



For Immediate Release

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## Knox County Workforce Development Alliance - 2022 Annual Report

**MOUNT VERNON, OH.** - The Knox County Workforce Development Alliance (WorkDev) is a collaboration of dedicated professionals working to identify workforce issues and actively creating solutions through communication, education, and collaboration. Operations include programming for students and community members, resource development, research, collaboration, and more.

26 businesses and organizations are represented at monthly meetings. Partners include:

Ariel Corporation  
Beehive Industries  
Burrows Packaging - Novolex  
Central Ohio Technical College  
Coyne Graphic Finishing  
Ohio Department of Developmental  
Disabilities  
Freedom Caregivers  
Knox Community Foundation  
Knox Community Hospital

Knox County Educational Service Center  
Knox County Board of Developmental  
Disabilities  
Knox County Career Center  
Knox County Career Navigator  
Knox County Chamber of Commerce  
Knox Mobility Manager  
Knox Public Health  
Knox Technical Center

Kokosing, Inc.  
Mauser Packaging Solutions  
Ohio Eastern Star Home  
Ohio Job & Family Services  
Ohio Means Jobs Knox County  
Robertson Truck Sales  
Schafer Driveline  
Touch Pointe Marriage & Family Services  
Ver-Mac Industries

At the 11 monthly meetings in 2022, WorkDev strategized to remove barriers to the success of workforce development in Knox County.

With consultation from local businesses and collaboration between local organizations, WorkDev has multiple programs designed to support opportunities for job-seeking individuals to find quality employment at a Knox County company.

2022 Programming Includes:

- The Knox ASPECT program prepares interested candidates for a career in manufacturing by teaching necessary skills for the industry, such as continuous improvement, team management, weights and measures, and other crucial skills. The program enables individuals to explore manufacturing as a possible career path while preparing them for success. Participants who complete the program have a guaranteed job interview with 11 participating Knox County-based manufacturers. The program had 19 graduates in 2022.
- The 2022 Healthcare Career Expo was an event for high school students interested in the healthcare industry. Students rotated through five stations designed to provide information about the diversity of careers available in healthcare and how they can get started at local companies. The stations highlighted career options in Nursing, Technician positions, Maintenance, Housekeeping, and Culinary. Over 15 local healthcare professionals presented to 54 students from each of the Knox County High Schools.
- The Knox County Career Navigator's position exists to educate Knox County high school students about career opportunities that best fit their goals. Working mainly with seniors, Sean McCutcheon met individually with students from Centerburg, Danville, East Knox, and Fredericktown high schools to provide resources and

support to help them pursue their goals. In the Spring of 2022, Mr. McCutcheon scheduled and organized over 80 in-school job interviews for students with local companies, and in the Fall of 2022, he met with over 175 students to begin exploring their career pathways.

- The 2022 Knox County Workforce Needs Assessment is a collection of quantitative and qualitative data collected to identify the needs of the workforce development efforts in Knox County. The report prompted the creation of five new WorkDev committees. Committees are developing action items related to job quality conflicts, childcare barriers, employment pathway creation, transportation barriers, and pathways for non-traditional workforce populations.
- In 2023, WorkDev is hosting the Supervisor Training Workshop in February, the Knox County Internship Fair for college students in March, a Manufacturing Career Expo in March, spring/fall Knox ASPECT cohorts, and a Healthcare Career Expo in the fall.

To access the full report and more information about WorkDev programming visit the website at: **KnoxADF.com**

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**About WorkDev:**

Coordinated by the Area Development Foundation, WorkDev is a group of professionals in Knox County that are committed to identifying workforce issues and actively creating solutions through communication, education, and collaboration.

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