

Dear (Contact First Name),

Twenty-three individuals and two companies from Greater Cincinnati were honored by the Southwest Ohio Region Workforce Investment Board (SWORWIB) Feb. 10 for their contributions and leadership in workforce development. "Their dedication to improving the public workforce system in Cincinnati and Hamilton County, to exploring new initiatives, and to simply rolling up their sleeves and getting things done has made our area known for its innovation and strong results," said **Sherry Kelley Marshall**, President/CEO of the SWORWIB. "I am grateful to each and all of them."

Those honored were:

Super Board Member: James Schwab, former president of U.S. Bank and now President of the Health Foundation. Schwab was SWORWIB Treasurer for three years, assisting with all accounting, audits and IRS oversight and paperwork.

Super Founders: David Pepper, former Hamilton County Commissioner; **Paul Reynolds**, Executive Vice President, Fifth Third Bancorp; **Pete Strange**, Chairman of Messer Construction Co., and **John Young**, President/CEO of the Freestore Foodbank. All provided 10 years of service to the SWORWIB.

Super Employment Partners: St. Bernard Soap Co. and **The Huck Group**, for recruiting and training efforts.

Super Economic Partners: Doug Moormann and **Julia Muntel**, from the Partnership USA for collaborative work with the SWORWIB on various grants.

Super Void Filler: Diane Walsh, United Labor Agency, for stepping in during Super Jobs staffing shortages to start up services for dislocated workers at Avon and Jim Beam.



Mike Conner, Mayor Mallory and Jim Schwab at the Super Awards ceremony.

Super Leaders: Cincinnati Mayor **Mark Mallory** for leadership in supporting coordination of efforts to serve youth and employers in summer programs; City Council Member **Charlie Winburn** for forming the Job Creation Committee and his focus on workforce training and entrepreneurship.

Super State Partners: **Robert Haas**, Workforce Investment Act Performance Manager, for training and technical assistance; and **Thomas Hutter**, Chief, Bureau of Wagner Peyser, for willingness to listen to various perspectives on evaluation methods.

Super Connectors: **Daniel Freese**, President-Elect of the Ohio Valley Chapter of Associated Builders and Contractors, for arranging for volunteers for the Fifth Quarter and Cincinnati Public Schools' Construction Clubs; and **Darlene Kamine**, Executive Director at Community Learning Center Institute for linking the SWORWIB to CPS resources.

Super Youth Supporters: **Richard Harris**, P3 Secure, for his service to the Emerging Workforce Development Council; and **Joseph Hummel**, Executive Director, Allied Construction Industries, for championship of the construction career pathway collaborative.

Super Employee Awards:

SWORWIB: **Patricia Massey** for designing and implementing the Eligible Training Provider process; and **Anne Mitchell**, Construction Advocate, for exceeding all goals on the Spirit of Construction grants.

SuperJobs Center: **Charlie Point** for assistance with the improved www.superjobs.com website; **Gigi Hart** for long-standing employer relationships; **Andrew Lotter** for highest placement numbers and highest NEG ITA activity in the State of Ohio; **Kevin Casagrande** for organizing financial operations and setting up improvement systems; **LaTrisha Payne** for maximizing G*Stars investment through the effective use of ITA record keeping and data management.

TRANSITION CENTER SET UP AT AVON

The SWORWIB has set up a Transition Center at [Avon Products](#) to serve dislocated workers as Avon draws closer to closing its manufacturing operation in Springdale.

The Transition Center, funded by a grant from the [Ohio Department of Job and Family Services](#), allows the SWORWIB to provide on-site services to dislocated workers, including information on retraining for a new career.

Avon announced in July 2009 it would be closing its manufacturing division in Springdale. By December of 2009, Avon had set up a Peer Support Transition Team, composed of Avon associates representing manufacturing, HR managers, and representatives from SuperJobs Center and ODJFS. "As Avon went through this downsizing process, it was important to make sure we were communicating effectively with our associates and providing them the services they needed to plan for the next phase of their working life," says **Teena Renville**, Human Resources Manager at Avon. "The Peer Support Transition Team helped us do those things effectively."



From left, Chuck Bowles, SuperJobs Center; Teena Renville, HR Manager, Avon; Sherry Kelley Marshall; Alice Worrell, ODJFS; and Diane Walsh, Avon Peer Transition Committee, visit Avon's Resource Center.

[The SuperJobs Center](#) has staffed the new Transition Center at Avon, which is open 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.

The center's resources include several computers, which allows associates to find more about retraining programs, work on their resumes, etc. Some associates are enrolling in new

certification courses in medical technology and life sciences (see related story) offered by Sinclair Community College and Cincinnati State.

About 400 are still employed in manufacturing in Avon, says Renville. Avon expects to lay off most of those workers this year, she says. Avon will continue to operate its Returns Center and Contact Center at the Springdale plant, which is currently for sale.

FIRST CLASS GRADUATES IN BIOSCIENCE CURRICULUM

Eighteen students graduated Feb. 7 from [Cincinnati State](#) and [Sinclair Community College's](#) first Bioscience Certificate program. As beneficiaries of a Department of Labor grant, the two schools are collaborating on an extensive program in bioscience careers, and have worked closely with pharmaceutical and medical device companies to develop a relevant curriculum, says **Jim Kleemeier**, Project Manager at Cincinnati State.

The students included dislocated workers referred from the SuperJobs Center. Sinclair and Cincinnati State are working closely with Avon, which is closing its manufacturing division in Springdale. "The skills needed to work in manufacturing in Avon provide a good foundation to build on in these classes," says **Brenda Latanza**, Manager of Public Workforce Initiatives at Sinclair.

At least one student has found a job as a result of the training, and four others are continuing on the pathway toward getting a Biotechnology Associates degree. Another company has requested resumes from the class, says Latanza.



Instructor Aaron Greene teaches class at bioscience lab.

The bioscience curriculum focuses on such positions as development operators, manufacturing technicians, CNC operators, lab and research assistants - positions that the advisory companies say they are facing shortages in. Classes are taught at the new Bioscience Manufacturing Technology Lab located at Cincinnati's State's Workforce Development Center, 10100 Reading Road, Evendale.

The next Bioscience Certificate session begins on Feb. 22. For further information, contact Kleemeier, at (513) 569-4955 or james.kleemeier@cincinnatiastate.edu, or Brenda Latanza at (513) 339-1212 x-6 or brenda.latanza@sinclair.edu.

AREA 12 HAS SPECIALIZED RAPID RESPONSE TRAINING



A training session in Rapid Response protocols called RACI -- Responsible, Accountable, Consulted and Informed -- was held Feb. 11 at the SuperJobs Center. Led by consultant Patrick Wade (above, center) of the Center for Workforce Learning, participants trained in reviewing protocols for responding to potential layoffs, actual layoffs, and closings in order to provide a full range of resources and assistance to impacted employers and dislocated workers. Rapid Response teammates, pictured above, came from the SWORWIB, SuperJobs Center, the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, the Ohio Department of Development, and the state-designated agency, Area 12 -- Cincinnati/Hamilton County -- was the first in the State of Ohio to undertake this training.

INTRODUCING C.O.O.L -- CONSTRUCTION CAREERS

The votes have been tabulated and *C.O.O.L. - Construction Offers Opportunities for Life* -- is the High School Construction Committee's new name. The committee participated in the 9th Annual Construction Career Days at Butler County Fairgrounds in September 2010 where they asked students to vote for one of five names. C.O.O.L. has created an email address the_coolcrowd@yahoo.com to answer questions, advertised its new name on the middle school website www.buildyourfuture.info, and developed a social media plan that includes posts to its Facebook page.

C.O.O.L. is a collaborative of construction companies, trade professionals, career pathway high school representatives and the SWORWIB. The network's strategic plan to promote a career pathway in construction to high school students includes a speakers' bureau, construction trades fairs, field trips, and leveraging social media.

SHORT TAKES: OWENS JOINS SWORWIB, GRANT FUNDS SCHOLARSHIPS

EMPLOYERS FIRST TO HOLD FORUM MARCH 3: The Employers First Regional Workforce Consortium and the Greater Cincinnati Workforce Network are inviting employers to attend "Skill Shortages in a Time of High Unemployment," an informative and lively discussion about the tri-state's readiness to develop and train workforce talent needed to fill current and future jobs. **J. Domenic Giandomenico**, director of Education and Workforce Programs for the [U.S. Chamber of Commerce's Institute for a Competitive Workforce](#), will be the keynote speaker.

The March 3 program will be held from 9-11 a.m. at Moss Hall Auditorium the GE Learning Centre at One Neumann Way in Evendale. Registration and continental breakfast starts at 8:30 a.m. The forum is for employers only and space is limited, so please RSVP by contacting Lucy Houchin at 317-489-3441 or lhouchin@tpma-inc.com. For more details, click [here](#).

DR. OWENS NAMED TO BOARD: Dr. O'dell Owens, President of Cincinnati State, was appointed to the Southwest Ohio Region Workforce Investment Board. He was most recently coroner of Hamilton County. Read more [here](#).

GRANT FUNDS SCHOLARSHIPS: As a result of a grant proposal developed by President Sherry Kelley Marshall in partnership with the [African American Chamber of Commerce](#), the [Community Action Agency](#) for the City of Cincinnati and Hamilton County and the SuperJobs Center, Cincinnati State was funded to provide up to 20 scholarships to qualified minority and women candidates seeking skills to become a BPI certified Building Analyst. Marshall developed the grant proposal in partnership with these organizations and met with Hamilton County consultants who included the proposal in an application for the county's energy related efforts.

This unique scholarship program is designed to assist individuals needing financial assistance to obtain BPI training from Cincinnati State, particularly minorities and women. The SuperJobs Center is helping to recruit the students. To find out more, contact Larry Cherveney at Cincinnati State, larry.cherveney@cincinnatiastate.edu or 513-569-1497.

MARSHALL PRESENTS TO NATIONAL GROUP: The power of public-philanthropic partnerships was the topic of Sherry Kelley Marshall's [address](#) to the National Association of Workforce Boards in Washington, D.C., on Feb. 7. Marshall spoke about the Greater Cincinnati's recent history of collaborative efforts in workforce development, including area Workforce Investment board's partnership with the Greater Cincinnati Workforce Network.

IN THE NEWS:

Enquirer names SuperJobs manager Vivian Alexander named a woman to watch in 2011:
<http://news.cincinnati.com/article/20110201/BIZ01/301260090>

Business Courier [interviews Marshall](#) on Gov. Kasich's initiatives.

USA Today [interviews Marshall](#) on Sen. Coburn's job training program report

ODJFS's Office of Good News touts Spirit of Construction grant news:
In WIA Area 13 (Hamilton County), The Spirit of Construction Foundation (SOC) has given Build Your Future, the innovative Middle School outreach program, a big vote of confidence with its decision to award an \$80,000 grant to continue the program through March 2012.



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