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U.S. Department of Labor awards Workforce Development Board of Central Ohio, partner organizations, nearly \$8 million to recruit, retrain dislocated workers

COLUMBUS — The U.S. Department of Labor awarded the Midwest Urban Strategies (MUS), nearly \$8 million in Trade and Economic Transition Dislocated Worker grant funding to help mature dislocated workers reconnect with employment in growth occupations and industries. The Workforce Development Board of Central Ohio (WDBCO) will receive \$1.3 million through its membership in MUS.

“While central Ohio continues to see our unemployment rate at an all-time low, now is the time to think about how we can re-train people who are in need of new skills because of changing workforce needs” said Lisa Patt-McDaniel, WDBCO CEO.

“Together with partnering workforce boards through Midwest Urban Strategies, we are coordinating our efforts to implement strategies across the country to upskill dislocated workers in our community for jobs in growing industries such as Healthcare, Transportation, Information Technology, Financial Services and Advanced Manufacturing.”

WDBCO will receive nearly \$1.3 million in programmatic and administrative funds to deploy in the central Ohio region. Other partnering workforce boards and organizations include MUS partners — Cleveland Cuyahoga County Workforce Development Board, Employ Indy (Indianapolis), Center of Workforce Innovations (Gary/Valparaiso, Indiana), Workforce Alliance of South Central Kansas, Partners4Work (Pennsylvania); Western Pennsylvania workforce boards — Southwest Corner, Westmoreland Fayette, Tri-County and assisted by the Council for Adult Experiential Learning (CAEL).

About WDBCO

The Workforce Development Board of Central Ohio (WDBCO) is the Strategy, Policy and Governance Board for Columbus and Franklin County Workforce Development. Our mission is to partner with area businesses and organizations on workforce needs so that people are fully employed at their ability and potential in the thriving Central Ohio economy. More information is available at www.wdbco.org.

About Midwest Urban Strategies

Midwest Urban Strategies represents a coordinated effort on behalf of 13 urban workforce development boards to marry traditional workforce development practices with economic development. Through intentional collaboration, leveraging stakeholders and efficient and creative use of resources, our strategy is to retain and grow local talent and generate a greater return on investment for our employer partners and the workforce system. As representatives from urban epicenters, the challenges and opportunities we experience by serving diverse populations – culturally, socially, and economically, require a unique set of strategies and tactics to connect people to the changing expectations and needs of employers. For more information visit us online at midwesturbanstrategies.com.