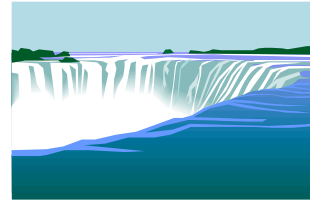


Niagara County Workforce Development Group TEAMS Meeting

Wednesday, March 19, 2025 @ 9 a.m. VIRTUAL
Notes/Minutes



Item	Result
Welcome/ Introductions	Dennis M., Bonnie R., Mike K., Mike C., Joe B.
REPORTS Alphabet soup	
Mike K. Niagara County Employment & Training	<p>9 active OJTs: 1 American Glass 1 Swogier Construction 1 at Pioneer Printers 1 at Voss Manufacturing 1 at Regional Heavy Equipment 2 at An-Cor Industrial Plastics 1 at Matrix Imaging Solutions 1 at LAR Electronics Looking at 1 at Shipman Printing and 1 at Taber Industries.</p> <p>Involved with the Renewable Energy Training Initiative grant (RETI) from the NY Power Authority - OJTs (and CRTs) for individuals transitioning into the clean, green, renewable energy fields. Outreach mostly at this time - a few companies already look promising.</p>
Bonnie R. Niagara County WDB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Held Zoom meetings with Danforth regarding Heavy Metal Summer Experience; Mike Laberta of WDI, Inc; Buffalo Build Pre-apprenticeships. Met in person with SUNY Niagara re: RETI grant, Niagara County Jail re: grant opportunity, ON-BOCES to meet new supervisor Dr. Farrar. Attended NYATEP's in-person Advocacy Day in Albany, meeting with state legislators' aides. NYATEP's 2025 Legislative Priorities include restoring WIOA funding statewide, as 12% overall cuts are anticipated; the list of priorities can be found at https://www.nyatep.org/NYATEP_Advocacy .

Mike C.- NCCED	<p>Niagara Orleans Regional Land Improvement Corporation (NORLIC)</p> <p>NORLIC is continuing to work with all of their municipal partners in Niagara County to identify and select strategic sites that could be a target of acquisition, stabilization, or demolition.</p> <p>NORLIC has been involved in the revitalization initiative on Main St. in Niagara Falls. This has included coordinating and hosting a developer familiarization tour with the City, State of NY (ESD), and Niagara University. This work will identify potential developers for the vacant, abandoned, and distressed properties in the Main Street corridor. To do this work, and in order to further each property's chance at viability, NORLIC has allocated over \$700,000 to pre-development work in this district to pay for clean-outs, plans, drawings, studies, and any other non-capital expenses that may be inhibiting the further development of a site.</p> <p>Developer tours are ongoing and have generated multiple offers, with a selection committee carefully evaluating candidates to ensure the best fit for each property. The focus is on applicants with strong redevelopment and renovation experience, as well as a proven record of accomplishment in their proposed business ventures.</p> <p>Projects</p> <p>Saint Gobain, a global company, is planning a \$41.5 million project at 6600 Walmore Road in Sanborn. The existing site is part of the former bell Aerospace facility, which is historic in nature and will require coordination with the state's Historic Preservation Office. The site also has a complicated environmental history and close coordination with the NYS DEC will be necessary as well.</p> <p>The project involves acquisition of the property and the proposed construction of a 125,000 square foot facility. The build out will expand the company's ability to manufacture ceramic catalyst carriers, which are vital to many industries such as energy production and refining. Biofuels, etc. The project will help retain 63 jobs while creating an additional 30 new jobs with an estimated annual payroll of \$1.8 million for the new jobs. More information on the project can be found at www.niagaracountybusiness.com.</p>
Joe B., NYSDOL	<p>Many Career Fairs both virtual and in person throughout the five counties that comprise WNY for the DOL. The next In-person Niagara event will be held in Lockport.</p>
ACCES-VR Dennis M	<p>Innovative Employment Committee of the Niagara WDB hosted two free Virtual Information Sessions via the Yang Tan Institute at Cornell in Feb and March with topics related to recruitment and employment of people with disabilities. And average of 25 company reps attended each session.</p>

	<p>The committee is planning a career exploration event at the ON BOCES conference center for HS students with disabilities in Niagara and Orleans Counties on October 15. More information to follow.</p> <p>Thursday, April 10, 2025 Diversity Career Fair, Public Library downtown Buffalo, 10:30 – 12:30, 40 + are registered. Partnering with NYSDOL and Workforce Buffalo. Flyer and list of companies and jobs attached.</p> <p>Spring 2025 Date TBD, Career Mentoring Day with Roswell Park CCC, Open to area HS students with disabilities. 9a to 1p tours and talks about occupations in various departments at Roswell. Lunch for students included. We are also meeting with other large employers about similar events.</p> <p>NDEAM- Looking for employers who have hired PWD. Business award nomination form attached. Let me know if you have a business in mind for this. Last year there was a nomination/award from NCE&T.</p>
NEXT MEETING	NEXT MEETING – MICROSOFT TEAMS on April 9, 2025, via TEAMS