

THE PLAIN DEALER

January 15, 2012

Too few Ohioans have adequate job training, employers say

By Reginald Fields

COLUMBUS, Ohio - Gov. John Kasich spent the better part of his first year in office focused on job creation.

But some of the success the Republican leader found on that front only highlighted a problem the state has yet to solve.

As more skilled-labor jobs become available, employers complain that too few Ohioans are adequately trained to be hired. That has triggered an odd dilemma in a state with an 8.5 percent unemployment rate: open jobs, people searching for work and yet too few connections.

"We have a mismatch. This is a huge problem," Kasich told The Plain Dealer last week. "We've got people who have jobs, and we've got people who they say don't have the skills to fit the jobs. So we're not matching them."

As of Friday, the state says there are 72,341 open positions in Ohio, most in the private sector, which have gone unfilled as employers claim that the labor pool is too shallow and unqualified.

Story continued here: http://www.cleveland.com/open/index.ssf/2012/01/too_few_ohioans_are_adequately.html



January 16, 2012

VIDEO: Kasich partners with Cincinnati State and local foodbank to launch training program

By Jennifer Grove

CINCINNATI, OH (FOX19) - Governor Kasich announced a commitment Monday from three community colleges to actively recruit and train young minorities in Ohio, including Cincinnati State. The Queen City college will be launching a new training program for people working in the food service industry.

"It is not good enough in Ohio for only those in the suburbs to realize the benefit of economic growth and prosperity," Gov. Kasich said during a special event celebrating the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday. "We want members of our minority communities to advance and become managers in the state of Ohio and leaders in our country in the business profession," Gov. Kasich went on to say.

According to a report from Governor Kasich's office, the objective of the Cincinnati State program is to provide disadvantaged participants with the skills they need for career advancement and higher paying jobs while also meeting the needs of employers.

"This is going to provide a higher-level workforce for those employers which will increase their productivity, help the business and so on and so forth," said Dr. Dennis Ulrich, Executive Director of Cincinnati State's Workforce Development Center.

"If you look at this all around in a holistic way, it's great for the participants in the program, it's good for the businesses, and it's good for the partners as well," Ulrich added.

Story continued and video here: <http://www.fox19.com/story/16531304/kasich-partners-with-cincinnati-state-and-local-foodbank-to-launch-training-program>

THE PLAIN DEALER

January 14, 2012

Lorain County Community College among three in Ohio to undertake innovative job training programs

By [Karen Farkas](#)

Work force training opportunities are plentiful across the state but people don't know about them, the programs aren't accessible and many don't result in employment, said Connie Wehrkamp, Kasich's deputy press secretary.

"We need to make sure they are training people for the jobs that [need] to be filled and the skills that are in demand," she said.

Kasich plans to announce the new work force development initiative on Monday. Lorain County Community College, Columbus State Community College and Cincinnati State Technical and Community College will undertake one-year pilot programs, each with its own focus.

The colleges will generally use existing funding, resources, faculty and collaborations with outside organizations. But the programs will be tailored to a specific unemployed or underemployed population and be promoted to the public and businesses by the governor's office, said LCCC President Roy Church.

"The governor's office has the benefit of the bully pulpit," he said. "He can raise visibility in ways that I can't. We need to have the business community committed to the programs so that as the people complete these programs they are assured to at least getting an interview."

LCCC's program is Career ReStart for Disproportionately Unemployed Minorities, aimed at blacks and Hispanics, especially women. It plans to offer a wide variety of career development programs and employment services.

Story continued here: http://blog.cleveland.com/metro/2012/01/community_colleges_to_undertak.html



January 15, 2012

Columbus State to test summer job-skills program

Kasich has Columbus State plan pilot effort for 30 urban or minority teens

By Bill Bush

At the request of Gov. John Kasich, Columbus State Community College is developing a pilot program to train about 30 high-school students in specific job skills: bioscience, graphics and gaming, logistics, construction, culinary arts and manufacturing.

The initiative is part of a larger effort aimed at urban and minority residents involving community colleges in Lorain, Cincinnati and potentially other Ohio cities that Kasich is to announce on Monday at the Martin Luther King Jr. Day Breakfast in Columbus.

"Generally, work-force development is a huge policy priority for him this year," said Kasich spokeswoman Connie Wehrkamp. "This is something that the governor wanted to make a priority and ensure that folks in these populations have access to programs like this."

The pilot program at Columbus State, which the college is calling Career LOOK, is to offer 16- to 18-year-olds a three-month training program this summer that will provide at least one entry-level skill for each industry area they explore. The particular career fields were chosen because they are expected to need workers.

Story continued here: <http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/local/2012/01/15/columbus-state-to-test-summer-job-skills-program.html>



January 17, 2012

Blacks, Latinos focus of new jobs program

By Brad Dicken

ELYRIA — Lorain County Community College is launching a new jobs training program aimed at minorities as part of a one-year pilot effort as part of a statewide workforce development initiative being championed by Gov. John Kasich.

The program was formally announced Monday by Kasich during a speech in Columbus honoring Martin Luther King Jr.

Kasich said the pilot programs — in addition to LCCC, Columbus State Community College and Cincinnati State Technical and Community College also will have separate programs — will focus on building basic and management skills for those participating.

“We want members of our minority community to advance and become managers in the state of Ohio and leaders in our country in the business profession,” Kasich said during his speech.

LCCC’s tentatively named Career ReStart for Disproportionately Unemployed Minorities will focus on providing career development programs as well as basic and occupational skills that will include some industry-recognized credentials, according to an overview of the program provided by Kasich’s office.

The program, which will target Hispanics and blacks and black women in particular, also will provide job search and placement services, job entry services and continued training once a participant has started their new job, the overview said.

“What we’ve seen is a disproportionate number of minorities who are unemployed and we hope to engage them in career development activities that will better prepare them to re-enter the workforce,” LCCC President Roy Church said in a statement.

Story continued here: <http://chronicle.northcoastnow.com/2012/01/17/blacks-latinos-focus-of-new-jobs-program/>

THE MORNING JOURNAL

January 17, 2012

LCCC to help unemployed

By Allison Strouse

ELYRIA — Lorain County Community College will take part in a one-year career program to help the unemployed and underemployed in the county.

Yesterday morning, Gov. John Kasich discussed the partnership of the state with LCCC for a Career ReStart for disproportionately unemployed-minorities program.

The program, which will be geared toward Hispanics and African Americans with an emphasis on women, will look to help the unemployed and underemployed population, according to Connie Wehrkamp, deputy press secretary for Kasich.

“Specifically, the program aims to engage the target population and deliver a full spectrum of career development programs, education and training, and employment services,” according to the programs objectives.

LCCC is one of three colleges participating in the program, with Columbus State Community College and Cincinnati State Technical and Community College also taking part.

“Each of these programs are unique,” Wehrkamp said, pointing out that each school tailor it to its community.

“Our goal, in general, is to improve Ohio’s workforce development,” she said.

The one-year program for LCCC will focus on education, training and incorporating technical and non technical skills.

Story continued here: <http://morningjournal.com/articles/2012/01/17/news/mj5587159.txt>

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