



Hillsdale Service Center

21 Care Dr.
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Jackson Service Center

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P: (517) 841-5627
F: (517) 796-8390

Lenawee Service Center

Human Services Building
1040 S. Winter St.
Suite 1014
Adrian, MI 49221
P: (517) 266-5627
F: (517) 266-2745

Livingston Service Center

Mott Community College
Livingston Center
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Washtenaw Service Center

304 Harriet St.
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March 09, 2020

Southeast Michigan Talent Development Successes Honored by State Leaders, Workforce Experts

Lt. Gov. Garlin Gilchrist Joins Local Lawmakers in Celebrating Local Talent, Career Development Efforts in Southeast Michigan

LANSING, MI (March 6, 2020) — Local talent development and employment successes were among those celebrated by state leaders at the Michigan Works! Association Impact Awards this week.

Lt. Gov. Garlin Gilchrist, local lawmakers and statewide talent development officials gathered in Lansing on Wednesday, March 4 to recognize Jackson resident Dylan Parkey, as well as Michigan Automotive Compressor, Inc. and Michigan Works! Southeast for providing employees with opportunities to make educational advances while working.

Dylan Parkey was a temporary employee at Michigan Automotive Compressor, Inc. (MACI) when the company worked with Michigan Works! Southeast to pilot on-site adult education classes. He was among the first individuals to take advantage of the opportunity to work toward his High School Equivalency (HSE) credentials.

Just a few short weeks later, Parkey passed the four GED subject area tests, earning his secondary credential and was the first graduate of the program to be hired directly by MACI. In doing so, he joined his father, a long-time MACI employee, and served as a role model for his brother who would too eventually become a MACI associate.

Michigan Works! Southeast helped the company launch the cost-free adult education program to help increase their retention for direct-hire employees. MACI provides support to employees to make sure they can attend class and testing appointments. By bringing education on-site, at the manufacturing facility, the number of barriers employees face trying to balance both work and education were greatly reduced.

"Michigan Automotive Compressor, Inc. is a staple in our region and I'm proud of the way they have partnered with Michigan Works! to further the education of local

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residents as well as providing good-paying career opportunities," said state Sen. Mike Shirkey, (R-Clarklake).

The Impact Awards, hosted by Michigan Works! Association, recognize the economic development success being achieved in communities across Michigan. During the event, local lawmakers present tributes to dozens of honorees from across the state.

Award winners included employers, workers, Michigan Works! organizations, and partners from across the state.

"Congratulations to Michigan Automotive Compressor, Inc. for investing in local talent and to Dylan for utilizing the resources available to him to complete his high school education," said state Rep. Julie Alexander (R-Hanover Township). "As a former adult education instructor, where I spent 13 years tutoring adults in math and reading to help them prepare for the GED, I know what a huge accomplishment this is for Dylan. Michigan Works! Southeast is helping prepare our talent for the jobs of today and tomorrow and their work should be commended."

Michigan Works! Association is a non-profit membership organization that provides services and support to Michigan's talent eco-system. For over 30 years, the Association has been the go-to resource for federal, state and local workforce initiatives.

The Association's work ensures top-quality services and support for Michigan's talent pipeline. For more information, please visit michiganworks.org.

Find the nearest Michigan Works! American Job Center by visiting <http://michiganworks.org/agencies/map> or by calling (1 800) 285-WORKS (9675).

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Pictures following:



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Left to Right: Front Row – Deborah Bann (MWSE), Dylan Parkey (award winner, MACI), Representative Julie Alexander, Burce Verberg (MACI), Tom Huscio (MACI), Representative Donna Lasinski, Charlie Mahoney (Chair, Michigan Works! Association) Second Row- John Parkey, Heather Robidoux, Shamar Herron, Representative Yousef Rabhi, Bill Sleight, Allen King.



(L-R) William (Bill) Sleight, Director, Michigan Works! Southeast and State Representative Ann Bollin.

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(L-R) Shamar Herron, Deputy Director, Michigan Works! Southeast, P.J. Petitpre from State Representative Rebekah Warren's Office and William (Bill) Sleight, Director, Michigan Works! Southeast



(L-R) Ben Kauffman from Senator Mike Shirkey's Office and William (Bill) Sleight, Director, Michigan Works! Southeast.