

February
2024



Hub Happenings

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

MANHATTAN STRATEGY GROUP

The Hub is committed to fostering economic opportunities for Black Americans nationwide. A key emphasis for the Hub's work lies in collaborating with underrepresented and underserved communities and ensuring equity and diversity in Registered Apprenticeship Programs (RAPs). Recognizing the benefits of RAPs as the most beneficial "earn while you learn" training models, our team champions them as a robust alternative to conventional college paths.

Sheldon Strickland, the Hub's digital marketing manager, conversed with Hub's employer partner and a registered apprentice to commemorate Black History Month. They shared their firsthand experiences with RAPs, discussing the significant personal and professional benefits they gained from the program.

Video Series: Celebrating Black History Month



Sheldon sat down with Devionne Pierce, a graduate of the RWB Properties and



Sheldon interviews Lamont Houston, CEO of LaDarius Enterprise, LLC to learn more about his company, J.P.'s

Construction RAP. She now works in construction as a carpenter in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Chip-N-Dip Salsa, and opportunities offered through its RA program.

Black History Month Event

The Maryland Registered Apprenticeship Accelerator

When: Feb. 29, 2024

Where: Bowie, MD

The upcoming accelerator is hosted by the Hub, in partnership with Apexx Adams Transportation and Clean Energy Solutions and Jordan Peer Recovery, and supported by the Maryland Office of Apprenticeship and the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL).



This collaborative initiative brings together local cybersecurity, advanced manufacturing, and supply chain employers, Apprenticeship stakeholders, and aspiring talent, especially those from diverse backgrounds. Guest speakers will share valuable knowledge on leveraging RAPs to harness talent, diversify the local workforce, elevate productivity and recruitment strategies, and uncover the resources available to assist local businesses through this proven training model.

Welcome New Partners!



SAM (Surveying and Mapping, LLC), specializing in geospatial services, is partnering with the Hub to register its Power Lineman program nationally. Currently, SAM's RAP is approved in Texas, Illinois, and Kansas.

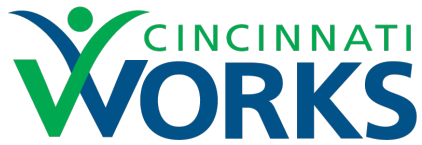
Augusta Technical College, servicing five counties in Georgia, has partnered with the Hub to engage with Georgia employers and develop RAPs in HVAC, welding, and electrical fields.



Automation, Strategy, and Performance (ASP), based in Florida, is a strategic planning and performance management company in the smart infrastructure industry. The Hub welcomes its partnership to continue expanding RAPs to more varied industries.

Bright Point Community College in Chester, VA, will work with the Hub to secure additional funding to sustain their HVAC, industrial

maintenance, and welding RAPs.



Cincinnati Works, based in Ohio, partners with regional employers to solve their workforce needs. The Hub will work with them to register a new construction and manufacturing RAPs.

Electrical Training Institute (ETI), based in Indianapolis, Indiana, has played a pivotal role in shaping the electrical workforce in the region. It has produced skilled electricians and is a hub for ongoing professional development and continuing education. The Hub will work with ETI to secure incentive funding for its inside electricians to receive equipment and tools for an upcoming RAP starting in March 2024.



Where We've Been



**SKILL UP
APPRENTICESHIP
SUMMIT** FOR EMPLOYERS
Recruit, Train & Retain Skilled Talent

Skill Up Apprenticeship Summit

When: Feb. 6, 2024

Where: Kissimmee, FL

Leisa Rasmussen, Wanda Monthey, and James Price headed to Osceola Technical College for the Skill Up Apprenticeship Summit, a Hub-sponsored event. Educational providers and non-profit organizations met to learn about Apprenticeship as a proven solution to recruit, train, and retain highly skilled workers.

NIMS OhioMeansJobs Lunch and Learn

When: Feb. 9, 2024

Where: Cincinnati, OH

James Price and Cathy Metcalf spoke to manufacturing employers at a Lunch and Learn hosted by OhioMeansJobs and the National Institute for Metalworking Skills (NIMS). They shared available funding and other resources for Ohio employers interested in the Registered





Colorado Workforce Development Board Presentation

When: Feb. 15, 2024

Where: Virtual

Jan Bray, Technical Assistance Lead, presented information on the Hub to local Colorado Workforce Boards during their monthly convening. Jan offered guidance to the Boards regarding their role in strengthening workforce development, getting involved, and how the Hub meets the Boards' goals and local economic viability.

Discover Kentucky Career Center Presentation

When: Feb. 16, 2024

Where: Covington, KY

Cathy Metcalf, Hub Senior Advisor, shared with local area employers the benefits of RAPs and information about the support and incentive funding the Hub can provide its partners.



The 18th Annual Cincinnati Mayor's Career Fair

When: Feb. 24, 2024

Where: Cincinnati, OH

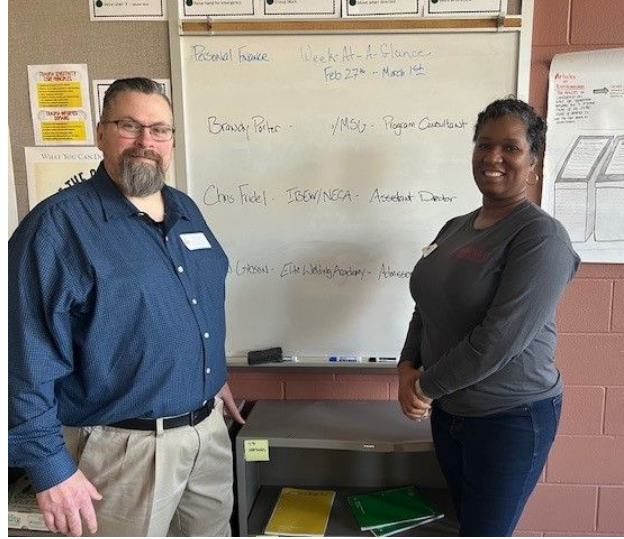
Hub team members Cathy Metcalf and Brandy Porter attended the Cincinnati Mayor's Career Expo, presented by CincySHRM. The Mayor's Career Expo worked with the Cincinnati Recreation Commission's Y2WK program to design an event that brought together local employers and approximately 1200+ high school seniors, recent graduates, and students from local colleges and universities.

North College Hill High School Career Fair

When: Feb. 16, 2024

Where: North College Hill, OH

Brandy Porter, a Hub team member in Ohio, represented the Hub at the North College Hill Career Fair, where she spoke about how RAPs are industry-driven, high-quality career pathways. She also spoke about how employers can prepare their future workforce by empowering individuals to gain experience through paid work, classroom instruction, and mentorship.



Where We'll Be



Best Practices Webinar: Recruitment for Registered Apprenticeship Programs

When: March 7, 2024

Where: Virtual (Zoom)

The Hub will partner with Women in Manufacturing for a webinar focusing on strategies for recruiting Apprentices, particularly minority women and underserved populations. Hub team members Dorinda Byers and Dina Igoe will present to WIM members.

Apprenticeships for America 2024 Summit

When: March 12-13, 2024

Where: Washington, D.C.



Hub Project Director Marilia Mochel and Marketing & Business Development Specialist Dina Igoe will attend the two-day summit to network with other Apprenticeship intermediaries and stakeholders. AFA, a new nonprofit established in March 2022, has launched an initiative to help the U.S. bring RAPs to a larger scale.



NAWB Forum Apprenticeship Accelerator

When: March 24, 2024

Where: Washington, D.C.

Hub Sr. Advisor in Florida, Leisa Rasmussen, will present at a breakout session alongside Hub partners CareerSource Suncoast and CareerSource North Florida to highlight RAP's expanding success and how to replicate best practices that workforce development boards are using to assist their employers with long-term talent pipeline solution.

2024 Spring Graduate & Professional Career Expo

When: March 26-28, 2024

Where: Lorman, MS

Raymond Smith, Hub Workforce Consultant, will attend the career expo hosted at Alcorn State University on our behalf, where he will engage with employers and university staff to inform and advance RAPs in the state of Mississippi.



Industry News

Countdown to Youth Apprenticeship Week

Join the Hub and DOL as we count down to the 1st Youth Apprenticeship Week, May 5-11, 2024. Building off the success of National Apprenticeship Week, Youth Apprenticeship Week (YAW) is a nationwide celebration highlighting the benefits and value of Registered Apprenticeship program opportunities for youth, ages 16–24.



[Read more.](#)



DOE Announces New Program Funding

In partnership with the Office of Energy Justice and Equity, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) anticipates making available \$24 million through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to establish additional IACs at community colleges, trade schools, and union training programs, in addition to apprenticeships and internships. The anticipated awards can support a range of training programs, from certifications and micro-credentials to Registered Apprenticeships.

[Read more.](#)

The Office of Apprenticeship Intermediary Newsletter

Welcome to the DOL Intermediary Newsletter, your go-to source for the latest updates, insights, and key information from the Department of Labor's intermediary programs.

Read the February 2024 edition [here](#).



Hub Benefits & Resources

The Hub helps [employers](#), [education institutions](#), [workforce development boards](#) and [career seekers](#) — all at no cost:

- ▶ Offer [incentive funding](#) and [technical assistance](#) to RAP sponsors and employers
- ▶ Provide support for national and state registration of RAPs
- ▶ Conduct education and outreach to key stakeholders about benefits of RAPs in supply chain automation
- ▶ Connect interested employers with education and training providers, and workforce organizations
- ▶ Support education institutions offering applied learning aligned to in-demand careers and pathways to a college degree and/or certification
- ▶ Assist in outreach and marketing efforts to promote RAPs with a focus on equity and diversity
- ▶ Identify state and federal funding opportunities

[Click here for Hub Resources](#)

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