

Career & Technical Worker Training

Team Leader: Robert Leslie, OCM BOCES

Bob inherited this Task Force when he became Director of Adult and Continuing Education at OCM BOCES, and has had challenges in addressing the Action Agenda as prepared for the Summit in 2007. However, Bob was clear that being at the J2J table has furthered the agenda of Career and Technical Worker Training.

Bob feels strongly that connections made at the J2J table have had a very positive impact on the kinds of activities both he and other institutions have been able to implement. The networks that have formed have allowed for creative planning, joint offerings and sharing of staff to maximize opportunities for the employers and community workforce.

New adult education training programs are in the pipeline awaiting approval from the accrediting agency and US DOE for offerings in the coming fall or next spring. These offerings at OCM BOCES have been developed with partners in the various J2J identified sectors—such as Central Service Technician for health care; Electrical Maintenance and Mechanical Maintenance Technician with partners OCC and MACNY; and Manufacturing and Technology Technician with MACNY. In each case an employer need was identified, curriculum developed and a program designed.

In keeping with the Regional Action Agenda, Bob and I decided to bring a group of training providers together to identify the core skills most universally required by our regional employers and develop training for instructors to ensure those skills are incorporated into all training programs. We also discussed the need for staff development opportunities for training instructors to ensure the best pedagogical skills are being offered in the classroom.