

Michigan Works! Participates in NMU Job Fair



Michigan Works! Human Resource Specialist assists one of 200 students in attendance at the NMU Job Fair.

Michigan Works! participated in the Teacher Job Fair held in Northern Michigan University's University Center's Great Lakes Rooms. Northern Michigan University grad-

uates approximately 200 students with a degree in education each year and the job fair provided these upcoming NMU education graduates, as well as alumni, a venue to discuss employment opportunities with various schools and organizations. The schools and organizations in attendance were from various locations in Michigan, Wisconsin, and Alaska.

Michigan Works! provided information to these upcoming graduates and alumni about resumes, interview skills, the Michigan Talent Bank, and various other services that Michigan Works! has to offer. The job fair provided the students with a great opportunity to explore their employment options.

UP Business Barometer – Strengthening the Region's Business Competitiveness



James Anderson, Job Force Board and Lance Wolfe, Michigan Works! review business retention requirements at recent training event.

The Upper Peninsula Business Barometer, an internet software tool, assists our economic development practitioner community in organizing, analyzing and reporting industry trends that provide community decision-makers invaluable insight into the dynamics of the local economy.

It is based on the Synchronist Business Information System® developed by Blane Canada Ltd, an economic development research, planning, retreat management, and focus group research company based out of Illinois. As direct consultants to more than 200 local, regional,

and statewide Economic Development Councils, Blane Canada Ltd. has developed an award winning solution to the challenge of business retention through the Synchronist system.

In our region, the Upper Peninsula Economic Development Alliance has re-branded it as the UP Business Barometer. This tool is now one of the primary activities under the Upper Peninsula's 21st Century Planning initiative that is focused on strengthening the business competitiveness of the region. "The use of this tool will provide us with ongoing industry trends that will allow us to provide the necessary services and resources critical to keeping our businesses strong and competitive," stated Joe Esbrook, President of the Upper Peninsula Economic Development Alliance.

James Anderson, of the Job Force Board, is providing training and consultation on the UP Business Barometer to economic and workforce development professionals across the region. Recent trainees include Lance Wolfe, Michigan Works! Business Development Consultant, Phil Musser, Keweenaw Economic Development Alliance Executive Director and Terri Lukshaitis, Ontonagon Economic Development Corporation Executive Director.

For more information on the Upper Peninsula's 21st Century Strategic Planning Initiative contact Joe Esbrook at jesbrook@jobforce.org.



COMMUNITY EVENTS

August 8 . 2007

Business After Hours

March of Dimes

Time: 5:00-7:00 p.m.

For More Information Call Lake Superior Community Partnership at 906.226.8591

August 16 . 2007

Business After Hours

Four Seasons Resort

Time: 5:00-7:00 p.m. CT

For More Information Call Dickinson Area Partnership at 906.774.2002

August 22 . 2007

Business Showcase

Quick Trophy

Time: 5:00-7:00 p.m.

For More Information Call Lake Superior Community Partnership at 906.226.8591

August 29 . 2007

Business After Hours

WYKX / City of Gladstone

Location: Downtown Gladstone

Time: 5:30-7:30 p.m.

For More Information Call Delta Chamber at 906.786.2192

September 5 . 2007

Business After Hours (Tailgate Party)

Ranger's Hockey Team

Location: Lakeview Arena

Time: 5:00-7:00 p.m.

For More Information Call Lake Superior Community Partnership at 906.226.8591

September 10 . 2007

Business Showcase

Teaching Family Homes

Time: 5:00-7:00 p.m.

For More Information Call Lake Superior Community Partnership at 906.226.8591

September 26 . 2007

Business After Hours

Michigan Works! The Job Force Board

Location: Log Cabin Grille & Bistro

Time: 5:30-7:30 p.m.

For More Information Call Delta Chamber at 906.786.2192

Upper Peninsula Healthcare Roundtable Convenes to Address Future Industry Needs



Al Hendra, chair of the UP Healthcare Roundtable and Job Force Board member, leads other industry leaders in discussion during recent Strategic Planning meeting.

Upper Peninsula Healthcare Roundtable members from across the Upper Peninsula recently convened in Marquette to begin their strategic planning for the next five years. The Roundtable has been in operation since 2002 and has seen enormous success

Youth Gain Skills That Will Benefit Future Employers



Kaylee Woodworth socializes with Erma Carlson, a Norlite resident at the Center.

Michigan Works! strives to prepare youth for employment in efforts to build a quality workforce pool for area businesses. Youth participating in a work experience through Michigan Works! works closely throughout the year with Michigan Works! Career Preparation Specialists to prepare for work. Preparation includes strengthening academic skills, building employability skills and exploring career path-

ways of interest. As a result of their hard work and dedication, some youth are offered the opportunity to explore their occupational interest in a work experience.

Once a youth's career interest is identified, Michigan Works! partners with local businesses to serve as host sites. During the 2006-2007 school year, Marquette Senior (*YOUTH Continued on Page 7*)

in the reduction of job vacancies, especially in the area of nursing. Its overall mission is to create a workforce to meet the Upper Peninsula health care industry needs by attracting and retaining a high-quality workforce. The roundtable also launches strategies aimed at improving the collective competi-

tive viability of the full health-care system across the peninsula. "We have certainly enjoyed many successes over the last 5 years," stated Al Hendra, Chair of the Healthcare Roundtable and Assistant Administrator at Marquette (*UPHCRT Continued on Page 7*)

CELEBRATING OVER 30 YEARS
of improving the economy and quality of life in the central Upper Peninsula by bringing employers and job seekers together!

Upper Peninsula Business Works because...

MICHIGAN WORKS!™

Visit our user-friendly Michigan Works! Service Centers in Escanaba, Iron Mountain, Manistique, Marquette, Menominee and Munising.

Join us for these upcoming Business After Hours Celebrations!

September 26, 5:30-7:30 PM
Log Cabin Grille & Bistro, Escanaba

October 10, 5:00-7:00 PM
TBA, Manistique

"My business works because Michigan Works!"

Services Offered for employers

- Profiling jobs to determine necessary skills and abilities
- Writing job descriptions and advertisements
- Posting job openings on the Talent Bank and campus websites
- Screening resumes and applicants
- Providing interview rooms and meeting facilities
- Training employees
- Helping with Human Resource administration issues
- Planning for business retention and expansion
- Offering Business Building Sessions on key issues

We hope to see you there!

www.jobforce.org
(800) 285-WORKS

"I work because Michigan Works!"

Services Offered for job seekers

- Linking job seekers with local and regional Employment opportunities and job search web sites
- Testing ability and knowledge
- Offering employment and career skills workshops
- Helping with education financial aid forms
- Providing a resource library of links, videos and software for job seekers
- Offering Internet access, word processing equipment, phone and fax services
- Supplying information on employment policies and legal issues

MICHIGAN WORKS!™

The Job Force Board **business is UP**

and the Six County Employment Alliance
Serving Alger, Delta, Dickinson, Marquette, Menominee and Schoolcraft Counties.

Equal Opportunity Employer Michigan Relay Center (1-800-649-3777) Auxiliary Aids & Services Available to Individuals with Disabilities.



UPHCRT Continued...

General Health Systems. “We now need to move forward with our new plan to meet future demands.”

Topics reviewed at the event addressed long term workforce needs in the areas of recruitment and departure, occupational shortages, training, professional recruitment and human resource sharing. The roundtable also addressed the development of a website, a review of the impact of global challenges and public policy issues. “We are also excited about the potential for an Upper Peninsula Healthcare Summit which was one of the key strategies we looked at during the planning event,” stated

Hendra. “The collective efforts of this group are to be commended.”

“There was considerable input from the group when it came to public policy and the need to promote healthcare in the Upper Peninsula,” noted Peter Jennings, CEO, of OSF St. Francis Hospital in Escanaba. The most significant economic impact by the health care industry is in direct jobs, salaries and wages. The purchasing power of this industry and its employees has tremendous impact on local economies. Healthcare spending creates thousands of additional indirect and induced jobs. The taxes paid by this industry support schools,

police, fire departments, culture and arts and other amenities that makes the Upper Peninsula a great place to live. A strong health care industry improves the quality of life and assists economic developers to attract and retain businesses and jobs. We are proud that our healthcare industry’s contribution to the UP economy reflects a total annual economic impact of \$1,127,124,196.”

For more information about the UP Healthcare Roundtable, contact Deb Doyle, Job Force Board, Director of Operations at 906.789.0558 ext. 219.

YOUTH Continued...

High School student, Kaylee Woodworth, expressed a strong interest in working in health care and specifically that “...she wanted to work at Norlite because she wanted to work with the elderly.” Based on this information, Michigan Works! Career Preparation Specialist, Sarah Johnson, worked with Norlite to arrange an experience that matched Kaylee’s interests. George Pond, Activities Director at Norlite stated, “We are willing to participate with Michigan Works! to give high school students an opportunity to experience what work is and how it plays an important role in our lives. This experience will give Kaylee a sense of responsibility along with the hands-on training in a health related field. Kaylee is self motivated and has jumped right

in with both feet. Her residents enjoy spending time with her and look forward to her being here.”

When asked about her experience at Norlite, Kaylee commented, “I’ve really enjoyed it. Working in activities, you get to be personal with people by learning their stories and helping them with day to day activities.”

Host sites provide local youth the opportunity to work directly with industry professionals. Youth gain valuable insight about the industry and occupation opportunities, build their employability skills, practically apply academics to employment, and most of all, see if they like it. Sarah Johnson comments, “We can’t do this

without the host sites. Their commitment, time and guidance are a crucial component in preparing youth to be valuable employees.”

Other businesses currently participating as work experience host sites include: The Upper Peninsula Children’s Museum, Northern Veterinary Associates, Peninsula Arts Appreciation Council/ Vista Theatre Thrift Shop, Creation Station Childcare, Bishop Noa Home, Bonifas Fine Arts Center, Delta County Animal Shelter, Gladstone ABCD Summer Program, Industrial Maintenance Services, Jerry Russel Automotive, Michigan Department of Natural Resources – Fisheries, MSU-Extension, Vader & Vader, P.C., and the YMCA of Delta County.

Chocolay Area Business Association Enhances Curb Appeal of Area Businesses

Michigan Works!, as a member of the Chocolay Area Business Association, joined other members and the Cherry Creek School 4th graders to help beautify the local business area by planting flowers in the four corners of M-28 and Highway 41 in Chocolay Township.

The Chocolay Area Business Association partners with Cherry Creek School annually to contribute to the beautification of the area.

The Chocolay Area Business Association is a group of businesses in Chocolay Township that are involved with community events, first

dollar presentations to new businesses in the area, as well as beautification of the area.

Michigan Works! has been a member of the Chocolay Area Business Association for approximately five years and has been involved with many of the new businesses that have come to the Harvey area, serving their human resource needs. Additionally, Michigan Works! assists with various existing businesses by posting positions on the Michigan Talent Bank and screening applicants.

Michigan Works! and the Chocolay Area Business Association— a great partnership!



Cherry Creek 4th Graders along with Chocolay Area Business Association members pose by the flowers planted in efforts to enhance the curb appeal of area businesses.



Region 1

1.800.562.4808

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provides statewide services for traditional and tech based companies:

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