FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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IAED Accepting Sign-Ups for *Pathways to Manufacturing* Work Program

Deadline to sign up is this Friday March 22
Program Enrollment is Free for Participants

ITHACA, N.Y., March 18, 2024 – Ithaca Area Economic Development (IAED) is accepting registrations for the *Pathways to Manufacturing* program starting April 8th at the TC3–Ithaca Extension Center, 118 N. Tioga Street in Ithaca. Classes run Monday–Friday from 9:30a–3:30p-until May 3rd. The deadline to register is this Friday, March 22. The program is free for all participants.

The *Pathways to Manufacturing* program is a full-time, four-week training program to equip people with the technical skills needed by area manufacturers. Upon completion, participants get a one-time $500 stipend, guaranteed interview with at least one participating manufacturer, and can take the Certified Manufacturing Associate (CMfgA) exam–a national credential.

The *Pathways to Manufacturing* program is a blend of online learning and hands-on experience using Virtual Reality, employer engagement, and team-building exercises. Participants will gain a comprehensive understanding of manufacturing processes and techniques and spend an entire day with each participating manufacturer, meeting with several departments and Human Resources.

For more information about the *Pathways to Manufacturing* program or to register for the information session, please visit https://ithacaareaed.org/direct-to-work/ or contact Mary Holland-Bavis at directtowork@ithacaareaed.org or 607-273-0005.

About Ithaca Area Economic Development

Ithaca Area Economic Development is a private not for profit economic development organization serving Ithaca and Tompkins County. It is New York State's first and only Accredited Economic Development Organization, one of only 70 across North America. The mission of Ithaca Area Economic Development is to build a thriving and sustainable economy by fostering business growth and employment. Since 1964, Ithaca Area Economic Development has worked to grow, retain, and attract companies that provide high-quality employment opportunities and strives to create a supportive environment for entrepreneurship and business development. For more information, visit Ithaca Area Economic Development at: https://ithacaareaed.org/.