Grants to Boost Economically Distressed Areas

The recent California Economic Summit stressed the economic disparity amongst the regions within California. “We are living in two very different worlds in the same state,” said Gavin Newsome, California’s Lieutenant Governor. He labeled it the “Gatsby Curve” - a term demarking the regions on the road to recovery vs. ones that continue to struggle. Silicon Valley, for example, now enjoys unemployment rates at 6.7% or less while the San Joaquin Valley’s jobless rate hovers at 12.7%, far exceeding the statewide average of 9.3%. Human capital is a key predictor of a region’s potential.

In acknowledgement of this, multiple state agencies – including the Governor’s Office of Business & Economic Development (GoBiz) and the California Workforce Investment Board (CWIB) - and the Chancellor’s Office are coordinating resources into distressed economies to better “slingslot” their recovery.

A newly released $600K Industry-Drive Regional Collaborative (IDRC) grant opportunity from the CCCCQ Workforce & Economic Development Division seeks applications from colleges that serve distressed economies. Applications are due no later than 5:00 p.m., Friday, April 11, 2014. More on the IDRC-Economically Distressed Areas RFA Grant Package can be found here.

President Obama and the US Department of Labor announced $150M in existing resources from the H-1B fund to support high performing partnerships between employers, non-profit organizations and America’s public workforce system that will help provide long-term unemployed individuals with the range of services, training, and access they need to fill middle and high-skill jobs. The solicitation for applications for these “ready to work” partnerships will be available in February and awards will be made in mid-2014. http://www.doleta.gov and http://www.grants.gov will be updated when more information is available.
Update Your Advanced Manufacturing Curriculum

The CCCCO Labor Market Research Centers of Excellence studied the Advanced Manufacturing sector in Los Angeles County, Orange County, and the Central Valley/Mother Lode Region in 2013. Nearly 400 employers were surveyed to better understand the workforce needs of eight specific occupations expected to create 1,800 new jobs over the next five years. The top technologies used by the advanced manufacturing companies studied are Multi-Axis Machines, Robotics, Lasers, and 3-D Printing. This report provides an overview of the Advanced Manufacturing sector, employment projections, skill requirements, employer hiring challenges, and educational offerings. To download the full report, visit www.coeccc.net/mfg.

Shaping the Future of Manufacturing

New supply ecosystems, production technologies, and energy sources are transforming the global manufacturing sector. McKinsey & Company highlights the innovations that will change how, where, and when goods are produced throughout the world:

Next-shoring: A Corporate CEO’s guide

Proximity to demand and new supply-chain models will trump labor costs as technology transforms operations in the years ahead.

more

3-D printing takes shape

Additive manufacturing is evolving quickly. Senior executives at companies should begin preparing for five disruptions that will accompany it. more

Remaking the industrial economy

A regenerative economic model—the circular economy—is starting to help companies create more value while reducing their dependence on scarce resources. more

Regards,
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