

THE CATALYST

Quarterly catchup



= NOW OFFERING

DIRECT TO EMPLOYER SERVICES

Our Direct-to-Employer (D2E) program provides businesses with streamlined, high-quality healthcare solutions designed to reduce costs and improve employee health. By offering services such as pre-employment screenings, injury care, and ongoing health support in one place, we simplify the process for employers while ensuring employees receive timely, effective care. The result is a healthier workforce, faster return-to-work times, and a more efficient approach to managing employee health.

Direct Access to Primary Care

- Fast, convenient access for employees, no delays
- On going care to manage health and prevent costly issues

Wellness Programs

- Proactive programs that improve employee health and engagement
- Focus on prevention to reduce long-term healthcare costs

Packaged, Fixed Rate Pricing

- Predictable monthly costs with no surprises
- Bundled services designed to maximize value

Transparency and Tailored Programs

- Clear pricing and straight forward communication
- Easy access to results, reporting, and outcomes

Improved Employee Wellness

- Reduces call-offs and potential downtime for your organization.
- Routine preventative and wellness care reduces sick days and improves productivity

Potential Savings on Healthcare Costs

- Control the rising costs of healthcare and find cost savings compared to traditional plans.

For more information regarding this program

 kortneyw@henrycountyhospital.org

 (419) 592-4015

 henrycountyhospital.org



05/13-
OhioMeansJobs
Virtual Career
Fair! (see page 2)

05/13 - Roots to
Results @ Holgate
Schools.

**EMPLOYERS
NEEDED** (see
page 3 for
information)

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FOR MORE*



FEATURE MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



DIRECTORS PITCH



We've spent plenty of time talking about the "talent gap," but as we look toward **National Apprenticeship Week (April 26 – May 2, 2026)**, I want to shift the focus from searching for talent to **creating** it.

Governor DeWine and the ODJFS are putting a major spotlight on ApprenticeOhio, and for those of you already operating here in our region, this is more than just a "feel-good" initiative. It's a proven strategy to stabilize your workforce in sectors like manufacturing, IT, healthcare, and the trades.

If you're managing an existing operation, you know that your biggest asset is the institutional knowledge sitting on your shop floor or in your tech department.

Registered apprenticeships allow you to:

- Solve the "Silver Tsunami": Use the "earn while you learn" model to pair your veteran employees with eager newcomers. It's the most effective way to transfer skills before your most experienced people head into retirement.
- Reduce Costly Mires: We've all seen the data—apprenticeships lead to higher retention. When you invest in an individual's growth from day one, you aren't just hiring a worker; you're building a long-term partner for your business.
- Custom-Fit Training: You don't have to hope a new hire has the right skills. Through ApprenticeOhio, you set the standards, ensuring the training matches your specific equipment, safety protocols, and company culture.

This week is a reminder that we don't have to wait for the perfect workforce to move into the area. We have the tools to build it right here. Whether you're a small shop or a major industrial employer, the framework is ready for you to plug in.

- Get the Details: Explore the resources at ApprenticeOhio.gov.
- Workforce Support: Check out the latest employer tools from ODJFS at jfs.ohio.gov.

ROOTS TO RESULTS: FROM CLASSROOM TO CAREER

Partner with Holgate Local Schools in a 6-12 experience to inspire students and showcase the opportunities **your** industry and higher education institution has to offer.



Wednesday

May 13, 2026



Time

10.00 AM - 11.45 AM



Holgate Local Schools

Joe E. Brown Avenue

Holgate, OH 43527

CLICK HERE TO RESERVE
YOUR SPOT BY APRIL 30, 2026.



419-264-2521



Beth Peck @ bpeck@holgateschools.org

Amber Riepenhoff @ ariepenhoff@holgateschools.org

Katie Black @ kblack@holgateschools.org





DID YOU KNOW?

THE IMPORTANCE OF A LAND BANK

Strengthening our communities through the strategic partnership
between Ohio Land Banks and Community Improvement Corporations

Strategic Utilization by CIC's

While Land Banks are masters of acquisition and site preparation, Community Improvement Corporations (CICs) act as the primary agents for economic growth and industrial recruitment. A CIC can utilize a Land Bank as a "pipeline" for development-ready land.

Site Assembly for Industrial Growth

A CIC may identify a need for an industrial park expansion but find the land fragmented among multiple owners or tied up in tax liens. The Land Bank can step in to acquire these parcels, clear the titles, and then transfer the consolidated "clean" site to the CIC for marketing to prospective businesses.

Residential Infill and Quality of Life

Workforce housing is a major driver of economic retention. CICs can work with Land Banks to identify blighted residential clusters. The Land Bank handles the demolition and remediation, while the CIC partners with builders to create new housing options that support the local labor force.

Aquisition

Land Bank uses legal tools to pull distressed property out of the "dead zone" of tax delinquency.

Remediation

Land Bank handles environmental cleanup or demolition, reducing risk for the next user.

Development

CIC takes the clean site and markets it to employers, ensuring long-term tax revenue.

Why this Matters for Henry County

By leveraging these tools, we ensure that no acre of land stays dormant. This partnership reduces urban sprawl by focusing on infill, protects property values for neighboring residents, and creates a pro-business environment where "shovel-ready" isn't just a buzzword—it's a reality.

granting **GROWTH**

2026 SPECIALTY CROP BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM

- Award Amounts: Grants range from a minimum of \$25,000 up to a maximum of \$150,000.
- Who Should Apply: Eligible entities include agricultural non-profits, cooperatives, associations, commodity groups, universities, and research institutions.
- The Goal: Projects must benefit the industry or the public at large rather than a single individual or company. Focus areas include market promotion, research and development, and expanding access to specialty crops.
- Deadline: Completed proposals must be submitted to the ODA by Friday, May 1, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. EST.

[**MORE INFO HERE**](#)



The JobsOhio logo, which consists of the word "JobsOhio" in white sans-serif font inside a red rounded square, with a white circular graphic element around the "O".

JOBSONIO SMALL BUSINESS GRANT

Through the Regional Growth Partnership (RGP), JobsOhio offers a targeted grant to help small and medium-sized businesses in Northwest Ohio scale their operations. This program is designed to provide essential financial support for companies to overcome capital investment barriers, especially those in underrepresented communities or distressed areas.

- Award Amount: Up to \$50,000 in reimbursement-based financial assistance.
- Eligible Industries: Businesses must operate within JobsOhio's 10 targeted industries (primarily B2B), including Advanced Manufacturing, Food & Agribusiness, Logistics, and Technology.
- Have annual revenues between \$100,000 and \$25 million
- Have at least one year of operating expenses

[**MORE INFO HERE**](#)



Introducing OUR NEW BOARD MEMBER



Tori Atkinson

Tori is the Executive Director of Workforce Development Client Services at Northwest State Community College, leading workforce training, apprenticeship programs, and industry partnerships in Northwest Ohio. She also heads the Advanced Manufacturing Consortium (AMC), which unites industry, education, and community to tackle manufacturing workforce challenges. Tori collaborates with employers to create tailored training solutions and partners with K-12 schools to establish pre-apprenticeship programs, enhancing talent pipelines. She oversees apprenticeships and work-based learning, aiming for sustainable talent development and impactful solutions for employers and the workforce.



OhioMeansJobs VIRTUAL CAREER FAIR

Wednesday, May 13, 2026 | 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Connect with qualified Ohio job seekers at no cost. This online event makes recruiting faster and easier for employers of all sizes.

- Reach candidates statewide
- Promote immediate openings
- Conduct on-the-spot interviews
- Full-time, part-time, & internships

RESERVE YOUR FREE BOOTH

Email EmploymentServices@jfs.ohio.gov
RSVP by May 6, 2026

RSVP by May 5, 2026

LIGHTSHIP

If You're Ready to Build **YOU BELONG HERE**

Northwest Ohio-based cohort September 8-10

Lightship Bootcamp will once again be offered this year, and applications are now open. This is a great opportunity to flag for companies in your network. Lightship Bootcamp is an immersive, 2.5-day program designed for early-stage business founders. The curriculum includes hands-on exercises and guidance across key areas such as pitch development, legal considerations, customer discovery, business model canvas, and more. Lightship specializes in supporting and funding remarkable businesses led by under-resourced founders. Early-stage founders located in Ohio are encouraged to apply.

Lightship Bootcamp is proudly supported by JobsOhio, Ohio's private nonprofit economic development organization focused on business growth and job creation across the state.

To learn more visit

www.lightship.foundation/bootcamp

AVAILABLE FOR SALE

23.21 AC DEVELOPMENT SITE

619 BONAPARTE DRIVE

NAPOLEON, OHIO 43545



HIGHLIGHTS

- **23.21 AC DEVELOPMENT SITE**
- **ZONED: COMMERCIAL (C-4)**
- **HIGHWAY VISIBILITY TO US-24/US-6 WITH TRAFFIC COUNTS OF 23,000 VPD**
- **LOCATION IS PRIME FOR DEVELOPMENT**

SALE PRICE: \$580,250

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