4 Years
1,000 Jobs

Kentucky Manufacturing Career Center Anniversary Report
A jobs program in Louisville is filling a skills gap and putting Americans back to work.”

Bloomberg BusinessWeek
March 2017
“Manufacturing is once again thriving in the Louisville region and this center is vital in giving individuals the training and confidence they need to succeed.”

Greg Fischer
Mayor of Louisville
Dear Friends,

On behalf of KentuckianaWorks, the regional Workforce Development Board, we are proud to present the four-year results of our first industry-focused career center, the Kentucky Manufacturing Career Center.

In 2013, the original idea behind the KMCC was to engage employers in the process of guiding sector-specific career services and training so that job seekers would have a better shot at a good job in manufacturing.

We also set a goal of raising the profile of manufacturing, a sector that has been roaring back since the recession and has a critical need for a trained workforce. One thousand job placements later, we’re ready to celebrate!

The KMCC shows us that KentuckianaWorks’ vision: Relentlessly experimenting with workforce innovations to engage and influence the community can lead to the fulfillment of our mission: Building a stronger community one person at a time through the dignity of work.

The work of the KMCC was inspired in part by a generous grant from the National Fund for Workforce Solutions -- a grant that was matched by six local funding partners: Community Foundation of Louisville, Gheens Foundation, James Graham Brown Foundation, JPMorgan Chase Foundation, Louisville Redevelopment Authority, and PNC Foundation.

We also salute the staff and training partners who have embraced our mission, and the dedicated manufacturing employers who have lent their expertise to this enterprise. But our greatest thanks goes to the 1,000 job seekers who chose manufacturing and contribute to our local economy every day.

Sincerely,

Michael Gritton
Executive Director
KentuckianaWorks

Tom Quick
Chair, KentuckianaWorks Board

"The KMCC provides strong benefits to our citizens looking for good jobs and employers looking for skilled workers -- it has aided our effort to attract and grow manufacturing companies."

Melanie J. Roberts
Bullitt County Judge/Executive
4 Years by the Numbers

1,000
total number of job placements

$13.13
average hourly wage for job placements

$14.11 in 2016-2017

$13.94
average hourly wage for Certified Production Technician (CPT) placements

$14.56 in 2016-2017

3,046
total number of certificates and credentials awarded

MSSC Modules - 1,710
NCRC - 703
CPT - 307
OSHA 10 - 95
LEAN Certificate - 100
Forklift - 95
Welding - 36
“Getting the CPT training at the KMCC was one of the best decisions that I ever made. I actually almost walked out of the orientation, but they persuaded me to stay and I am so glad that I did. If you just want to better your situation now, it’s one of the best decisions you can make, it definitely was for me.”

**Thomas Hudson, GE Appliances**

“I had a job I didn’t like and no real goals. Then I discovered the KMCC. The people there are awesome! They gave me a lot of support and connected me to welding school and the CPT training. I put in an application to KCC, and two weeks later I was working here. I like what I’m doing and the people I’m doing it with. There’s a future with this for sure.”

**Katie Deignan, KCC International**

“With my previous work, I was just trying to make ends meet. Then my friend told me about the training at the KMCC. Paul Resch of Dant Clayton came to our class and interviewed all 20 of us, took our resumes and offered me a job right there. They wanted me to start right away and actually gave me vouchers for steel-toe boots and work clothes so I could go to work the very next day, which was more than I expected. The experience has had a huge impact on my life - it’s given me a career job and I’m so satisfied and grateful.”

**Jay Sines, Dant Clayton**
Training
That Makes a
Difference

Certified Production Technician (CPT)

CPT is a national, industry-recognized credential developed by the Manufacturing Skill Standards Council. The training includes four separate courses and tests that cover safety, quality, manufacturing processes, and maintenance awareness.

Individuals who earn the CPT are qualified for entry-level manufacturing positions. Recognized by leading manufacturing employers in the region, the CPT training also positions participants for future promotional opportunities and for more advanced study in manufacturing.

The Manufacturing Training & Employment Connection (M-TEC)

M-TEC is a short-term, two-week manufacturing training launched in 2016. Participants can earn 5 certificates (MSSC Safety, OSHA 10, Lean Manufacturing, Forklift and Work Readiness) and are connected to local employers for job interviews on the final day of the training.

Manufacturing Training for English Language Learners (M-TELL)

M-TELL is a three-week pilot program that provides English Language instruction tied to manufacturing content and vocabulary for immigrants and refugees interested in manufacturing employment. Participants earn the OSHA 10 and Forklift Certificate and receive additional training in supervisory skills to position them for management roles in the future.
Employer Engagement

From the start, manufacturing employers have played a key role in guiding the development and programming of the Kentucky Manufacturing Career Center.

Starting with a focus group of 13 companies, the KMCC Employer Advisory Group has grown to approximately 50 active members who meet monthly to solve workforce issues.

Since 2013, more than 130 employers have engaged with the KMCC through participation in the Advisory Group or in hiring KMCC job seekers.

Rena Sharpe, former Vice President at Westport Axle (pictured below, left) served as the first chair of the Advisory Group, which is now co-chaired by Paul Resch of Dant Clayton and April Troutman of Paradise Tomato Kitchens, Inc (pictured below, right).
Promoting Manufacturing

As part of the KMCC’s mission, it seeks to:

► Offer a one-stop resource in the Louisville region for manufacturers and for job seekers interested in working in manufacturing.

► Promote manufacturing as a sector and as a career to job seekers and the community at large.

► Connect manufacturing employers to solve workforce challenges in recruitment, retention and development of a manufacturing pipeline.

► Provide entry level training leading to career pathways in manufacturing.
KMCC Partners

Jefferson Community and Technical College
Jefferson County Public Schools - Adult & Education
Jefferson County Public Schools – Career and Technical Education
Kentucky Department of Workforce Investment
Manufacturing Skill Standards Council
National Association of Manufacturers
Preeminent Training Specialists, LLC
ResCare Workforce Services
Vision of Hope Ministries, Inc.

Funders

Community Foundation of Louisville
Gheens Foundation
James Graham Brown Foundation
JPMorgan Chase Foundation
Louisville Redevelopment Authority
National Fund for Workforce Solutions
PNC Foundation
U.S. Department of Labor - Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act

“When I came to Louisville from South Korea, I wasn’t sure what I could do here. Then I heard about the KMCC. The course was intense but absolutely worthwhile. I was proud of myself to finish, and it brought my confidence back. I kept in touch with my job counselors, who helped me with my first English resume. They also connected me with Universal Woods where my career has expanded from working production to marketing our products to Asian markets! Looking back, the very first day of the training course was the cornerstone for my career journey.”

Binah Jang, Universal Woods
Employer Partners

310 Tempering
7UP/Snapple Bottling Company
Golden Brands
AEL Span
Algood Food Company
American Beverage Marketers
American Roofing & Metal
Anderson Wood
Ann Inc.
ASRC - American Synthetic Rubber Co.
AST Abatement Solutions Technology
Atlas Machine & Supply Inc.
Auto Truck Group
AXN Heavy Duty
BAE Systems
B&W Packaging Manufacturing
Beach Mold & Tool
Bigelow Tea Company
Bostik Inc.
Brown-Forman
Cardinal Aluminum
Cardinal Shower
Carrier Vibrating Equipment Inc.
CEMEX
CEVA Logistics
Challenger Lifts
Chester Pool Systems
Cintas
Clariant
Conagra Foods
Creation Gardens
Daikoktta Integrated Systems
Dana Incorporated
Dant Clayton
Dawn Food Products
Derby Fabricating Solutions
DSI Underground Systems
Dynacraft
Emerson TopWorx
Excel Modular Scaffold
Fabricated Metals
Fastenal
Faurecia
Flex
Ford Motor Company
Fort Dearborn Company
Gazelle
GE Appliances
Gordon Food Service
Great Northern Building Products
Ground Effects
Grupo Antolin
Harland Clarke
HB Molding, Inc.
Heritage Hardwoods of Kentucky
Hollander Sleep Products
Hoodz of Kentuckiana
Houston-Johnson, Inc.
Innovaire Communications
Idemitsu Lubricants America
Integrated Manufacturing & Assembly
JBS/Swift
K-I Lumber & Building Materials
Katayama American Co. Inc.
KCC International
Kellogg's
Kentucky Assoc. of Electric Cooperatives
Kentucky Trailer
Kerry Foods
Koroseal
Korront Optical
Krauth Electric
Lantech
Lastic International Corp.
LG&E-KU Energy
Life Safety Services
LINAK U.S. Inc.
LLFlex/Oracle
Logan’s Linens
Louisville Bedding Company
Lubrizol Advanced Materials
Metals USA/Eagle Steel Products
Mesa Foods
Millennium Forge
MISA Metal Fabricating, Inc.
Mixer Direct
Miyama USA
Mondi Industrial Bags
Morris Electric Company
NHK Spring Precision of America
Nifco
Ohio Valley Aluminum Company
O’Neal Manufacturing Services
Owens & Minor
Paradise Tomato Kitchens
Parker Hannifin
Piston Automotive Group
PPG Architectural Coatings
Precision Metal Works
Prolift Industrial Equipment
ProLogistix
PSC Industries
Publishers Printing Company
Raytheon Missile Systems
Reinhart Food Service
Rev-A-Shelf
Reynolds Metals Company
Riverside Paving & Contracting
Rogers Group
Roll Forming Corporation
Roller Die + Forming
Royal Consumer Products
Rue La La
Ryder Logistics
Sabert Corporation
Santa Rosa Systems Inc.
Siemens Corporation
Simonds International
Sondex Inc
Sonoco Protective Solutions
Speed Art Museum
Standard Group
Steel Structural Systems
Steel Technologies
Summit Polymers
Sypris Technologies
Sysco
Tasman Industries
Tennant Co.
The Carpenters Union
Thompson Industrial Services
Tower International
Trillium Construction
United Industrial Services
Universal Woods
Vacuum Depositing
Vogt Tube Ice
Voith Industrial Services
Werner Company
Westport Group
Winston Industries
WireCrafters
Wolverine Worldwide
Yamamoto FB Engineering
Zenith Logistics
Kentucky Manufacturing
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