

Workforce Development (WFD) Committee

Executive Council: Megan Christianson , Cindy Feyder & Margie Ritter

MISSION STATEMENT 2008

Provide support, coordination and leadership for regional rural Workforce Development

OUR VISION

Under the direction of the Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce, we will support the Chamber's role as an employer intermediary and act as the linkage between business, industry and education.

Through that linkage we will foster strategic partnerships that prepare people to perform successfully in the workplace through quality education, training and skill building that meets the present and future needs of local & regional employers.

WFD System Initiative:

- Provide coordination and leadership for regional rural WFD System Initiative.
- Develop a strategy based on stakeholders input for implementation of regional rural WFD system initiative.
- Targets of the System Initiative Effort:
 - A.** Support and promotion of current WFD efforts including, but not limited to, Project Read, Increased use of the MN Job Bank, Creation of Career Pathways including CEO's in the Schools and Emerging Global Leaders programs, Employer Toolkit, and National Work Readiness Credential.
 - B.** Continued promotion of emerging and incumbent training and education through the Workforce Exchange for Learning and Development (WELD).
 - C.** Provide direct business linkage to K-12 area school system.
 - D.** Promote and foster public policy changes to assist our area schools in moving toward the outcomes of a regional rural system initiative.

WFD Ongoing Programs:

- Award two \$1,000 scholarships in the spring 2008 recognizing four-year and career-technical bound students.
- Recognize individual customer service excellence from area businesses at monthly Chamber luncheons.

Acknowledge effective workforce development related awards, programs, and events tied to Chamber members.