

INDIANAPOLIS PRIVATE INDUSTRY COUNCIL, INC.
Fairbanks2 Sector-Specific Planning Grant
— *Summary* —
May 2010

Background

The Indianapolis Private Industry Council (IPIC) received a planning grant to design a high quality workforce development initiative that strategically focuses on a single, high growth sector of the Indianapolis economy where employers face human capital needs that are not currently being met. IPIC committed to designing a sector-specific initiative that is:

- ▶ grounded in national best practice;
- ▶ centered on a single industry sector that is important to the vitality of Indianapolis and that offers quality, high demand occupations;
- ▶ shaped by a strong, working partnership that includes employers.

This sector-specific initiative is intended to address:

- ▶ the human capital needs of high quality employers and critical industries;
- ▶ industry-relevant training for workers;
- ▶ the economic vitality of Indianapolis through an investment in a critical industry and related occupations;
- ▶ income and asset needs of working families.

IPIC is using this grant as an opportunity to build a sustainable model for workforce development that leverages lasting partnerships between employers, education and training providers, economic development entities, workforce development entities, and social service providers.

Strategic Partnership

This Fairbanks2 sector-specific project takes an integrated view of workforce development by synthesizing employer (demand side) and worker (supply side) needs, prompting the creation of a strategic partnership that will reframe challenges and achieve mutually beneficial solutions. The Fairbanks2 Project Partnership currently includes the following core members:

Ed Simcox, Jr.	Director, Information Services Clarian Health
Carol D'Amico	Senior Advisor, Education and Workforce Development Conexus Indiana

Scott Miller	Chief Executive Officer Indianapolis Economic Development, Inc.
Shital Patel	Managing Director Unisys Corp
Scott Bess	Chief Operating Officer Goodwill Education Initiatives
Kathy Reehling	President & Chief Executive Officer CREW Technical Services
Andrew Warrington	President Peerless Pump Company

These project partners have committed to initially direct the Fairbanks2 work and strategically grow the membership of the Fairbanks2 Project Partnership over the life of this planning grant. Among other critical members, this partnership will include employers who have current and/or projected human capital needs that are not or may not be sufficiently met and wish to participate in designing training specific to meet their current or future workforce needs.

Project Status

IPIIC is currently in the heart of a return on investment analysis to identify a single industry sector for this Fairbanks2 project. Based upon several months of preliminary analysis, the Project Partners are evaluating the following four industries:

1. Information Technology;
2. Life Sciences: Biopharmaceuticals/Biotechnology;
3. Life Sciences: Health Care Delivery;
4. Logistics.

The evaluation of these industries includes the collection of: (1) Marion County-wide industry and occupational data; and (2) employer-specific information regarding current and projected human capital needs and challenges. Employer-specific data – and, ultimately, employer partners – are critical to both the development and sustainability of a sector-specific project.

As such, our immediate objective is to meet with employers and industry associations to: (1) identify any patterns across employers within a single industry with regard to current or projected human resource challenges that might be served through customized training; (2) identify a small set of employers who wish to partner with IPIIC through this Fairbanks2 project in order to secure training for their incumbent or future workers. We wish to identify employers who determine there is value in partnering with IPIIC to train their workers and, subsequently, wish to participate as members of the Fairbanks2 Project Partnership to define specific curriculum and training that suits their workforce needs.

Thank you, in advance, for your time and consideration in this regard.