MakerFest 2019 – Two days of celebrating the finest employers, job seekers, future workforce, career tech schools, and college partners in the Midwest! This event has grown so large, it has been moved to the Allen County Fairgrounds. Lieutenant Governor Jon Husted welcomed all the high school students during the opening ceremony on Friday, October 18.

Transition Services – During the January meeting, Missy McClurg gave a report regarding the Transitional Services Grant the Allen County ESC, in partnership with many local school districts, has received. Local businesses were encouraged to be involved through virtual reality videos as a means of presenting their workplace as a career opportunity to high school youth.

Notes from the November 20, 2019 meeting:

Fiscal Report:

WIOA Adult, WIOA Dislocated Worker and CCMEP Youth WIOA – will be fully expended by 12/31/19; CCMEP TANF Youth – $623,908.93; Monthly Average Direct Service Expense - $15,392.90; Incumbent Worker Training Dollars paid out - $186,405.55 with an additional $85,318.88 pending.

Job Center Update:

There were 32 active ITA’s; 25 customers under the PRC funded trainings; 34 in WIOA active youth and 20 in follow-up; 33 CCMEP Cash; 22 CCMEP TANF volunteers; and 89 in total active WIOA and CCMEP TANF Youth.

Incumbent Worker Training – 29 Active projects. On November 6th Allen and Hancock County presented a $25,000 IWT check to GROB in Bluffton. Doug Olsson and Cory Noonan were also present.

EIP: Total enrolled participants 51; Active participants 43; The first program completion and $2,500 incentive payout will be in December 2019 and we plan to have a media event.

Average wage is $16.80/hour for the OJT employers; There are currently 1,640 open jobs on ohiomeansjobs.com and we are actively recruiting for 123 positions; Our number of employers has also risen to 594.

The OMJ Allen County Facebook page hit 9,000 like this month! We are the #1 followed OMJ page in the state of Ohio.

It was asked how we can use the Makerfest success and local job placement success to promote and market the economic/workforce development in Allen County. We plan to implement new strategies with social media soon, especially highlighting employers – i.e. testimonials and videos.

Looking to do a potential job fair in May 2021 for Seniors