503  
<https://www.laketoriverohio.org/>

**Matt Falter**  
Director, Talent Engagement  
234.529.1498  
[matt@laketoriverohio.org](mailto:matt@laketoriverohio.org)

Ohio has one of the strongest workforces in the nation. As the JobsOhio Network Partner, Lake to River helps navigate that massive workforce ecosystem by connecting business to the right partners throughout the region and state. We recognize that a company only thrives when its talent thrives. That's why our mission to help businesses succeed also means helping our workforce succeed.

We set Ohio businesses up for long-term success through several programs and initiatives that support:

- Talent attraction
- Talent growth and retention
- Upskilling/reskilling
- Talent Advising
- Collaboration with the company's human resources teams
- Assisting Ohio's workforce ecosystem to grow talent

## MAHONING COUNTY BOARD OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

4801 Woodridge Dr, Austintown, OH 44515  
[www.mahoningdd.org](http://www.mahoningdd.org)

**Guy Young**  
Service and Support Administrator/Employment Navigator  
330.314.8901  
[gyoung@mahoningcouthoh.gov](mailto:gyoung@mahoningcouthoh.gov)

The Ohio Employment First Initiative states that the first option for a person receiving services should be community employment. The Mahoning County Board of Developmental Disabilities has committed to putting more resources toward

# LAKE TO RIVER RESOURCE DIRECTORY

developing more community employment opportunities rather than the development of more traditional facility-based services. The Mahoning County Board of Developmental Disabilities makes it a priority to ensure the people we support have as many opportunities as possible to work in the community just like everyone else. We partner with a variety of businesses, vocational service providers, and educational institutions to provide initial and ongoing support, from finding a job to keeping it.

## **MAHONING COUNTY CAREER AND TECHNICAL CENTER**

7300 N. Palmyra Rd., Canfield, Ohio 44406  
<https://mahoningctc.com/adult/>

**Mary Mihalopoulos**  
Director, Adult Career Center  
330.729.4100  
[Mary.Mihalopoulos@mahoningctc.com](mailto:Mary.Mihalopoulos@mahoningctc.com)

MCCTC Adult Career Center is one of 49 Ohio Technical Centers (OTCs) across Ohio providing innovative career programs to prepare students as professionals in their chosen career fields. MCCTC Adult Career Center offers Career Training programs that include Welding, Automotive Technology, Medical Training Programs, EMT, and Firefighter Training. MCCTC Adult Career Center connects students with employers, hands-on training, externship experiences and continuing education options. As an OTC, MCCTC Adult Career Center is positioned to respond quickly to the needs of business and industry by providing customized training and business consultation services to companies and organizations to assist with meeting Ohio's workforce goals including Industrial Maintenance and Automation, Robotics, Apprenticeships, Public Safety, EMS, and Healthcare Workforce Development.

## **MAHONING VALLEY MANUFACTURERS COALITION**

241 W Federal, Youngstown, Ohio 44513  
[Mahoningvalleymfg.com](http://Mahoningvalleymfg.com)

**Alex Hertzner**  
Executive Director  
330.219.3521  
[alex@mahoningvalleymfg.com](mailto:alex@mahoningvalleymfg.com)

MVMC is the region's lead manufacturing workforce development agency and is an industry-led sector partnership and membership-driven organization. Formed in 2011, MVMC provides a network for Mahoning Valley manufacturers to identify common needs and problem-solve with their partners, sharing ideas and resources to develop a skilled workforce. Being industry-led is one of our founding principles. Our board is comprised entirely of local manufacturers who guide our work by identifying current and emerging needs, vetting potential solutions, and determining annual priorities. The Coalition is focused on creating a demand-driven mechanism for ongoing dialogue among industry, education and the public workforce system to ensure manufacturing remains an important part of the regional economy. MVMC prioritizes the in-demand occupations of machining, industrial maintenance, welding and robotics, dedicating resources to identifying and organizing training/certification programs, apprenticeships and pre-apprenticeships, youth outreach and career pathway mapping for members. A summary of member benefits include recruitment

strategies, access to upskilling programs assistance with TechCred funding, group-sponsored apprentice programs, grant-funded subsidies to workforce training programs, youth outreach strategies, networking/sharing of best practices among peers, board/leadership/volunteering opportunities, media coverage, and E-newsletter.

## **MAHONING VALLEY WORKS**

Oak Hill Collaborative, Inc. 507 Oak Hill Ave  
Youngstown, Ohio 44502  
<https://www.youngstownworks.com/>

**Gerri Jenkins**  
Founder  
330.406.0731  
[director@themvcap.org.in](mailto:director@themvcap.org.in)

Mahoning Valley Works (formerly Youngstown Works), was founded during the pandemic in 2020. Its goal is to pair job seekers with employers who need employees. Our consortium includes many nonprofit organizations, as well as training and educational institutions committed to preparing area residents for the workforce. While participation is open to all, the primary constituencies served include high school and college graduates, adults in career transition, and returning citizens. While our primary avenue of service is through two annual Hiring Events, one in the fall; the other in the spring, job opportunities and related information is available on our website.

## **MYPATH MAHONING VALLEY**

105 High St NE, Warren, Ohio 44481  
<https://mypathmv.org/>

**Gerri Jenkins**  
Executive Director  
330.675.4322  
[director@themvcap.org.in](mailto:director@themvcap.org.in)

MyPath Mahoning Valley began in 2000 as the Mahoning Valley College Access Program. A group of philanthropists coalesced around the idea that college access should be easier, especially to students who would be the first in their families to attend college, and might lack the financial resources to pay the associated auxiliary costs, outside of tuition. We offer direct service to school districts and their students, in group and individual interactions. Our work begins in the sixth grade, where we assess the student's individual interests and abilities and help them to design a plan to successfully achieve their desired career pathway. We continue this work through twelfth grade. With the ultimate goal of high school graduation, they may or may not choose to pursue their sixth grade plan. However, the process remains the same as they move toward post-secondary education and training, directly to the world of work or enlistment in the military. We also award scholarships.

# LAKE TO RIVER RESOURCE DIRECTORY

## **NORTHEAST OHIO TRUCK DRIVER TRAINING, LLC.**

11818 Mahoning Ave, North Jackson, Ohio 44451  
<https://neotruckdrivertraining.com/>

Kim Webb  
Northeast Ohio Truck Driver Training  
330.538.7108  
[kim@neotruckdrivertraining.com](mailto:kim@neotruckdrivertraining.com)

Northeast Ohio Truck Driver Training's goal is to prepare individuals for a successful career as a professional CDL driver.

## **NEW CASTLE SCHOOL OF TRADES**

4117 Pulaski Road, New Castle, Pennsylvania 16101  
[www.ncstrades.edu](http://www.ncstrades.edu)

Dennis Corrado  
Director for New Castle School of Trades  
724.964.8811  
[dcorrado@ncstrades.edu](mailto:dcorrado@ncstrades.edu)

For 80 years the New Castle School of Trades has been "Teaching America's Trades." Importance is placed on Attitude, Attendance, Appearance, Academics and Accountability. These "Five A's" are the guiding principles that lead to the success of our graduates.

Programs include: Automotive Technology, Building Technology, Diesel & Heavy Equipment Repair Technology, Electrical Technology, Industrial Electro-Mechanical Technology, Machinist & CNC Mfg.,

Motorcycle & Power Equipment Technology, Refrigeration & A/C Technology, Combination Welding, Commercial Truck Driving-class A or B, Heavy Equipment Operation with Commercial Truck Driving.

## **OH WOW! CHILDREN'S CENTER FOR SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY**

15 Central Square, Youngstown, Ohio 44503  
[ohwowkids.org](http://ohwowkids.org)

Katie DeToro  
Executive Director  
330.744.5914  
[katie@ohwowkids.org](mailto:katie@ohwowkids.org)

OH WOW! The Roger & Gloria Jones Children's Center for Science & Technology is dedicated to developing critical and independent thinkers through hands-on STEM education. As a provider of STEM education and entertainment in the greater Mahoning Valley, we also strive to showcase workforce opportunities to learners of all ages through our physical museum space and outreach programs. We offer training for educators and program facilitators and are working to provide additional resources and training to our team. In 2025, the museum will open its 3D Printing Lab in collaboration with America Makes, as well as a new Microelectronics Lab. OH WOW! continues to generate excitement in STEM disciplines through field trip opportunities, special events, its Summer Manufacturing Institute, outreach programs and commitment to providing museum access to all.

## **OHIO DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS SERVICES**

77 South High Street #7, Columbus, Ohio 43215  
<https://dvs.ohio.gov/>

Tyler Emley  
Workforce Consultant  
614.296.8548  
[Tyler.Emley@dvs.ohio.gov](mailto:Tyler.Emley@dvs.ohio.gov)

The Department of Veterans Services conducts outreach to veterans, provides training and oversight to the 88 County Veterans Service Offices (CVSOs) and coordinates programs and operations with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), which provides benefits to Ohio veterans. They work with the Ohio General Assembly and Congressional representatives to craft legislation in support of veterans and their families at the state and federal levels. Additionally, they communicate and coordinate with other state agencies concerning veterans programs and support to veterans.

## **OHIOMEANSJOBS ASHTABULA COUNTY**

2247 Lake Avenue, Ashtabula, Ohio 44004  
[www.acdjfs.org](http://www.acdjfs.org)

Hattie Grubke-Barnard  
Administrator  
440.994.1234  
[Hattie.Grubke-Barnard@jfs.ohio.gov](mailto:Hattie.Grubke-Barnard@jfs.ohio.gov)

OhioMeansJobs Ashtabula County can assist businesses with many resources such as posting open positions on OhioMeansJobs.com, on our Facebook page, on our job board at OMJAC and emailing openings to all our partners which include, but are not limited to, all Ashtabula County libraries, the technical school in the County – Atech and Kent State Ashtabula. OMJAC also can assist in hiring and training current and new workforce. Our office is available to host hiring events and to disperse and collect applications for employers. Funding opportunities are also available for incumbent workers and new hires alike.

OhioMeansJobs Ashtabula County has funding available (upon eligibility determination) to assist adults in furthering their education. OMJAC can also assist in career exploration, resources to assist in overcoming barriers to education or work, access to partner agencies all in one location and guidance in career planning to name just a few!

Youth are also able to receive assistance with education and training through our Comprehensive Case Management Program. This program teaches job skills, places those 14-24 years olds that are work ready into work experiences and much more.

# LAKE TO RIVER RESOURCE DIRECTORY

## OHIO MEANS JOBS MAHONING & COLUMBIANA COUNTIES

721 Boardman Poland Rd, Suite 200  
Boardman, Ohio 44512  
[Omjworkforce.com](http://Omjworkforce.com)

Susie Wickline  
COO

330.747.5639 EXT. 6128  
[swickline@mctaworkforce.org](mailto:swickline@mctaworkforce.org)

The OhioMeansJobs Centers are operated by the Mahoning & Columbiana Training Association (MCTA) and authorized under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014. The OhioMeansJobs centers of Mahoning & Columbiana counties are designed to help businesses find, train, and retain qualified workers. As partners of the American Job Center network, and in collaboration with local organizations dedicated to employment services, they provide integrated resources to build a prepared and effective workforce. Responsive to business' needs, the centers provide direction and support to individuals as they pursue in-demand occupations. Both employers and individuals may benefit from job training services offered. Recruitment services, including assessment screening and referral of talent, are easily accessible to employers. Individuals are provided assessment and information on training services to help navigate career pathways.

## OHIO MEANS JOBS TRUMBULL COUNTY

280 N. Park Ave, Warren Ohio 44481  
<https://www.co.trumbull.oh.us/OMJ>

Tara Stanyard  
OhioMeansJobs Supervisor  
330.675.2074  
[Tara.stanyard@jfs.ohio.gov](mailto:Tara.stanyard@jfs.ohio.gov)

OhioMeansJobs Trumbull County programs are designated to help businesses locate, expand and avoid layoffs, as well as improve the overall status of our local economy. Most importantly, most of the services through OhioMeansJobs are FREE! Our services include, but are not limited to: recruitment services, internet job postings and resume mining services, On the Job Training Reimbursement, Incumbent Worker Training Reimbursement, Special Grants, Referrals to other services, Business Resource Network, Labor Market Information, RETAIN strategies, On site Job Fairs, Youth Recruitment and Assessment Services.

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR OHIOANS WITH DISABILITIES (OOD)

EAST CENTRAL REGION (TRUMBULL, MAHONING, COLUMBIANA)  
816 30th Street NW, Canton, Ohio 44709  
<https://ood.ohio.gov/>

Ron Klonowski  
Business Relations Specialist  
330.312.4051  
[Ronald.klonowski@ood.ohio.gov](mailto:Ronald.klonowski@ood.ohio.gov)

OOD is a State of Ohio agency that empowers Ohioans with disabilities through employment, disability determinations and independence. The agency's Business Relations Team builds

partnerships with employers to promote and support the hiring of qualified candidates with disabilities. OOD offers a variety of no-cost services and resources that promote an inclusive and diverse work environment. Its Division of Employer and Innovation Services (EIS) builds partnerships with employers to help increase diversity, productivity, morale and profit. OOD provides a variety of no-cost services for employers including candidate sourcing and recruitment, connecting employers with college students/recent graduates with disabilities for internships and careers, helping create a disability-inclusive culture through disability awareness training, increasing employee retention by offering enhanced follow-up after placement and offering technical assistance to make workplaces accessible. OOD also provides guidance about employers' responsibilities under Title I of the ADA.

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR OHIOANS WITH DISABILITIES (OOD)

NORTHEAST REGION (ASHTABULA)  
14725 Detroit Avenue, Suite 320, Lakewood, Ohio 44107  
<https://ood.ohio.gov/>

Brian Crowe  
Business Relations Specialist  
216.990.0676  
[Brian.Crowe@ood.ohio.gov](mailto:Brian.Crowe@ood.ohio.gov)

OOD is a State of Ohio agency that empowers Ohioans with disabilities through employment, disability determinations and independence. The agency's Business Relations Team builds partnerships with employers to promote and support the hiring of qualified candidates with disabilities. OOD offers a variety of no-cost services and resources that promote an inclusive and diverse work environment. Its Division of Employer and Innovation Services (EIS) builds partnerships with employers to help increase diversity, productivity, morale and profit. OOD provides a variety of no-cost services for employers including candidate sourcing and recruitment, connecting employers with college students/recent graduates with disabilities for internships and careers, helping create a disability-inclusive culture through disability awareness training, increasing employee retention by offering enhanced follow-up after placement and offering technical assistance to make workplaces accessible. OOD also provides guidance about employers' responsibilities under Title I of the ADA.

## SOD CENTER, INC.

440 Pennsylvania Avenue, Salem, Ohio 44460  
[Sodcenter.com](http://Sodcenter.com)

Julie L Needs  
Administrator  
440.994.1234  
[execdir@sodcenter.com](mailto:execdir@sodcenter.com)

Our Mission: The SOD Training Center strives to facilitate connections between business, industry and organizations to promote workforce development training for the region. We provide a location and platform for training and development at all levels within the workforce – from the unemployed to the Executive – by coordinating cooperative training in collaboration with service organizations and professional training providers in and outside of our region.

The SOD Training Center offers a location in Salem, Ohio to help meet training needs of area businesses and industries.



# LAKE TO RIVER RESOURCE DIRECTORY

The center is designed as a local resource that provides fully- equipped spaces for employee job training, as well as coordinating courses and workshops to aid in workforce development at all levels. Our training focus centers on safety training, leadership development, workplace improvement, skills advancement, soft skills/personal development, and hands on technical training in our newly expanded technical training center.

## **TRUMBULL CAREER & TECHNICAL CENTER (TCTC)**

528 Education Highway, Warren, Ohio 44483  
[tctchome.com](http://tctchome.com)

Koula Glaros-Ross  
Adult Education Coordinator  
330.847.0503 ext. #1608  
[koula.glarosross@tctchome.com](mailto:koula.glarosross@tctchome.com)

TCTC Adult Training provides courses/credentials for industrial trades including; welding, machining, industrial maintenance, electrical, and upcoming robotics. We offer computer courses as well. If courses are not on the schedule, we can do customized training depending on needs of individuals and/or employers.

## **TRUMBULL COUNTY BOARD OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**

45 North Road, Niles, Ohio 44446  
<https://tcbdd.com/>

Richard Mistovich  
Community Employment Liaison  
330.652.9800  
[richardmistovich@tcbdd.org](mailto:richardmistovich@tcbdd.org)

The Trumbull County Board of Developmental Disabilities (TCBDD) provides referral, linkage, case management service of eligible adults to employers interested in hiring an adult with a disability. TCBDD may also provide referral services to Opportunity for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD) for funding and support of adults desiring to work in a competitive environment.

## **TRUMBULL COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER**

6000 Youngstown-Warren Rd., Niles, Ohio 44446  
<https://www.trumbullesc.org/>

Mr. Michael Hanshaw  
Superintendent  
330.505.2800  
[Michael.hanshaw@trumbullesc.org](mailto:Michael.hanshaw@trumbullesc.org)

The Trumbull County Educational Service Center, as a visionary leader in education, provides high-quality services to school districts and communities through cost-effective and cooperative programs that promote the highest levels of learning.

The Trumbull County Educational Service Center provides educational leadership and instruction in the areas of curriculum development, special education and technology. The Center employs teachers, therapists, psychologists and other specialists who work directly with approximately 25,000 students in 20

school districts. In addition, the Center conducts professional growth seminars for approximately 2000 teachers each year. The Trumbull County Educational Service Center works in conjunction with the school districts to provide programs that promote the highest level of learning for children in Trumbull County, Ohio.

## **TWI (THE WORKSHOPS, INC.)**

1960 E. County Line Rd., Mineral Ridge 44440  
<https://choosetwi.com/>

Nia Hall  
Director of Operations  
330.774.8306  
[halln@choosetwi.com](mailto:halln@choosetwi.com)

TWI has served those with developmental disabilities for 50 years. We provide low-cost Ohio labor services to businesses and nonprofits, as well as a range of training and enrichment programs for the individuals in our programs. We encourage people with developmental disabilities through employment, vocational training and enrichment programs.

We provide some of the most commonly sought-after business services at economical prices and all with an added level of supervision. Our team gathers your requirements, and transports and supervises dedicated participants to ensure accuracy, quality and timeliness. Our business services include janitorial, document destruction and production/assembly work.

## **UNITED NETWORK ALLIANCE (FAIRHAVEN IND., MASCO INC., PORTAGE IND.)**

10 E Main Street, Salineville, Ohio 43954  
<https://unaohio.com/>

Melissa Capple  
COO  
330.550.7459  
[mcapple@unaohio.com](mailto:mcapple@unaohio.com)

The mission of United Network Alliance is to support individuals with disabilities by delivering exceptional services that develop and strengthen each person's ability to live, work, socialize and contribute as citizens of their community. Our Business Services:

Through collaboration, we create a plan for meeting your specific business objectives, such as fully understanding your product quality needs. We do that through customized quality testing and precise work instruction. And because we don't have a proprietary process of our own, we make it our priority to customize based on your specific production and quality requirements. We sub-contract by bringing the work you need done into our plant. For those businesses in the surrounding area, we can also provide you with a supervisor and crew to work at your location.

# LAKE TO RIVER RESOURCE DIRECTORY

## UTICA SHALE ACADEMY

10 E Main Street, Salineville, Ohio 43954

[www.uticashaleschool.com](http://www.uticashaleschool.com)

Jocelyn Reed

CHW Supervisor / Enrollments Specialist

330.383.3151

[jocelyn.reed@uticashaleschool.com](mailto:jocelyn.reed@uticashaleschool.com)

Utica Shale Academy offers customized workforce training and education aligned with Ohio's in-demand industries. With state-of-the-art labs for welding, heavy equipment, and industrial maintenance, we prepare students and adult learners for high-skill, high-wage careers. Our curriculum integrates hands-on training, industry certifications, and employability skills, supported by experienced instructors and strong employer partnerships. We also provide flexible training options, including on-site, regional, and virtual delivery models. With a focus on dropout recovery and re-engagement, we specialize in serving nontraditional students and building career pathways that meet local and regional workforce needs.

## UNITED RETURNING CITIZENS

611 Belmont Ave, Suite B, Youngstown, Ohio 44502

[unitedreturningcitizens.org](http://unitedreturningcitizens.org)

Dionne Dowdy-Lacey

Executive Director

234.855.0000

[execdirector@unitedreturningcitizens.org](mailto:execdirector@unitedreturningcitizens.org)

To combat the lack of support for returning citizens when trying to gain meaningful employment, we created our United Returning Citizens' (URC) Employment Services Program. This program helps the returning citizens in the tri-county area (Mahoning, Trumbull, and Columbiana Counties) search for, prepare for, and obtain meaningful employment. Our program staff also helps with resume building, interview training, and job search help to assist the participant during this process. Ultimately, this program contributes to our overall mission because it ensures returning citizens receive the proper employment support, allowing them to obtain meaningful employment benefiting themselves, their families, and the community.

## YOUNGSTOWN AREA GOODWILL INDUSTRIES

2747 Belmont Avenue, Youngstown, Ohio 44505

[www.goodwillyoungstown.org](http://www.goodwillyoungstown.org)

Joe Paloski

Vice President of Mission Services

330. 759-7921

[j.paloski@goodwillyoungstown.org](mailto:j.paloski@goodwillyoungstown.org)

As a nonprofit, Youngstown Area Goodwill Industries, Inc. offers a range of workforce development services. These services encompass a thorough vocational evaluation program, work adjustment initiatives, work experience programs, "light touch" case management coupled with referrals, job placement services, resume writing, job

coaching and employment opportunities specifically designed for individuals facing barriers to employment, such as economic disadvantages and physical or mental disabilities. In response to evolving needs, we have reintroduced driver's permit classes, as well as Certificate of Qualification for Employment (CQE) services tailored for individuals with prior convictions. Goodwill has adopted a holistic approach, enhancing referrals to local partners not only for job-related services but also for wrap-around resources encompassing housing, utilities, food pantries, and social services.

## YOUNGSTOWN BUSINESS INCUBATOR

241 West Federal Street, Youngstown, Ohio 44503

[www.ybi.org](http://www.ybi.org)

Stephanie Gaffney

VP of Advanced Manufacturing

330.743.5006

[sgaffney@ybi.org](mailto:sgaffney@ybi.org)

YBI provides entrepreneurship support for advanced manufacturing companies. YBI has a suite of services to support the adoption of advanced manufacturing technologies by industry and government partners. To date, YBI's Advanced Manufacturing team has secured approximately \$70M in state and federal funding for supply chain development, technology development and commercialization, business case analysis, etc. for marquis customers like The Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company, the US Army, US Air Force, Saffran Aerospace, etc. The YBI team works with Parallax Advanced Research out of Beaver Creek, Ohio on the US Air Force Research Lab's AFWERX program to assist Small to Medium Enterprises (SMEs) with SBIR/STTR submissions.

YBI is also the host site for the State of Ohio's Minority Business Assistance Center, which focuses on loan packaging, certifications and business counseling for women, minority, veteran and other socially and economically disadvantaged businesses. They also operate a Youth program that has both an entrepreneurship component, as well as an augmented/virtual reality program that provides disadvantaged youth with exposure to STEM technology careers.

With five buildings, YBI is one of the largest landowners in downtown Youngstown. Its main facility (241 W Federal Street) is home to a number of software companies, as well as traditional businesses owned by women/minorities. Three facilities are entirely leased to commercial partners, including America Makes. The fifth building is a 65,000 sf facility that provides both office and production facilities to additive manufacturing companies. The TBB5 building houses \$15 Million dollars in Advanced manufacturing equipment such as, XJet Carmel 1400 Ceramic printer, 3Dsystems ProX 320, EOS M290, EOS M400, Velo3D metal printers, Juggerbot 3D Trandesman series 344 (pellet printer) and various other systems that can be made available to manufacturers for training and understanding on Advanced manufacturing. YBI also has programs that will subsidize cost of programs to manufacturers.

# LAKE TO RIVER RESOURCE DIRECTORY

## **YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY, WORKFORCE, EDUCATION, AND INNOVATION (WEI)**

1 Tressel Way, Youngstown, Ohio 44555

<https://ysu.edu/workforce>

Jackie Ruller (WEI, Excellence Training Center);  
Lindsey Ekstrand (IT Workforce Accelerator)  
Director

330.941.2357 (ETC reception)

[jaruller@ysu.edu](mailto:jaruller@ysu.edu)

[Lfekstrand@ysu.edu](mailto:Lfekstrand@ysu.edu)

Workforce, Education, and Innovation comprises the Excellence Training Center (ETC), the IT Workforce Accelerator (ITWA), and the Skills Accelerator (SA). <https://ysu.edu/ETC>

The ETC is a one-of-a-kind workforce, education, research and commercial center focused on advanced manufacturing. Career pathways for all types of students include traditional and non-traditional certifications and industry recognized credentials offered in a wide range of areas such as manual and CNC machining, industrial maintenance, robotics, automation and additive manufacturing. The ETC houses over \$10 million of advanced manufacturing equipment that is used to bring the programs to life. The ETC is owned and operated by Youngstown State University. The Excellence Training Center is located in Kohli Hall. <https://ysu.edu/it-workforce-accelerator>

The IT Workforce Accelerator (ITWA) is a state-of-the-art IT training center for the region serving K-12 students, individuals, and companies. The center also serves any YSU students interested in earning IT industry-recognized credentials as a non-credit option. Established through industry partnerships with IBM, WIA, Cisco, and others, the IT Workforce Accelerator now delivers in-demand IT skills training around software development, cybersecurity, cloud, artificial intelligence, networking, and telecommunications. ITWA is located in Silvestri Hall, <https://ysu.geniussis.com/Registration.aspx>

The Skills Accelerator is WEI's Learning Management System. It houses all of the training that WEI offers. All students may take online programs and register for in-person classes through the Skills Accelerator.

## **YOUNGSTOWN / WARREN REGIONAL CHAMBER**

City Centre One, Suite 500, 100 E. Federal Street,  
Youngstown, Ohio 44503

[www.RegionalChamber.com](http://www.RegionalChamber.com)

Brenda Linert

Director, Government Affairs & Community Impact

330.744.2131, ext. 1114

[Brenda@regionalchamber.com](mailto:Brenda@regionalchamber.com)

The Regional Chamber is leading efforts to grow the local workforce by increasing the local population. This is being done through efforts to retain and return residents and also receive newcomers. Additionally, the Chamber is working to improve local workforce participation by returning unemployed residents to the labor force. This initiative includes a community-wide effort to remove barriers to employment.

# STAFFING AGENCIES

**ALLSTAFF**

330.938.6717  
[www.allstaffcareers.com/](http://www.allstaffcareers.com/)

**ROBERT HALF RECRUITERS AND  
EMPLOYMENT AGENCY**

330.946.8999  
[www.roberthalf.com](http://www.roberthalf.com)

**ATC HEALTHCARE SERVICES**

330.759.9722  
[www.atchealthcare.com](http://www.atchealthcare.com)

**NESCO RESOURCE**

330.788.4001  
[www.nescoresource.com](http://www.nescoresource.com)

**CAREER ADVANTAGE, INC.**

330.788.2328  
<https://careeradvantage.us>

**CORPTEMPS STAFFING SERVICES**

330.652.7900  
<https://corptemps.com>

**CROWN SERVICE INC.**

440.257.1807

**ELITE EMPLOYMENT CENTER**

440.998.4473  
[www.eliteemploymentcenter.com](http://www.eliteemploymentcenter.com)

**EMPLOY-TEMPS STAFFING  
SERVICES**

330.337.1200 (Salem)  
330.270.9243 (Youngstown)  
[www.employtemps.com](http://www.employtemps.com)

**EXPRESS EMPLOYMENT  
PROFESSIONALS**

330.349.5007 (Warren)  
330.333.7031 (Youngstown)  
[www.expresspros.com](http://www.expresspros.com)

**GLOBAL TECHNICAL RECRUITERS**

330.729.5286  
<https://gtrjobs.com/>

**INFINITY RESOURCES INC**

440.998.6515 (Ashtabula)  
440.599.8333 (Conneaut)  
440.994.9600 (Jefferson)  
[www.thejobsnetwork.com](http://www.thejobsnetwork.com)

**INTEGRATIVE STAFFING GROUP**

866.868.4473  
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