Kentucky Work Ready Communities

APPLICATION

1	Name of County	Hopkins County		
2	High School Graduation Rate (most recent state NCLB reporting)	82.25%	List Source/Method: i.e. summer 2011 AFGR method	2010 KY AFGR
	Would you like to include high schools that are not in the traditionally reported graduation rate shown above?	No		
	If so, please enter revised graduation rate here. Please **attach** a list of schools included and your calculations.	--		
3	Educational Attainment Rate (ages 18-64)	23%	(Source: US Census, most recent American Community Survey five-year estimates)	

4 Community Commitment	(check off)	Name of Organization
Economic Development	☒	Madisonville-Hopkins County Economic Development Corporation
Elected Official(s)	☒	Hopkins County Judge Executive Mayor of Madisonville Mayor of Dawson Springs Mayor of Mortons Gap
Education	☒	Hopkins County Schools Madisonville Community College Murray State University-Madisonville Region Campus
Workforce Development	☒	West Kentucky Workforce Investment Board Pennyrile Area Development District MCC Adult Centers for Education Excellence (ACE2)
Business and Industry	☒	Madisonville Hopkins County Chamber of Commerce Hopkins County Tourist and Convention Commission Associated Engineers, Inc. Dan's Electric First United Bank Goldenrod Dairy Foods/U C Milk, LLC Jennmar of West Kentucky Pebble Creek Family Dentistry People Plus Inc. Rhoads & Rhoads, P.S.C. Ruby Concrete Company

APPLICATION

	Staff Partners The Messenger The Workshop True Value Hardware U S Bank United Southern Bank WFMW/WKTG Sound Broadcasters, Inc.

Attach meeting minutes and meeting attendance sheets showing these signatures. Letters of Commitment from various organizations are helpful as well.

5	Percentage of Households with Broadband Internet Access Available	86%	(Source: broadband.gov)
	Rural or Urban County	Rural	
6	Are you including narrative(s) for supplemental criteria for GED or Occupational Credential Attainment?	Yes	(**Attach** optional narratives and list sources and calculations)

		name	phone	email	address
7	Your Contact Information (primary contact for your county application)	Dr. Judith L. Rhoads, President - Madisonville Community College	270.824.8562	judithl.rhoads@kctcs.edu	2000 College Drive, Madisonville,KY 42431

Narrative 1: Graduation Rate

Present a plan to raise the graduation rate to 82.32 percent (state goal) within three years.

Narrative 1: Graduation Rate

Synopsis of Current Data

Hopkins County's current Kentucky Average Freshman Graduation Rate (KY AFGR) is 82.25%, according to the 2009-2010 KY AFGR spreadsheet available on the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) website: http://www.education.ky.gov/KDE/Administrative+Resources/Testing+and+Reporting+/Reports/Nonacademic+Data/Graduation+Rate+Data+2010.htm.

This percentage is derived by averaging Dawson Springs Independent's rate, 82.98%, with Hopkins County's rate, 81.51%.

KDE lists the following as factors impacting the 2010 AFGR.

HOPKINS COUNTY

- Alternate Programs
  - Two A5 facilities
- Economic
  - Coal Industry
- Excluded Completers
  - Certificates of Completion
- Unstable Student Population
  - Transient population

This narrative provides the KY AFGR instead of the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) AFGR. The basic AFGR calculation is

$$\frac{\text{The number of Graduates with diploma in four years + Graduates with diploma but IEP allowed 4+ years}}{\text{Grade 9 Membership + Grade 10 Membership divided by 2}}$$

The key difference between KY AFGR and NCLB AFGR is that KY allows special education students who attain Certificates of Completion to be included as graduates while NCLB does not.

A careful review of the data from the 2010 – 2011 and 2011 - 2012 Dropout Exit Survey indicates that approximately 32% were failing classes, 44% had missed 20 or more days of school, 64% were taking remediation courses, and 88% were not involved in any extracurricular activities. Our plan to improve graduation rate addresses these concerns.

Early Identification Measures

- Persistence to Graduation Tool
  The Persistence to Graduation Tool (PTGT) is an early warning indicator system for identifying students who may be off-track to graduate. The PTGT Report provides critical student-level data to identify specific students in need of additional intervention and/or support. PTGT is part of the student information system, Infinite Campus, and contains data from all schools and students in Kentucky, already prepopulated. It flags specific dropout indicators and creates a report with the highest scoring students in a school or district listed in descending order, according to following research-based criteria. It is expected that using this tool will aid the district in increasing its graduation rate, as well as in fulfilling its commitment to increase its rate of college and career readiness. Through deep analysis of student-level data, schools will know, with reasonable confidence, why students are off-track for graduation. Schools can make data-based decisions and provide targeted interventions, aligned to the needs of the student, and have the greatest potential to support each student.

- Truancy Court Program
  Dawson Springs Independent and Hopkins County Schools have partnered with Family Court Judge Hon. Susan W. McClure to provide a truancy diversion program for our high school students. The High School Truancy Program uses a Diversion Team to conduct Truancy Court on the third Wednesday of each month that school is in session. The Diversion Team may meet for administrative purposes on additional dates when necessary.

  The Truancy Court shall be held at each high school in Hopkins County Public Schools. The school administrators may refer students in grades 9 -12 who have three unexcused absences from school and who are at risk of court involvement. Upon referral to the program, the student and the student's parent/guardian shall be notified of the opportunity to participate in the program and thus avoid criminal charges and prosecution.

  Parents and students must sign an agreement of participation and an acknowledgement of interventions prior to beginning the program. Students enrolled in the program and their parents must attend all court sessions for one calendar year, or until discharged.

  During court proceedings the Diversion Team shall review the student's school attendance, behavior, and grades. The Diversion Team shall identify areas of concern and shall develop a detailed plan of action that will set goals for number of absences and tardies, behavior events, and grades. The action plan will also include assistance for the family. This plan shall be designed to encourage success in school and in the program. All proceedings, records, and case plans are confidential and are not open to public inspection.

The student shall submit to random drug testing and remain compliant with the action plan for one calendar year or until discharged by the Court. Students and parents who are not compliant with the program will be referred to the Court Designated Worker.

Current Interventions

- School Counts
  High school graduates completing the *School Counts!* program can earn up to $1,000 per semester for four semesters toward tuition at Madisonville Community College. *School Counts!* funds will be awarded after financial aid and other scholarships (including KEES) have been applied to student accounts.

  Students must achieve and maintain the program criteria and earn four consecutive program certificates in order to complete the program and be eligible to receive funds. Students must also fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) during their senior year of high school. To earn a School Counts! certificate you must:
  - Obtain a 2.5 GPA yearly
  - Achieve a 95% attendance and punctuality record
  - Complete high school in eight consecutive semesters
  - Take more than the minimum number of credits required for graduation

  Enrollment in the *School Counts!* program is required at the beginning of the student's freshman year. Transfer students from outside the county will have their eligibility evaluated according to established criteria.

High School Enrollment					
School	**Total**	**Class of 2010**	**Class of 2011**	**Class of 2012**	**Class of 2013**
Dawson Springs HS	124	10	23	25	66
Hopkins Central HS	388	88	78	99	123
Madisonville North Hopkins HS	535	89	84	130	232
Total	1047	187	185	254	421

- Credit Recovery
  Credit Recovery options in all three county high schools provide opportunities for students who fail courses to earn credits during the school day. In the past, students failing courses had either to attend summer school or repeat the same grade level the following school year. Credit Recovery allows students to stay on grade level and on track to complete high school in four years.

- Hopkins County Schools Academy/Dawson Springs Access
  Last year, Hopkins County Public Schools began an alternative school, Hopkins County Schools Academy, which offered a non-traditional school for high school students who

were at risk of dropping out of school. The Academy offers two session of online curriculum each day; students may attend either a morning session (8:00 AM – 11:00 AM) or afternoon session (12:00 PM – 3:00 PM). The idea behind the Academy was to provide a more flexible schedule for at-risk students to complete their high school coursework and receive a diploma. The Academy had 37 graduates in its inaugural class and is expecting to graduate an additional 40 students this year.

This year, Dawson Springs introduced Dawson Springs Access which is an alternative school similar in nature to the Academy and is designed to help struggling students complete high school.

- Work Based Learning
  Work-Based Learning (WBL) is an approach used to provide students with real-life experiences. Often quoted, the 3R's in education are rigor, relevance, and relationships. Work-Based Learning provides opportunities to incorporate all three "R's" with special emphasis on relevance to students' career pathways. Work-Based Learning connects students to real-life experiences as identified in Kentucky School Board/Kentucky Department of Education "Goal 3—Strong and supportive environment for each school and every child" with emphasis on sub-goal 3.5 which stipulates that "every community involved in children's learning." These experiences are judged on performance criteria and personal achievements.

  Work-based learning opportunities are structured activities incorporated in the curriculum which apply knowledge and skills learned in class and connect this learning to experiences at work.

  The following are Work-Based Learning opportunities for Hopkins County students.
  - Cooperative Education
  - Entrepreneurship
  - Internship
  - Mentoring
  - School-based Enterprise
  - Service Learning
  - Job Shadowing

- Freshmen Orientation
  Dawson Springs High School conducts 9th grade orientation each school year for the incoming freshmen. Parents are required to attend with their student so that they have the information regarding credits, courses, graduation requirements, KEES money, and School Counts. The student and parents also review their schedule and decide on a four year plan for high school. The importance of parents being involved in their child's education is discussed as well as the need for a high school education in today's society.

Hopkins County Central and Madisonville North Hopkins High Schools both offer a Freshmen Orientation. While Hopkins County Central's orientation is very similar to Dawson Springs, Freshmen Orientation at Madisonville North Hopkins does not require parents to attend and focuses more on successfully transitioning from eighth to ninth grade.

- Advisor/Advisee Program
  This program is new at Dawson Springs High School. Each teacher will choose a grade and then students to have in their advising group. The students will meet with their advisor to receive all grade reports including midterm and term reports. The advisors can review grades and discuss with students opportunities for intervention when necessary. This personal relationship helps the advisor to be a better guide for future pathways during the registration process. The purpose of this program is to provide a small group setting to develop relationships with the academic advisor. This person can review the student's grades and discuss any issues that the student may have and emphasize the importance of success. Many students do not get this type of focus on education at home and this program will let students know that someone will be watching their grades and holding them accountable.

- Operation Preparation
  Operation Preparation is a joint effort of the Kentucky Department of Education and the Department of Workforce Development and provides a powerful opportunity for schools, students, parents, and communities to collaborate in the process of effective advising and focus attention on the importance of planning for college and/or career.

  During the week of March 12-16, 2012, trained volunteer community advisors met one-on-one with every 8th- and 10th-grade student. The community advisors used the student's Individual Learning Plan or ILP (including career interest inventory and EXPLORE/PLAN results) to discuss the student's:

  - Career aspirations, required education/training and workforce skills
  - Whether the student is on target to meet their goals
  - Whether the student is taking the courses recommended to prepare them for a successful future

  The meeting was designed to provide both information and inspiration for the student to achieve college/career-readiness. The preceding information is provided by the Kentucky Department of Education at
  http://www.education.ky.gov/kde/instructional+resources/operation+preparation/

  Hopkins County Schools and Dawson Springs Independent Schools plan to make Operation Preparation an annual event. Although this was our first attempt at Operation Preparation in Hopkins County, we were surprised by the community support and feedback we received from volunteers and students.

Planned or Revised Intervention

- Career Pathways
  Career Pathways were designed for high school students to have a clearly defined roadmap to becoming college or career ready at the end of a four year high school career. These pathways ensure students take the appropriate coursework in the student's own career interest. Additionally, these pathways also include the first two years recommended coursework for postsecondary institutions so that graduating seniors will also know which courses they can anticipate scheduling while in college.

- College and Career Readiness Planning Night
  In the fall of 2012, Hopkins County Schools plans to host family nights in our middle schools that provide Individual Learning Plan and EXPLORE test information to parents of eighth grade students. The objective of this night is to explain the EXPLORE test results so that parents understand how the scores project college readiness, while also explaining the EXPLORE career wheel so that parents and students may begin discussing a career trajectory. Individual Learning Plan (ILP) login information and a brief ILP overview will be offered to parents so that they may begin to use the ILP resources for college and career readiness.

- Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS)
  Hopkins County Schools was identified by the Southern Poverty Law Center as having a disproportionate number of suspensions of African American and Special Education students. Hopkins County Schools has adopted PBIS as a district-wide initiative to address this concern. Improving student academic and behavior outcomes is about ensuring all students have access to the most effective and accurately implemented instructional and behavioral practices and interventions possible. PBIS provides an operational framework for achieving these outcomes. More importantly, PBIS is a decision making framework that guides selection, integration, and implementation of the best evidence-based academic and behavioral practices for improving important academic and behavior outcomes for all students. All Hopkins County schools will have PBIS teams trained during Summer 2012; these teams will be responsible for training the staff in their buildings at the beginning of the 2012 – 2013 school year. The preceding information is provided by the PBIS website, http://www.pbis.org/school/default.aspx
  The expected outcomes associated with PBIS implementation are:
  - Less reactive, aversive, dangerous, and exclusionary, and
  - More engaging, responsive, preventive, and productive
  - Address classroom management and disciplinary issues (e.g., attendance, tardies, antisocial behavior),
  - Improve supports for students whose behaviors require more specialized assistance (e.g., emotional and behavioral disorders, mental health), and
  - Most importantly, maximize academic engagement and achievement for all students.

- College and Career Readiness Senior Recognition
  Dawson Springs Independent Schools will implement an annual College and Career Readiness (CCR) Senior Recognition night to award students who have met the CCR qualifications set forth by the Kentucky Department of Education. The objective of this night is to promote student achievement and to provide a model for underclassmen to follow so that they may also become College and Career Ready.

- Hopkins County Schools Career Technology Center
  The Hopkins County Schools Career and Technology Center will open its doors to students in the fall of 2013. This state-of-the-art facility will serve students from Hopkins County Central High School and Madisonville North Hopkins High School. The focus of the HCSCTC will be to provide a high tech curriculum and cutting edge career pathways that will prepare students for their future. Programs at HCSCTC will lead to college/career preparation by increasing the number of dual and articulated course offerings, and the number of industry certifications. Program areas are designed to expose students to real world and hands-on experience before entering the workforce or post-secondary education/training. It is designed to help students succeed no matter what career the students choose by stressing the importance of critical thinking skills, a strong work ethic, and the ability to work with others.

- Individual Learning Plan (ILP)
  The ILPs for Kentucky's 6th grade through 12th grade students are designed to help students prepare themselves for their future.

  Each grade level has specific features in the ILP that must be completed annually. Students can use the ILP for the following purposes:
  - Exploring careers beginning in the 6th grade
  - Finding careers that match their skills and interests
  - Creating education plans
  - Establishing personal goals and revisit these as they progress through school
  - Creating, maintaining and changing resumes
  - Tracking and reflecting on their community services experiences, work experiences, career-planning activities, and extra-curricular and organization activities
  - Exploring colleges and postsecondary opportunities that match their career, postsecondary and life goals
  - Connecting to the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority website for help with college planning, tuition assistance information and applications
  - Collecting personal information like assessment results, advising activities demographic information and educational history

Narrative 2: National Career Readiness Certificate Attainment

Overview

As of June 7, 2012, Hopkins County NCRC testing centers have administered 523 exams. Of those 523, there were 2 Platinum, 83 Gold, and 280 Silver certificates awarded. Ninety-two individuals scored at the bronze level. In addition, there are approximately 128 individuals scheduled for testing in June. Prior to July 1, 2011, Hopkins County had 323 NCRC credentials. To date, it appears that the total count for NCRC would be 688. According to the National Career Readiness Certificate Attainment Criteria of 15% of all working age (18 to 64) adults, a total of 4,350 NCRC credentials are needed to reach the Work Ready Community goal. Hopkins County will need to obtain approximately 4,000 NCRC's within the next 3 years to attain the required NCRC percentage.

Madisonville Community College has sponsored a Multi-County Coal Severance Tax Grant for WorkKeys testing of all trainees for the 40 hour Initial Underground and 24 hour Initial Surface Certification classes. Applicants from Hopkins County, Muhlenberg County, Ohio County, and Webster County are given the opportunity to attend classes, complete the training, and sit for the required Kentucky State Mining Certification test at no charge. Each month, eight (8) different classes with multiple times and locations in each of the four counties are offered to meet the area training need. Upon completion of each class training, with certification, the Workforce Solutions Department has administered WorkKeys Assessments for nine different profiled mining jobs. As of May 31, 2012, MCC has tested **3,335 trainees** for the three WorkKeys assigned assessments of **Reading for Information, Teamwork, and Observation**. Because only one of these assessments qualifies for the NCRC, (**Reading for Information**), we are unable to count this effort for the NCRC Attainment requirement criteria. Madisonville Community College profiled nine (9) mining job qualifications: Service Technician, Welder, Underground Mechanic/Technician, Surface Mechanic, Surface Operator, Underground Supervisor, Underground Operator, and Surface Supervisor, to help meet training and skills assessment needs for the West Kentucky Coal Mining Industry. Because these specific job qualifications were profiled and now assessed according to the WorkKeys profile recommendations, a strong commitment is demonstrated to the local workforce and industries for meeting industry specific workforce skills assessment needs.

Outlined below are the strategies to promote, train, and obtain employer recognition of the NCRC program in order for Hopkins County to reach the necessary number to meet the NCRC attainment.

NCRC Promotional Strategies

Throughout 2011 the majority of the 300 plus NCRC's awarded in Hopkins County has come through the Hopkins County Adult Education programs, Office of Employment and Training, and through private requests from outside businesses and industries. The Hopkins County Adult

Workforce Connections programs, all require the NCRC at some point in each program. All of these programs are provided through a partnership between Madisonville Community College and the West Kentucky Workforce Investment Board. Each of these programs supports promotional materials through brochures, posters, site visits, and student recruitment.
The Madisonville Community College Workforce Solutions Department in partnership with the Office of Employment and Training and the West Kentucky Workforce Investment Board developed an NCRC brochure outlining and describing the NCRC, weekly testing times, and four different testing locations in Madisonville. There have been numerous visits to individual businesses and industries seeking support for the NCRC program as an employee skills assessment, as an application requirement, or as an application preference for all new hires depending on job profiling fulfillment.

The NCRC Work Ready Community team promoted the NCRC program at the Job Expo 2012 event hosted at Madisonville Community College in partnership with the West Kentucky Workforce Investment Board, Office of Employment and Training, and over 80 area businesses and organizations. There were approximately 300 participants in attendance; all received information about the NCRC program with a signup opportunity to test on specific dates. Participating Job Expo employers were also provided NCRC promotional material listing testing dates and locations.

Job Expo 2012 participating employers were:

A Place Called Home
AFLAC
Alliance Coal
Allied Medical Services
Armstrong Coal
Avon Products
Bluegrass Heritage Marketing
Brighton Cornerstone Healthcare
Bulkmatic Transport
Carhartt Distribution Center
Columbia Sportswear
Commonwealth Broadcasting
Community Alternatives
Concord Health Systems
Custom Engineering
Daydreams Academy
Earle C. Clements Job Corps
G UB MK Constructors
Hampton Inn & Suites
Hillside Villa
Hopkins County Head Start
Hudson Automotive
Jennmar of West Kentucky
Jos Staffing
Ken American Resources
Land O'Frost
Madisonville Fire Department
Manpower
Mid-Continent University
MSU Small Business Development
New Wave Communications
Outwood-Rescare
Patriot Coal
Pennyroyal Hospice
Pogue Automotive Group
Staff Partners
Sunrise Children's Services
Trover Health System
United Way of the Coalfield
U.S. Army Recruiting
Webstaurantstore.com
WFMW-WKTG

Various organizations and industries have already promoted the NCRC as an employee skills assessment and or a preferred screening tool for job applicants. Madisonville Community College, City of Madisonville, Hopkins County Government, Hopkins County Schools (Senior select only), West Kentucky Workforce Investment Board, Pennyrile Area Development District and the Office of Employment and Training. Companies who have adopted the NCRC are Trover Health Systems, Mutual Credit, and Alcan/Rio Tinto.

To further promote NCRC, the Office of Employment and Training (OET) provide NCRC testing information to all participated of the mandated Kentucky Employment Network (KEN). This class is taught twice a week and focuses on re-employment. Also, employers that utilize OET services were provided with NCRC information. Some of these employers are: General Electric, Land O'Frost, Tyson Foods, Electro Cycle, Bremmner, Alliance Coal, Farm Bureau Insurance, Staff Partners, Gemtron, Metalsa, Antolin, Horizons, Clark Security, Carhartt, and Columbia Sports.

Training Availability

The local Hopkins County Adult Education Program housed within the Madisonville Community College Workforce Solutions Department provides training and remediation for all WorkKeys assessments. There is no charge for any of the Adult Education services which includes preparing and taking the NCRC within the Adult Educational guidelines. The Hopkins County Adult Education Program has two locations in Madisonville; the main Adult Education Center is located on School Avenue in Madisonville (Madisonville Community College Technology Campus) and the second location is located in our ACE^2 Adult Education Center at the Parkway Plaza Mall. Upon completion of the adult education required guidelines, the NCRC can be taken at no charge; remediation if necessary is also provided.

Madisonville Community College has provided a series of NCRC study manuals for Levels 4, 5 and 6. These study manuals are available for anyone wanting to study prior to taking the test and also for anyone wanting to retake the test after remediation. Madisonville Community College also provided copies of NCRC study manuals levels 5 and 6 to Trover Health Systems in their NCRC assigned testing labs for all Trover employees wanting to study prior to the test.

Employee Recognition

Trover Health Systems in a partnership with Madisonville Community College's Assessment Center is offering the NCRC to all non-licensed employees. There have been twelve (12) different testing dates scheduled, offering morning and afternoon testing times each date. Trover Health Systems has dedicated two locations for on-site testing labs. Each site can accommodate 24 participants. Madisonville Community College manages the testing while Trover Health System manages the participant scheduling.

Madisonville Community College has also provided convenient testing dates, times, and locations for MCC employees to take the NCRC. Madisonville Community College is also

sponsoring a Multicounty Coal Severance Tax Grant request submitted for this fiscal year for the NCRC program. If funded, costs associated with the NCRC will be absorbed through the grant for all potential NCRC applicants. Funds will also be used for promotional materials and strategies to enhance the NCRC program. Madisonville North Hopkins High School and Hopkins County Central High School are supporting the NCRC by providing special testing times and locations for select seniors. In addition to sponsoring the NCRC testing and remediation, Madisonville Community College provides one of the three statewide WorkKeys Profilers. Aggie West is the only WorkKeys Profiler in Western Kentucky and works closely with all Hopkins County area business and industries, promoting the WorkKeys programs and in particularly the NCRC and the certificate achievement opportunities.

Narrative 4: Educational Attainment

Present a plan to raise the Educational Attainment rate to 25 percent within three years and 32 percent within five years and 39 percent within seven years.

Narrative 4: Educational Attainment

Overview

Based on US Census data from the 2008-2010 American Community Survey 3-year estimates, the current educational attainment level of adults 18-64 holding at least an associate's degree is 23%. Furthermore, with an estimated 38.4% of the population within the 18-24 with some college or an associate's degree, we may already meet and/or exceed the 25% required of a Work Ready Community.

Educational training institutions (SACS Accredited) in Hopkins County include Madisonville Community College, Murray State University, Lindsey Wilson University, and Mid-Continent University. Daymar College, independently accredited, is also located in Hopkins County.

Plan to Reach 25% by 2015

The above mentioned colleges are working hard to ensure Hopkins County residents have access to education. To do this, an inventory of what was already in place was taken to ensure that our residents have available opportunities for advancing their education. Current strategies underway are:

- **Dual Credit Opportunities** – Working with all three public high schools in Hopkins County (Madisonville North, Hopkins Central, and Dawson Springs) dual credit opportunities are available in general education, allied health, and applied technology fields. High school students are able to take advantage of this opportunity at a reduced cost. Working with high school teachers, counselors, and administrators, students are identified and individually approached or enrolled (a result of the high school curriculum choice in some cases). Providing an official transcript of college credit each year motivates students to think about obtaining an associate's degree or higher when they know that 3,6,9,12 or more credit hours have already been earned at the college-level.

- **WorkForce Transitions Program** - Launched in fall 2011, the MCC Workforce Transitions program targets individuals trained by the Workforce Solutions department for enrollment in credit-bearing academic programs. Incentives such as credit for prior-learning and increased advising support will make the transition easy for students from training to academic courses.

- **Academic Assistance/Tutoring Support** - Madisonville Community College has been a leader in the improvement of instructional strategies to support students in need of remediation in mathematics, reading, and writing. The Emporium Model of delivery provides targeted instruction in specific areas of weakness, enabling students to improve skills in their areas of deficiency without spending an entire semester in a course. Students achieving at the mastery level can progress at their own pace and possibly skip courses, thus reducing time to credential.

- **Disability Resources** – This service is available to help students, regardless of disability, be successful at the community college and four-year university level. Services are offered to assist students appropriately based on the disability. Special attention is also given to program participants to help mentor them to successful completion at the highest level possible.

- **First Semester Experience** – Retention after the first semester of college is crucial to our target graduation rate; therefore, Madisonville Community College's First Semester Experience program seeks to help admitted students at the beginning of the college journey. Assistance with registration, program advising, and campus culture takes place during these sessions to help ensure first-time freshmen start off on the right foot with MCC. Students participating in the program are much more likely to persist

- **School Counts! Scholarship Program** - The School Counts! program is offered to all three public high schools in Hopkins County (Dawson Springs, Hopkins Central, and Madisonville-North). Students register for School Counts! as freshmen and can progress through the program each year of school. Throughout high school, students must maintain a 2.5 g.p.a., attend school 95% of the time, graduate in four years, and take more than the minimum number of credits to graduate. If students achieve these goals, they are guaranteed tuition at Madisonville Community College with the combination of financial aid, KEES, other scholarships, and School Counts! funds.

- **Scholarship/Funding Support** - A variety of scholarships are available for students at all the postsecondary institutions in Hopkins County. Federal financial aid, loans, grants, payment plans, and other programs exist to help make higher education affordable for our citizens.

- **Flexible Learning Opportunities** - In an effort to meet the needs of a diverse population with diverse needs, programming is available to students at day, night, weekends, online, and through correspondence. Furthermore, many degree programs are all available online so that, regardless of a student's ability to come to class when offered, degrees can still be achieved. Students at Madisonville Community College have access to the complete online catalog of courses taught in the community college system, thus expanding opportunity and making more options and pathways open for students.

- **Murray State University – Madisonville Community College Joint Admission Program** – Students interested in transferring to Murray State University who have between 15 and 45 college hours can enroll in this program. Participants are given degree audits for the program they are planning to pursue with Murray State University after each semester at Madisonville Community College. A mentor is assigned to each student and makes sure the student understands what courses to take through both KCTCS and MSU.

- **Daymar College – Enrollment Opportunities Every 3 months**
  Daymar has new enrollment periods every 3 months giving potential students more opportunities to pursue postsecondary educational opportunities here in Hopkins County.

- **Lindsay Wilson – Weekend-Cohort Program for Degree Completion**
  Lindsey Wilson partners with Madisonville Community College to offer students an opportunity to complete a bachelor's degree on the weekends in a cohort setting. Students meet every-other weekend over a two-year period on Friday nights and Saturdays.

- **Credit for Prior Learning** – Schools and universities are beginning to recognize the value of past experiences in relation to educational attainment. Presently, students can identify courses in which they believe they have met the competencies in college course catalogs. Students then receive the class syllabus and work to demonstrate competency to the school in which credit is desired. This is a wonderful way for individuals with many years of experience to gain credit for what they know and have learned on the job throughout their careers.

- **Job Net Employment Class** – Each Tuesday and Wednesday a new group of individuals applying for unemployment receives information on the programming available to them. Information on funding is also presented to each group of participants.

- **TRANSITIONAL EDUCATION ACCELERATING GAINS** – College readiness based on testing is often a concern for first-time students. In an effort to address this and encourage incoming freshmen to work to increase their skills to a level of college readiness, Madisonville Community College offers a series of workshops each summer aimed at increasing individual skill sets in reading, writing, and mathematics. Participation is free and voluntary. Statistics support a 90% increase rate on post testing for participants after completing the class.

In an effort to raise the educational level, the following new strategies have been adopted to continually place focus on the opportunities here locally for education at the associate's level and beyond.

- **Individual Student Focus Based on Earned Hours** - In Spring 2012, 1,732 names in Hopkins County were identified by Madisonville Community College as students (since 2000) with more than 75 credit hours on record with no degree. Efforts are underway to individually evaluate each student to determine how much is needed to obtain a degree. Once this is done, students will be notified individually and encouraged to finish.

- **Employer Focus on Tuition Assistance** – Given the state of our present day economy, getting individuals interested in investing in their education (when they do not qualify for grants) is often difficult. Madisonville Community College is working to identify employers within Hopkins County that offer employer tuition assistance. Individual payment arrangements can be made for qualified students; this makes paying upfront not a requirement possibly enticing more individuals to enroll in postsecondary training.

- **Finish It Hopkins County Campaign** – A strategic marketing plan will be developed to brand the idea of college completion for the residents of Hopkins County. Efforts will be made with all local media outlets, and partnerships will be made with other business and industry organizations to promote this campaign. The developed campaign will be implemented year round; however, a concentrated push will take place in June and July of each year in order to meet the fall registration deadlines. Special effort will be made to promote degree completion opportunities to students with several hours, no degree, and employed by a company with a tuition reimbursement program.

- **Murray State University Individual Student Evaluation** – Every student transferring to MSU-Madisonville Regional Campus prior to obtaining an associate's degree will be counseled on the importance of obtaining that degree. Students will be identified and tracked to encourage reverse transfer credit back to the community college to shift focus from the long-range goal of the bachelor's degree back to the short-term goal of the associates degree (by showing the student that this is possible without additional classes).

- **Murray State University 2 + 2 Advising Sheets** - Murray State University will update advising materials to include a 2 + 2 pathway which offers an exit with the Associate's Degree. This will help ensure that more people know what is ahead of them and the transfer is seamless (with a degree in hand).

- **Unsatisfactory Academic Progress/Financial Aid Alternatives** - Federal regulations have resulted in changes to federal financial aid and Workforce Investment Act monies have been cut. As a result, many individuals are not able to return to school because they lack the ability to receive financial aid and do not have the resources to return to school at the community college level. These students will be individually counseled on alternative funding methods (like the Rotary Loan Program for Hopkins County) as well as the benefit to transferring to a four-year institution and do concurrent enrollment with the community college to gain access to funding.

With all the above mentioned initiatives, we are confident that Hopkins County will meet the criteria of a Work Ready Community in the next few years. The academic partners have joined forces to make a concentrated effort to raise the educational level of Hopkins County. Working together, we have the infrastructure in place for success.

Narrative 5: Soft Skills Program

Discuss your community program or programs to address work ethic/soft skills development and credentialing for both the secondary school and post-secondary adult populations. The programs must meet the following minimum standards:

- provide evidence of employer engagement in the program development process, including representation of the county's most prolific businesses and industries.
- provide evidence that employers recognize achievement of work ethic or soft skills credential in their hiring/advancement processes,
- programs must include measurable goals for annual improvement in the raw number and percentage of workforce credentialed,
- plans must include a strategy to assure employers of the sustainability of the programs, and
- programs must address, at a minimum, the following topical areas: attendance/punctuality, communication, teamwork, leadership, and critical thinking.

Narrative 5: Soft Skills Program

Overview

"The main problem we encounter is that many applicants have a lack of work ethic; they think their personal business should come before their job, and often take time off without notice."

"Interviewing skills ...atrocious in presentation, manners, and decorum."

These were comments taken from the Hopkins County 2010 Job and Career Expo Employer Survey which certainly underscore the importance of and need for soft skills. Although our community has several soft skills initiatives in place, to be recognized as a work-ready community in progress, we will need to combine our efforts and streamline our delivery to prevent duplication. To begin the process, the soft skills measurement criteria committee took inventory of initiatives already in place.

Strategies currently underway in our public schools

- School Counts! Work Ethic/Scholarship Program
  The School Counts program is offered to incoming freshman students at the three public high schools in Hopkins County (Madisonville North Hopkins High School, Hopkins County Central High School, and Dawson Springs High School). Throughout the four years of high school, students must maintain a 2.5 GPA, have 95% attendance and punctuality, complete high school in four years, and take more than the minimum number of credits to graduate. Students sign up as freshmen and receive a certificate each year they meet the qualifications. Students who meet the qualifications all four years are guaranteed up to $1000 per semester of college tuition at Madisonville Community College (after financial aid, KEES, and other scholarships) for two years. Since the beginning of the program in 2004, more than 2,000 high school students have enrolled in the program, with a completion rate of about 40%. Eight civic organizations (Rotary Club, Earlington Civic Club, Morning Kiwanis, AARP, Farm Bureau, Home Builders, Madisonville Area Manufacturers Association, Old National Bank Foundation) and nearly 300 businesses support this program; to date, the current pledge is $1,500,000.

- School to Work Career Education Initiative
  More than a dozen programs are available to students from preschool through high school graduation to increase awareness of opportunities for higher education and for career and technology training. These programs, organized by the Hopkins County Schools Career Education Coordinator, focus on the soft skills that future employers will seek when the students begin to explore employment opportunities. Programs are:

- **It's In the Bag:** A program locally designed to promote career awareness using the Kentucky 14 Career Clusters. The program relates to choosing a career through exploring each of the 14 Career Clusters. The lessons culminate with each student drawing a picture of himself/herself as an adult working in the career of the student's choice. The drawings are on white shopping bags.(P-4, third grade)

- **Mentoring and Preparing Students (M.A.P.S.):** A locally designed initiative that organizes business-education-parent partnerships designed to provide a vehicle for students to understand the workplace in action. M.A.P.S. introduces students to work-related concepts and experiences. Employee volunteers teach children throughout the school year about the world of work, focusing on occupational awareness, positive work habits, self-awareness, interdependence, decision-making, overcoming bias and stereotyping and occupational structure. During an organized work-site visit, business volunteers emphasize various occupations that serve as points of reference for MAPS lessons. (4th grade)

- **Junior Leadership Academy**: A program designed by the Chamber of Commerce Leadership Hopkins County Educational Study Group to provide Hopkins County School's School to Careers Ambassadors with six day-long workshops focusing on local government, economic development, communication and leadership. (5th, 8th, 11th and 12th grades)

- **Rural Entrepreneurship through Action Learning (REAL) Enterprises**: A program geared toward teaching entrepreneurial skills which promotes meaningful linkages between education, business, and community groups. REAL helps students expand their knowledge of business development and exercise their critical and creative thinking skills. (7th grade)

- **Learning It First Through Education (L.I.F.E):** This project is an interactive exercise that shows students the importance of budgeting and planning for their future. Students choose a career, obtain an annual salary, and draw a family situation. The student then proceeds through LIFE by having taxes removed from his/her salary, opening a bank account, purchasing housing, food, transportation, and insurance sufficient for their family situation. Students visit 19 booths replicating real-life experiences. Students must complete the exercise within their salary. (7th grade)

- **Career Connections**: A career fair featuring the 14 Kentucky Career Clusters. Local businesses (three-four) representing various aspects of the each career cluster are invited to participate in this event. The goal of the activity is for the students to become aware of the 14 Kentucky Career Clusters and to understand that all jobs fall into one of these categories. Prior to attending the cluster fair, students take an electronic career interest inventory to determine in which clusters they have the

most interest. Students then visit these clusters at the fair. In addition, students receive presentations and printed information about **School Counts!,** college scholarships, and dual credit classes in high school.(8th grade)

- **Creating Futures**: A career fair developed by the Chamber of Commerce Leadership Hopkins County Educational Study Group for students with a wide range of disabilities to offer them a career-related activity that will prepare the students to successfully enter the workforce and to transition into adult life. This activity also targets the parents of these students with disabilities to offer them additional means of interaction with agencies that have specific knowledge regarding areas that will aid their student in the future. (8th –12th grade)

- **Breakfast of Champions and Walk of Fame**: An annual event honoring approximately 100 local businesses representatives that support Hopkins County Schools by participating in career education events (all previously listed). The highlight of the event is The Walk of Fame held immediately after the Breakfast of Champions in an adjacent room. Each of the 13 schools in the District feature a work-based enterprise that takes place in their school. Two students from each school speak with the local business representatives about the business concepts and skills they have learned while working with the work-based enterprise.

- **Shadowing:** Groundhog Job Shadow Day (February 2) is a day for elementary students to shadow their parents in the workplace. Middle students participate in Groundhog Job Shadow Day for the entire school day. High school students also shadow in local businesses throughout the school year as part of student organizations, classes, and individual career interest areas. (K-12)

- **Career Software**: Paws in Jobland is computer software available to elementary students (4th grade) to enhance their knowledge of careers. Gohigherky.com and Careercruising.com are part of the Kentucky Individual Learning Plan, a required web-based career guidance curriculum for all middle and high school students. This software enables students to participate in a career interest inventory and to research identified interest areas, course requirements, etc., to enable students a smooth transition into post-secondary education.

- **Think College Early:** A two day program targeting 9th grade students. Think College Early focuses on 9th grade students having an opportunity to experience college for a day. One hundred students from each high school attend four college classes taught by current Madisonville Community College faculty. Students also learn more about financial aid, study skills, ACT benchmark scores.

- **Think Careers Early:** Think Careers Early is a day for 35 students from each high school to learn more about technical education offered at Madisonville Community

College. Students participate in interactive tours of MCC's Health Campus, the Brown Badgett, Sr. Energy and Advanced Technology Center, and other Main Campus areas.

Strategies currently underway in our colleges

- General Education Competencies
  All Madisonville Community College and Murray State University course syllabi must include "General Competencies" which include effective communication, critical thinking, independent learning, and examining relationships in a diverse and complex environment. In addition, all syllabi include an attendance, punctuality, and honesty policy.

- Workforce Development Training
  Madisonville Community College's Workforce Solutions department provides customized training to business. In addition it offers many continuing education classes for the community that includes computer literacy, conflict resolution, resume and cover letter writing, team building, time management, and customer service.

- Strategies for Success Class
  Daymar College requires all students to take Strategies for Success as their first class. The class stresses attitude, attendance, appearance, academics, and accountability.

- Retention Alert System
  Murray State University has a retention alert system for all instructors to use to report students in danger of failing, not attending class, poor attitude, etc.

- Flag System
  Murray State University has a system in place to "flag" students who do not meet the established College of Education dispositions, ethics, and academic standards. Students self-assess, are provided a remediation plan if needed, and are flagged if the remediation plan does not work. Flags can affect students' ability to participate in student teaching.

Strategies currently underway in our governmental agencies and private sector

- Office of Employment and Training
  This office provides a twice-per-day orientation to acquaint customers with services. In addition, the office provides custom classes as needed for Interview Techniques, Resume Assistance, Job Search Strategy, and Basic Employment Soft Skills.

- County Government
  Monthly wellness class topics include personal health, healthy workplace environments, punctuality, attendance, employee attitude, and the effects of negativism.

- Madisonville-Hopkins County Chamber of Commerce
  The Chamber collaborates with employers, the public school system, Madisonville Community College and Murray State University to offer incentives, coaching, and business partnerships to programs already in place. The Chamber's Leadership Hopkins County program has been responsible for developing a number of programs designed to enhance the awareness of students at every level about the skills they will need to find and keep jobs.

- Madisonville-Hopkins County Economic Development
  As part of the Bluegrass Skills Corporation, Economic Development has the capability to customize skills training services for new, expanding, and existing companies.

- People Plus
  A business that provides staffing for temporary employment. Project Opportunity helps clients obtain their GED (register with Adult Ed, take the pretest and complete 12 hours of study time. People Plus will pay for two hours per week of the study time. Clients must be working toward the GED to remain eligible for employment through People Plus.

In an effort to develop soft skills, the following new strategies have been adopted or existing strategies have been enhanced as we progress toward Work Ready Community status:

- Hopkins County Public Schools
  In an effort to increase by 10% the number of School Counts "completers" (those who start as freshmen, maintain and complete as seniors), parental awareness will begin in 5th grade to be taken on as a leadership project by three Murray State University education majors. This initiative will start in fall 2012.

  Beginning in fall 2012, School Counts! graduates will be given a Nook tablet device, which can be used to download Barnes & Noble textbooks when they begin Madisonville Community College courses.

- Murray State University
  Murray State University will expand its self-assessment participation to include the BIS and Social Work majors. This will help ensure that soft skill deficiencies are identified early in the program in order to allow remediation and monitoring to attain the goal of "Work Ready" graduates. This initiative will start in fall 2012.

- Madisonville Community College
  Faculty will be apprised of the Work Ready Community initiative at Opening Day in August 2012 and will be encouraged to emphasize to students the importance of the General Education Competencies on course syllabi.

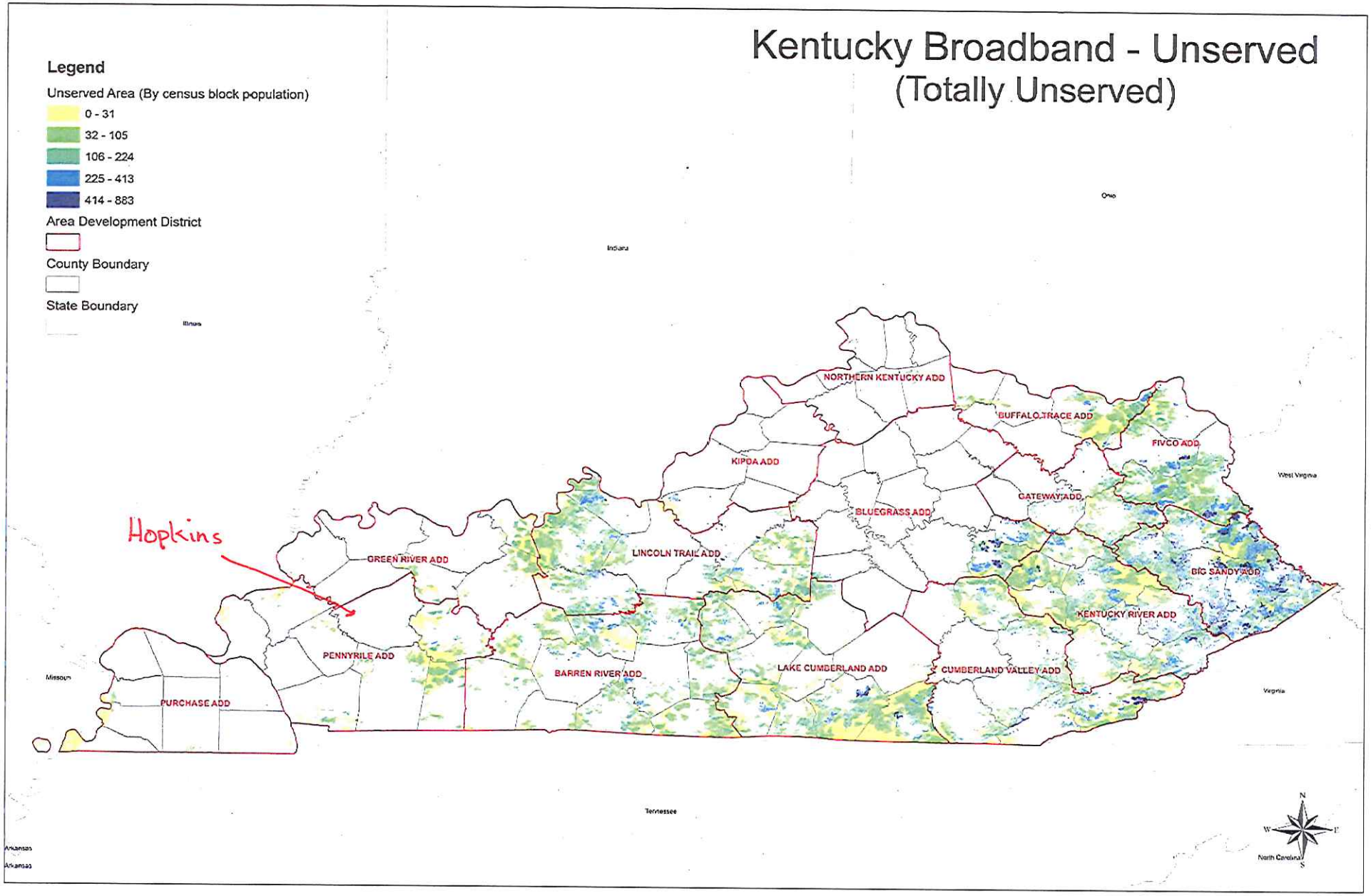
  Soft Skills NCRC tests will be provided free to 50 Associate of Applied Science graduates. Those students achieving the level of Platinum, Gold, or Silver will receive a credential to present when applying for a job. This initiative will cover the academic year of 2012/2013.

As we learned from employers' comments from the 2010 Job Expo Employers' Survey, soft skills must be an integral component of any community's goal of "Work Ready" status. With partnerships and focused initiatives, Hopkins County can achieve that distinction.

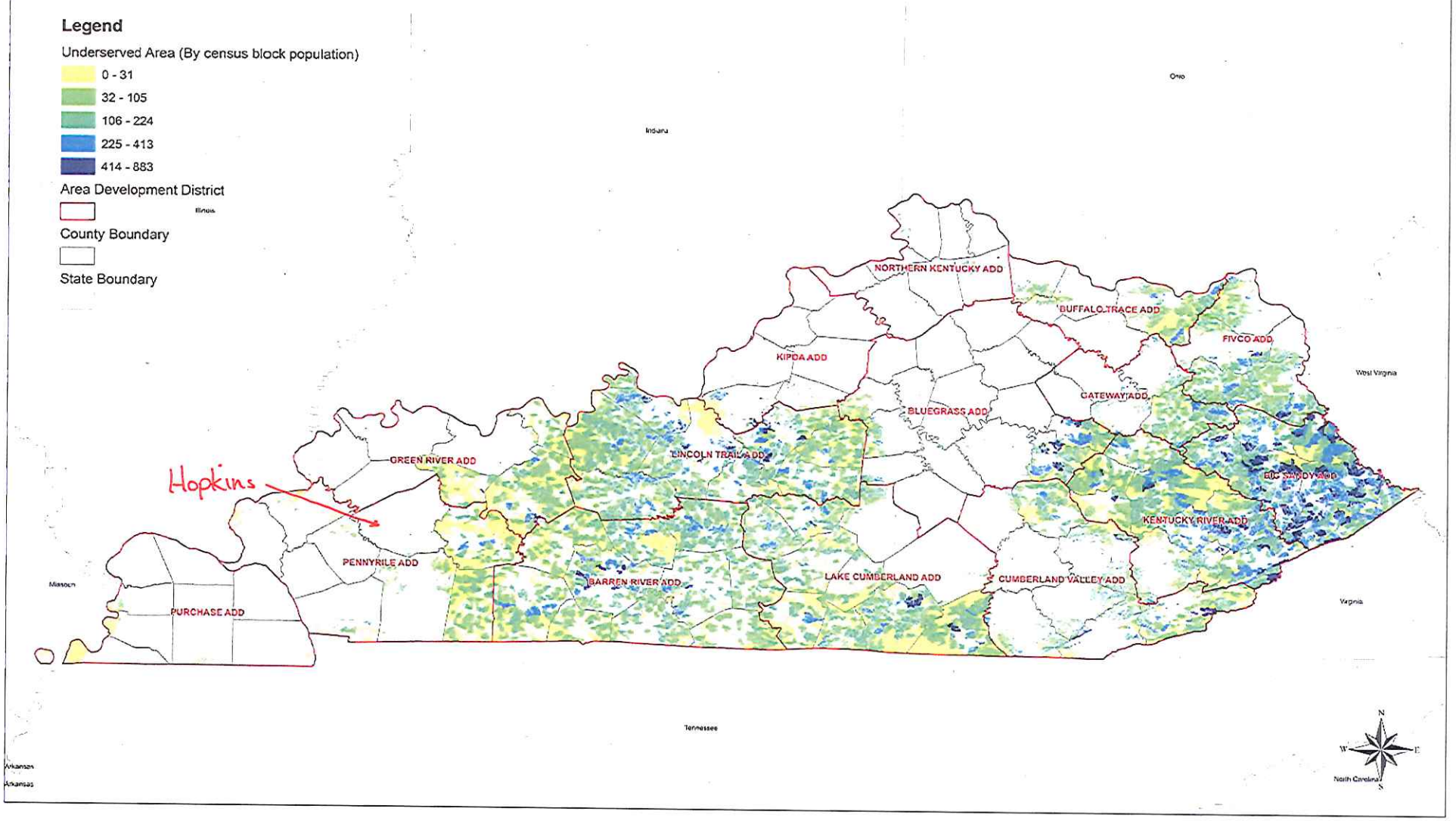
Narrative 6: Broadband Availability (rural county)

County must have 3Mbs or greater speeds available to 90 percent of housing units with the exception of those they can show to be inaccessible (cost prohibitive) by technology other than wireless – where there must be 1.5Mbps speeds available to 90 percent of housing units. Present data to show that these areas are covered by 1.5Mbps at 90 percent availability.

Kentucky Broadband - Unserved
(Totally Unserved)



Kentucky Broadband - Underserved
(Fixed or Mobile Wireless Maximum Advertised Download Speed < 3mpbs)



National Broadband Map
How connected is my community?

Homepage • Analyze • Map • Developer • About • Native Nations

hopkins county ky

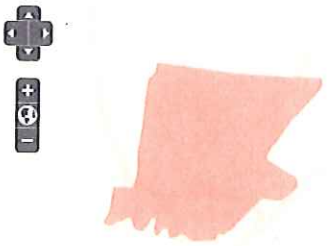
FIND

Search Results: Broadband Providers for this Area

Print this page • About area • Compare Areas

Below is the **list of broadband providers operating in all or part of the census block** for the address above. If you entered a zip code or city name, the list below only displays the broadband providers offering service in the Census Block that is in the center of that zip code or city. See About and the FAQ to learn more about the data gathering process.

Help improve this data by confirming the availability and speed information. This dataset is updated approximately every six months and your input is important to us. Click **Expand All** to see details about each provider and to give us feedback.



Data © 2009 OpenStreetMap. Rendering © 2009 CloudMade.

Show All • Show Wired • Show Wireless

Collapse All

Advertised Speeds Above 3 Mbps

Data as of: 6/30/11

Telecommunications Management LLC

10 - 25 Mbps

Link to Website

Data Review
Source

Download between 10 - 25 Mbps using Cable
Upload between 768 Kbps - 1.5 Mbps using Cable

Help us verify that this is the max. advertised speed.
0 Yes 0 No

Confirm this provider serves here
0 Yes 0 No

AT&T Inc.

6 - 10 Mbps

Link to Website

Data Review
Source

Download between 6 - 10 Mbps using DSL (Asymmetric)
Upload between 768 Kbps - 1.5 Mbps using DSL (Asymmetric)

Help us verify that this is the max. advertised speed.
0 Yes 0 No

Confirm this provider serves here
0 Yes 0 No

Verizon Communications Inc.

3 - 6 Mbps

Link to Website

Data Review
Source

Download between 3 - 6 Mbps using Mobile Wireless
Upload between 1.5 - 3 Mbps using Mobile Wireless

Help us verify that this is the max. advertised speed.
0 Yes 0 No

Confirm this provider serves here
0 Yes 0 No

Advertised Speeds Above 768 Kbps and Below 3 Mbps

Data as of: 6/30/11

Sprint Nextel Corporation

768 Kbps - 1.5 Mbps

Link to Website

Data Review
Source

Download between 768 Kbps - 1.5 Mbps using Mobile Wireless
Upload between 200 - 768 Kbps using Mobile Wireless

Help us verify that this is the max. advertised speed.
0 Yes 0 No

Confirm this provider serves here
0 Yes 0 No

Share »

Share this page with my community

Short URL »

Recommend this on Google

Tweet

Map »

Map my community

Rank »

Rank my community

Summarize »

View statistics about my community

Provider »

View statistics about providers

Broadband Classroom »

Learn more about broadband

Engage »

Build a better map for my community

Blog »

New Data for the National Broadband Map
posted by Anne Neville on March 2, 2012

Updates »

Sign up and receive updates about the National Broadband Map

Most Common Speed: 10 Mbps

Data Source • Download • API Call

Broadband services delivered via satellite are available to U.S. customers throughout all 50 States.
Please click here for more information on individual Satellite Broadband service providers

Is your broadband provider listed?

SEND

Top 10 Search Locations

- 10512
- new york
- 90210
- 24073
- san francisco
- seattle
- los angeles
- 14300 pearl rd, strongsville, oh 44136
- seattle, wa
- 1320 3rd street, kirkland wa 98033

---

results: 3.82 seconds

Homepage • Analyze • Map • Developer • About • Native Nations

Rank • Summarize • Provider • Engage Blog • Twitter • Download • States

Recommend this Tweet

The **National Broadband Map** is a tool to search, analyze and map broadband availability across the United States.
Created and maintained by the **NTIA**, in collaboration with the **FCC**, and in partnership with 50 states, five territories and the District of Columbia.

NTIA • FCC • Website Policies and Notices • Privacy Policy • Recovery.gov • FOIA

National Broadband Map
How connected is my community?

Homepage • Analyze • Map • Developer • About • Native Nations

Please enter any address

FIND

Source » Search Results

The National Broadband Map (NBM) is a project of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's (NTIA) State Broadband Initiative. The State Broadband Initiative also includes the State Broadband Data and Development grant program, which implements the joint purposes of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and the Broadband Data Improvement Act. The Broadband Data Improvement Act envisioned a comprehensive program, led by state entities or non-profit organizations working at their direction, to facilitate the integration of broadband and information technology into state and local economies. Since accurate data is critical for broadband planning, an important purpose of the SBDD program is to support states in gathering data twice a year on the availability, speed, and location of broadband services, as well as the broadband services that community institutions, such as schools, libraries and hospitals use. NTIA has awarded funding to all awardees to support five years of data collection, twice per year. This is the data used to populate the NBM.

About area

The area highlighted in the search results map is the census block or road segment which most closely matches the address or area you searched. If you chose a city, county or zip code, the results will include information about the availability for the census block in the center of the area searched.

The data on the National Broadband Map is displayed at the census block-level for all census blocks that are less than two square miles in size. For census blocks that that are larger than two square miles, the data is displayed by road segment.

Wireline Providers, Technologies and Speeds

Wireline Technologies include DSL (Asymmetric and Symmetric), Copper, Cable (Cable Modem DOCSIS 3.0 and Cable Other), Optical Fiber and Electric Powerline.

The National Broadband Map displays wireline broadband availability based on the census block returned by an individual search.

Wireless Providers, Technologies and Speeds

Wireless Technologies include Terrestrial Fixed Licensed, Terrestrial Fixed Unlicensed, Terrestrial Mobile, and undefined or "Other" wireless technologies. The National Broadband Map does not display satellite technology, as submissions of this data were inconsistent.

Wireless shapes given by broadband providers are amoebic and do not follow geographic boundaries. For the purposes of calculating broadband availability statistics for a particular geography, the National Broadband Map uses the latitude and longitude of a search to determine that point's wireless availability. For points falling entirely within a wireless shape, it is assumed that the entire population has availability with the attributes (provider, technology, speed, etc.) assigned to that shape. For points falling partially within the shape, between 0 and 100% of the population has the attributes assigned to that wireless shape.

Share »

Share this page with my community

Short URL »

Recommend this on Google

Tweet

Map »

Map my community

Rank »

Rank my community

Summarize »

View statistics about my community

Provider »

View statistics about providers

Broadband Classroom »

Learn more about broadband

Engage »

Build a better map for my community

Blog »

New Data for the National Broadband Map
posted by Anne Neville on March 2, 2012

Updates »

Sign up and receive updates about the National Broadband Map

---

results: 3.21 seconds

Homepage • Analyze • Map • Developer • About • Native Nations

Rank • Summarize • Provider • Engage Blog • Twitter • Download • States

Recommend this Tweet

The **National Broadband Map** is a tool to search, analyze and map broadband availability across the United States.
Created and maintained by the **NTIA**, in collaboration with the **FCC**, and in partnership with 50 states, five territories and the District of Columbia.

NTIA • FCC • Website Policies and Notices • Privacy Policy • Recovery.gov • FOIA

National Broadband Map
How connected is my community?

Analyze » Summarize

State » Kentucky
County » Hopkins

Below is a summary of the broadband characteristics for the area listed above. The broadband data below is as of 6/30/11 and represents data collected by SBDD grantees. Click on the section headings to see more information.

Print this page • Export Data

Number of Wireline Providers	Percent Population	Nationwide
0	6.9%	4.0%
1	19.9%	12.9%
2	72.0%	41.6%
3	1.2%	29.1%
4	0.0%	9.9%
5	0.0%	1.8%
6	0.0%	0.3%
7	0.0%	0.2%
8+	0.0%	0.2%

Source API Call

Number of Wireless Providers	Percent Population	Nationwide
0	0.0%	0.4%
1	2.2%	2.4%
2	20.8%	5.3%
3	77.0%	9.9%
4	0.1%	31.6%
5	0.0%	25.3%
6	0.0%	14.6%
7	0.0%	6.3%
8+	0.0%	4.3%

Source API Call

Technology	Percent Population	Nationwide
DSL	87.1%	88.0%
Fiber	0.0%	17.3%
Cable	74.8%	83.3%
Wireless	99.1%	98.5%
Other	0.0%	0.0%

Source API Call

Speed	Percent Population	Nationwide
Unreported	0.0%	0.0%
Download > 0.768 Mbps, Upload > 0.2 Mbps	99.2%	99.5%
Download > 3 Mbps, Upload > 0.768 Mbps	99.2%	98.3%

Share »

Share this page with my community

Short URL »

Recommend this on Google

Tweet

Demographics

Total area (sq miles)	525
Population	46,938
Households	21,202

Age	Area (%)	Nationwide
under 5	5.1%	5.3%
5 - 19	19.6%	20.1%
20 - 34	18.4%	19.5%
35 - 59	33.1%	33.1%
60+	23.8%	22.1%

Race	Area (%)	Nationwide
White	90.0%	70.8%
Black	6.6%	12.4%
Hispanic	2.7%	10.9%
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.6%	4.8%
Native American	0.1%	0.9%

Income	Area (%)	Nationwide
Median income	$40,160	$54,838
Poverty rate	19.3%	15.9%
Below $25k	40.7%	28.6%
$25k-$50k	32.8%	29.0%
$50k-$100k	21.4%	30.0%
$100k-$200k	3.9%	10.1%
$200k or more	1.2%	2.4%

Education	Area (%)	Nationwide
High School graduate	71.2%	79.6%
Bachelor's degree or higher	10.9%	24.6%

Source API Call

Broadband Speed Test (mbps)	Number of Tests	25* percentile	median speed (mbps)	75* percentile	Download Speed
Home	53	1.4			5.6
Schools, Libraries, Community Centers	0				
Medium/Large Business	0				
Small Business	3	1.3			5.2
Mobile	104	1.0			4.5
Other	0				

Source API Call

0 5.6

Community Anchor Institutions	Total Number of Records	Subscribe to Broadband Yes	No	?	*	Download Speed
Schools K through 12	17	0	0	17	0	
University, College, other post-secondary	3	3	0	0	3	
Libraries	4	3	0	1	4	
Medical / Healthcare	2	1	0	1	1	
Public Safety	7	0	0	7	0	
Community Centers - Government support	10	0	0	10	0	
Community Centers - Non-Government support	0	0	0	0	0	

Source API Call Speeds provided *

BTOP Kentucky State Funding

Recipient	Project	Total Award
State Data and Development		
Commonwealth of Kentucky ...	State Data and Development	$5,302,717
Infrastructure		
City of Williamstown, Ken...	Deployment of Broadband to Corinth, Ky., and Ot...	$535,308
University Corporation fo...	United States Unified Community Anchor Network ...	$62,540,162
Public Computer Centers		
Boat People SOS, Inc.	Neighborhood Empowerment and Support through Te...	$392,000
Kentucky Arts, Education ...	Kentucky Public Library PCC Workforce Opportuni...	$1,349,826
Louisville-Jefferson Coun...	Metro Louisville Public Library Computing Cente...	$743,741
Sustainable Adoption		
Communication Service for...	Project Endeavor	$14,988,657
One Community	Connect Your Community	$1,327,235
One Economy Corporation	21st Century Information and Support Ecosystem:...	$28,519,482

Source API Call

BIP Kentucky State Funding Summary

Applicant Name	Grant Request	Loan Request	Total Request
Round 1			
Mountain Rural Telephone Cooperative Corporatio...	$38,281,044	$39,843,535	$78,124,579
North Central Telephone Cooperative, Inc.	$0	$0	$0

Source API Call

Map »
Map my community

Rank »
Rank my community

Provider »
View statistics about providers

Broadband Classroom »
Learn more about broadband

Engage »
Build a better map for my community

Blog »
New Data for the National Broadband Map
posted by Anne Neville on March 2, 2012

Updates »
Sign up and receive updates about the National Broadband Map

Applicant Name	Grant Request	Loan Request	Total Request
Round 2			
Wildblue Communications	$19,533,444	$0	$19,533,444
Hughes Network Systems	$58,777,306	$0	$58,777,306
Foothills Rural Telephone Cooperative, Corporat...	$14,680,738	$6,291,744	$20,972,482
Highland Telephone Cooperative, Inc.	$14,461,393	$4,820,464	$19,281,857
Leslie County Telephone Company	$6,169,295	$0	$6,169,295
Mikrotec CATV, LLC	$829,813	$0	$829,813
Peoples Rural Telephone Cooperative Corp, Inc.	$17,859,928	$7,654,254	$25,514,182
Salem Telephone Company	$1,934,474	$0	$1,934,474
Thacker-Grigsby Telephone Company, Incorporated	$5,185,932	$2,222,542	$7,408,474
Twin Lakes Telephone Cooperative Corporation	$0	$0	$0
West Kentucky Rural Telephone Cooperative Corpo...	$42,710,999	$42,711,001	$85,422,000
Windstream Corporation	$27,644,292	$0	$27,644,292
Windstream Corporation	$31,118,534	$0	$31,118,534
Sacenet	$7,530,000	$0	$7,530,000
Windstream Corporation	$951,445	$0	$951,445
Echostar XI Operating LLC	$14,159,250	$0	$14,159,250
TA-Grants			

Source API Call

results: 3.41 seconds

Homepage • **Analyze** • **Map** • **Developer** • **About** • **Native Nations**

Rank • Summarize • Provider • Engage Blog • Twitter • Download • States

Recommend this Tweet

The **National Broadband Map** is a tool to search, analyze and map broadband availability across the United States.
Created and maintained by the **NTIA**, in collaboration with the **FCC**, and in partnership with 50 states, five territories and the District of Columbia.

NTIA • FCC • Website Policies and Notices • Privacy Policy • Recovery.gov • FOIA

National Broadband Map
How connected is my community?

Please enter any address

FIND

Source » Summarize

This section contains information about the source of the data provided in the summary. Users interested in viewing this data at more granular levels should use the rank feature or download the dataset.

Number of Wireline Service Providers

Based on the data available, this graphic displays the number of wired broadband providers that the population of the given area can access. This includes providers of DSL, cable, copper, or fiber. The data is aggregated from the census block or road segment level data and was provided to NTIA by each state grantee. If a broadband provider is not included in this data, it will not appear in these results. Please provide feedback by using the crowdsourcing features in the search results for a given address.

Number of Wireless Service Providers

Based on the data available, this graphic displays the number of wireless broadband providers that the population of the given area can access. These figures do not include data about satellite providers. The statistics are derived from the census blocks, road segments or shape files provided by each state grantee. If a broadband provider is not included in this data, it will not appear in these results. To provide feedback about the accuracy of these records, please register your opinion in the search results for a given address.

Technology

Based on the data available, this graphic displays the general categories of technology collected through the SBDD program: DSL, fiber, cable, or wireless. Other technologies, such as Broadband over Power Line are included in the Other category. The wireless category does not include satellite data. The statistics are derived from the census blocks, road segments or shape files provided by each state grantee. If a broadband provider is not included in this data, it will not appear in these results. To provide feedback about the accuracy of these records, please register your opinion in the search results for a given address.

Speed

Based on the data available, this graphic displays the speed available to the population of the given area. In this section, the speed data is divided into three sections: unreported, greater than or equal to 768 kbps downstream and greater than or equal to 200 kbps upstream; and greater than or equal to 3 Mbps downstream and 768 kbps upstream. The complete dataset includes 9 speed tiers between 768 kbps and greater than 1 Gbps downstream and 11 speed tiers between 200 kbps and greater than 1 Gbps upstream. Users can view details about these individual speed tiers in the Rank section or by downloading the entire dataset.

Speedtest

The data contained in this graphic are derived from the Federal Communication Commission's (FCC) Consumer Broadband Test. As stated by the FCC on its website: The purpose of the Consumer Broadband Test (Beta) is to give consumers additional information about the quality of their broadband connections and to create awareness about the importance of broadband quality in accessing content and services over the internet. Additionally, the FCC may use data collected from the Consumer Broadband Test (Beta), along with submitted street address, to analyze broadband quality and availability on a geographic basis across the United States. The Consumer Broadband Test, currently in beta, is the FCC's first attempt at providing consumers real-time information about the quality of their broadband connections. Because measuring broadband speeds with software tools is not an exact science, we are providing two popular consumer broadband testing tools in this Beta version: Ookla and M-Lab. Both will enable consumers to test the quality of their broadband connection by transferring a small temporary file back and forth and measuring the results. Users will be randomly assigned to one of the two chosen testing tools: Ookla or Network Diagnostic Tool (NDT) running on the Measurement Lab (M-Lab) platform, or they can choose their preferred tool by using links on this page. Each test is likely to provide a different result, and the differences may be significant in some cases. While the tests will give consumers some information on relative speeds, the FCC does not endorse either one as being a definitive testing method. In the future, the FCC anticipates making additional broadband testing applications available for consumer use. The FCC does not endorse any specific testing application. Data as of: 12/31/2011

Community Anchor Institutions

Community Anchor Institutions include schools, libraries, medical and healthcare providers, public safety entities, community colleges and other institutions of higher education, and other community support organizations and entities. SBDD grantees have collected data about the broadband plans to which these organizations subscribe. At this time, the data below does not represent all community anchor institutions, but in many cases does provide a substantial number of organizations. The curves to the right of the data present the data in a graph. Move your mouse over the curve to display the graphic.

Share »
Share this page with my community
Short URL »
Recommend this on Google
Tweet

Map »
Map my community

Rank »
Rank my community

Summarize »
View statistics about my community

Provider »
View statistics about providers

Broadband Classroom »
Learn more about broadband

Engage »
Build a better map for my community

Blog »
New Data for the National Broadband Map
posted by Anne Neville on March 2, 2012

Updates »
Sign up and receive updates about the National Broadband Map

BTOP State Funding

The Broadband Technology Opportunities Program is administered by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) under Section 6001 of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). The Broadband Initiatives Program is administered by the Rural Utilities Service (RUS) under Section 6001 of ARRA. NTIA distributed nearly $4 billion in grants and RUS distributed nearly $3 billion. These investments are designed to help bridge the technological divide, create jobs, and improve education and public safety in communities across the country. The list of grants awarded will always display per state even if a smaller unit of geography is chosen.

BIP State Funding

The Broadband Initiatives Program is administered by the Rural Utilities Service (RUS) under Section 6001 of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). RUS distributed nearly $3 billion in grants and loans under this program. The list of grants awarded will always display per state even if a smaller unit of geography is chosen.

Demographics

Demographics include age, race, income and education characteristics for a population living in a given area. The National Broadband Map uses demographic statistics from the U.S. Census bureau, as well as GeoLytics, a private company that provides population and demographic estimates at the block level. Below is a list of datasets the National Broadband Map uses for demographic characteristics:

- Total Area - Source: 2011 GeoLytics data
- Population, Households
  - U.S. Geographies (non-territories) - Source: 2011 GeoLytics data
  - U.S. Territories - Source: 2010 U.S. Census (Estimated based on census block area)
- Age, Race, Income, Education
  - U.S. Geographies (non-territories) - Source: 2011 GeoLytics data
  - Puerto Rico - Source: 2009 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates from U.S. Census
  - American Samoa, U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa - Source: 2000 U.S. Census

---

results: 3.21 seconds

The **National Broadband Map** is a tool to search, analyze and map broadband availability across the United States.
Created and maintained by the **NTIA**, in collaboration with the **FCC**, and in partnership with 50 states, five territories and the District of Columbia.

Narrative 8: Supplemental Criteria

GED: Please show your county GED attainment as compared to county goals.

Occupational Credentials: Please show total numbers of industry-recognized credentials in your county among working age (18-64) population. Be sure to list the type of credential, number of individuals with each credential, sources and show any calculations. Employers and community colleges will be important sources in this effort.

Narrative 8: Supplemental Criteria

GED

This table shows GED attainment among Hopkins County ACE[2] students for the past three fiscal years. While participants achieved "proficient" levels of GED attainment in the 2008-09 and 2009-10 fiscal years, the percentage of goal attainment dropped 21 percentage points in fiscal year 2010-11, and GED performance fell into the "needs improvement" range.

Fiscal Year	Attainment Goal	GEDs attained	Percent of goal	Rating
2010-11	135	85	62%	Needs Improvement
2009-10	129	106	82%	Proficient
2008-09	120	102	85%	Proficient

One factor for the drop may be that the attainment goal rose each fiscal year. The 2010-11 goal was up 12.5% over the 2008-09 fiscal year goal. This alone, however, is not sufficient to explain such a pronounced drop. It is also possible that the drop is an outlier and that performance will return to more customary levels next year without intervention. It may just have been a "bad year".

Despite these possibilities, ACE2 staff made every effort to determine the cause of the drop, if one could be ascertained. Because educational level gains did not drop significantly over the same time period, the staff did not believe the problem resulted from ineffective teaching methodologies. A thorough review of the andragogy used revealed no "red flags." A review of enrollment data showed that the number of NRS Level 3 students enrolled in the fiscal year 2010-11 was up 3% over the previous year, while the number of NRS Level 4 students enrolled had fallen 7% from the previous fiscal year and 10% from fiscal year 2008-09. Data for the first half of the current fiscal year show that this trend is continuing. Enrolling more students functioning at a lower level could explain the drop in GED attainment, since those students have to persist longer and master more material prior to attaining the GED.

ACE2 staff members also speculate that the current economic climate has reduced motivation for students to complete the GED. In good economic times, many employers advertise to fill jobs that require a high school diploma or GED, which provides the necessary incentive for students to attain that credential. During the current economic downturn, fewer jobs are being advertised and less urgency for credential completion exists. Recent extensions in unemployment benefits have exacerbated the situation; many students are content not to improve their employability when they can draw unemployment benefits for almost two years (99 weeks). ACE2 will continue to monitor all of these factors and analyze program data to identify other potential causes for the drop, especially if it persists in subsequent fiscal years.

- ***Strategies for improving performance:*** Because program data show that the instructional practices currently employed by ACE2 are producing the desired outcomes (the most recent GED attainment data notwithstanding), no dramatic changes to those practices are planned in the near term. Program data and outcomes will be monitored to assess the effectiveness of recently-implemented strategies such as promotion of the KYAE Employer GED Incentive Program and the integration of Common Core Standards into the curriculum. Because of the increase in NRS level 3 enrollments, program offerings for students at that level of proficiency will be expanded, and ACE2 staff will focus on developing and improving instructional methods likely to be effective with this population.

  In addition to the observations of ACE2 employees, ACE2 solicits student feedback. Students are asked for suggestions during Orientation, Intake, and Assessment, as well as throughout the entire process, and a suggestion box is available for student submission. These suggestions are reviewed on a monthly basis and improvement changes are routinely implemented. Instructors also talk with students regularly to gauge their satisfaction with the program and discern new ways of meeting their unique needs.

Occupational Credentials

From July 2010 through May of 2012, Madisonville Community College has sponsored a Multi-County Coal Severance Tax Grant for WorkKeys testing of all trainees for the 40 hour Initial Underground and 24 hour Initial Surface Certification classes. Applicants from Hopkins County, Muhlenberg County, Ohio County, and Webster County are given the opportunity to attend classes, complete the training, and sit for the required Kentucky State Mining Certification test at no charge. Each month, eight (8) different classes with multiple times and locations in each of the four counties are offered to meet the area training need. Upon completion of each class training, with certification, the Workforce Solutions Department has administered WorkKeys Assessments for nine different profiled mining jobs. As of May 31, 2012, MCC has tested **3,335 trainees** for the three WorkKeys assigned assessments of **Reading for Information, Teamwork, and Observation**. Because only one of these assessments qualifies for the NCRC, (**Reading for Information**), we are unable to count this effort for the NCRC Attainment requirement criteria. Madisonville Community College profiled nine (9) mining job qualifications: Service Technician, Welder, Underground Mechanic/Technician, Surface Mechanic, Surface Operator, Underground Supervisor, Underground Operator, and Surface Supervisor, to help meet training and skills assessment needs for the West Kentucky Coal Mining Industry. Because these specific job qualifications were profiled and now assessed according to the WorkKeys profile recommendations, we feel this effort demonstrates a strong commitment to the local workforce and industries for meeting industry specific workforce skills assessment needs.

This program is well into its second full year and an application has been submitted to the state for another year of training, certification, and WorkKeys testing. The Workforce Solutions

Department of Madisonville Community College administers this program, and a database of scores for Initial Mine Certified Coal Miners is made available to all coal mining companies and employers.

A listing of industry recognized credentials awarded by Madisonville Community College since 2000 follows this narrative. A total of 4,009 credentials were awarded; breakdown is:

- 543 Associate of Arts Degrees
- 1,050 Associate of Applied Science Degrees
- 1 Associate of Applied Technology Degree
- 206 Associate of Science Degrees
- 1,932 Certificates
- 277 Diplomas

It is our commitment to be one of the largest employment industries in the West Kentucky area to train, certify and skills-assess all applicants to maintain a work ready workforce specific to this region.

Industry Recognized Credentials

Overview

A total of 4,009 credentials have been awarded to Hopkins county residents, ages 18-64, since 2000 by Madisonville Community College. (Source: MCC Institutional Research Office - PeopleSoft Student Data Tracking Records.) This represents the following breakdown:

- 543 Associate of Arts Degrees
- 1,050 Associate of Applied Science Degrees
- 1 Associate of Applied Technology Degree
- 206 Associate of Science Degrees
- 1,932 Certificates
- 277 Diplomas

A+ Certification	CERT	33
Accounting	CERT	4
Administrativ Health Unit Coor	CERT	1
Adv Practice Respira Therapist	AAS	22
Adv. Indust. Integr Technology	AAS	16
Advanced Business Admin	CERT	17
Agricultural Technology	AAS	11
Agricultural Technology	CERT	5
Air Conditioning Technology	AAS	2
C Welder	CERT	10
Art Teacher Education	AA	1
Associate in Arts	AA	348
Associate in Science	AS	193
Automotive Technician	DIPLOMA	1
AWS Nat'l Skill Stand Level I	CERT	1
Basic Business Administration	CERT	21
Basic Carpenter	CERT	10
Biology	AS	2
Bricklayer Helper	CERT	10
Bricklayer Trainee	CERT	4
Bus Tech:Accounting Option	AAS	3
Bus Tech:Management Option	AAS	8
Business Admin/Management	AA	2
Business Administration	AAS	59
Business Marketing/Marktg Mgmt	AA	1
Business Transfer	CERT	12
Business, General	AA	5
CAD Technician I	CERT	2
penter Helper	CERT	17
Chemistry	AS	2
Child Care Assistant	CERT	52
Cisco Networking Enhanced	CERT	1

Clinical Lab Technician (INT)	AAS	24
CNC Machinist	DIPLOMA	12
CNC Operator	CERT	4
Combination Welder	DIPLOMA	2
Communications,General	AA	3
Computer Assisted Drafter	CERT	5
Computer Science & MathTeacher	AS	1
Computer Technician	CERT	2
Construction Carpenter	DIPLOMA	13
Construction Electrician	DIPLOMA	1
Construction Forms Helper	CERT	18
Construction Mason	DIPLOMA	1
Crim Just/Law Enforcement Opt	AAS	1
Criminal Justice	AAS	64
Criminal Justice Core	CERT	3
Detailer	CERT	5
Diesel Tech:Med/Hvy Truck Mech	AAS	1
Domestic Air Cond & Furnace	CERT	1
Drafter Assistant	CERT	9
Early Childhood Administrator	CERT	2
Elec Mechanic Apprentice (INT)	CERT	10
Electrical Motor Cont Level II	CERT	4
Electrical Motor Cont. Level I	CERT	2
Electrical Technology	AAS	16
Electrical Technology	DIPLOMA	2
Electrician Construction	CERT	17
Electrician Trainee Level I	CERT	17
Electrician Trainee Level II	CERT	4
Electrohydraulic Technician	CERT	1
Electronic Commerce	CERT	3
Electronic Tech Apprentc (INT)	CERT	4
Electronics	DIPLOMA	1

Electronics Technician	CERT	15
Electronics Technician I	CERT	24
ectronics Tester	CERT	37
Electronics Tester (INT)	CERT	10
Elementary Education	AA	20
Elementary Teacher Education	AA	118
Emergency Medical Technician	CERT	7
Engineer Tech Electrical Opt	AAS	1
Engineering & Electronics Tech	AAS	17
Engineering, General	AS	2
English & Applied Language Art	AA	1
Environment System Repair Hlpr	CERT	1
Environmental Control Sys Serv	CERT	4
Environmental Syst Repair Help	CERT	5
Exploratory Machining	CERT	19
Exploratory Machining I	CERT	8
Fine/Studio Arts	AA	1
Fire Chief	DIPLOMA	1
Fire Science Technology	AAS	1
Gas Welder	CERT	68
Gen Occupational Tech Studies	AAS	152
neral Business	CERT	19
Health & Medical Prep Prog	AS	1
Heat Ventilation Air Cond Mech	DIPLOMA	4
History	AA	5
Human Resource Management	CERT	2
Humanities and Social Sciences	AA	1
I&ET Fundamentals	CERT	6
IET Computer Aided Design Opt	AAS	3
IET Computer Maintenance Opt	AAS	1
IET Electrical Option	AAS	4
IET Mechanical Option	AAS	4
Ind Main Machinists Mechanic	CERT	4
Industrial Electrician	DIPLOMA	4
Industrial Main Elec Hlp (INT)	CERT	4
Industrial Maint Helper (INT)	CERT	3
Industrial Maint Mech Lvl I	CERT	10
Industrial Maint Mech Lvl II	CERT	3
Industrial Maint Trainee (INT)	CERT	6
Industrial Mainten Electr Mech	CERT	3
ustrial Maintenance Tech	AAS	8
Industrial Maintenance Tech	DIPLOMA	3
Information Security	CERT	2

Information Tech Fundamentals	CERT	24
Information Technology	AAS	28
Interdisc Early Childhood Educ	AAS	29
Interdisc Early Childhood Tech	CERT	5
Journalism	AA	1
Jr High/Middle Sch.Teacher Edu	AA	9
Kentucky Early Childhood	CERT	1
KY Child Care Provider	CERT	72
Law Enforcement Technology	AAS	1
Leadership	CERT	7
Machine Operator II	CERT	2
Machine Tool Operator I	CERT	10
Machine Tool Operator II	CERT	8
Machine Tool Technology	AAS	10
Machine Tool Technology	AAT	1
Machinist	DIPLOMA	14
Maintenance Technician I	CERT	4
Management	CERT	5
Mathematics	AS	1
Mechanical Drafter	DIPLOMA	5
Mechanical Technician	CERT	1
Mechatronic Operator	CERT	1
Medicaid Nurse Aide	CERT	742
Medical Information Technology	AAS	50
Medical Insurance Technician	DIPLOMA	4
Medical Receptionist	CERT	53
Medical Transcriptionist	DIPLOMA	5
Medical Unit Coordinator	CERT	43
Microsoft Networking MCSA	CERT	17
Mining Technician Assistant I	CERT	1
Mining Technician Assistant II	CERT	1
Mining Technician I	CERT	1
Mining Technician II	CERT	1
Mining Technology	AAS	3
Nursing	AAS	154
Nursing Integrated Program	AAS	147
Occupational Therapy	AS	1
Occupational Therapy Assistant	AAS	53
Payroll Accounting Specialist	CERT	1
Phlebotomist	CERT	3
Phlebotomy/Healthcare Worker	CERT	70
Phys Therapist Assistant-Opt 1	AAS	63
Physical Sciences, General	AS	1

Physicians Office Laboratory	CERT	38
Plumber Apprentice - 1st Year	CERT	5
Plumber Apprentice - 2nd Year	CERT	1
Plumber Helper	CERT	5
Plumbing Apprentice	DIPLOMA	4
Practical Nurse	DIPLOMA	81
Practical Nursing Integrated	DIPLOMA	47
Pre-Licensing Real Estate	CERT	15
Pre-Physical Therapy	AS	1
Production Line Welder	CERT	23
Psychology, General	AA	8
Radiographer	DIPLOMA	11
Radiography	AAS	68
Radiologic Technologist	DIPLOMA	9
Refrigeration Mechanic	CERT	1
Residential Carpenter	CERT	12
Residential Electricity I	CERT	16
Residential Electricity II	CERT	9
Residential Roofer	CERT	14
Residential Site Layout Assist	CERT	19
Respiratory Care	AAS	7
Robotics & Automation Helper	CERT	9
Rough Carpenter	CERT	12
Science Teacher Education	AS	1
Social Work	AA	3
Sociology	AA	1
Spanish Language & Literture	AA	1
Special Education, General	AA	14
Surface Field Mechanic	CERT	1
Surface Operator	CERT	3
Surface Supervisor	CERT	2
Surgical First Assisting	AAS	2
Surgical First Assisting	CERT	50
Surgical Technologist	DIPLOMA	38
Surgical Technology	AAS	17
Tack Welder	CERT	6
Team Leadership	CERT	2
Underground Mechanic/Electric	CERT	1
Underground Operator	CERT	19
Underground Supervisor	CERT	1
Welder Helper	CERT	18
Unidentified Certificates	CERT	6
Unidentified Diplomas	DIPLOMA	14

COMMUNITY COMMITMENT

Hopkins County has a strong community commitment for the Work Ready Community initiative. The goal was to educate the community on the initiative and to involve as many key people as possible to begin and sustain the work on each of the initiatives. The following timeline will attest to the community's awareness and support of the effort to become a Certified Work Ready Community.

- October 31, 2011 - Meeting held to explore the Work Ready Community initiative. Attendees were in agreement to pursue the initiative. Individuals were to be identified for the Local Application Committee (aka Work Ready Community Taskforce) and for the committees addressing each of the criteria. (Appendix Item #1)

- January 6, 2012 - Tom West, Executive Director of the Kentucky Workforce Investment Board, and Joseph L. Paul, NCRC Coordinator – Office of Employment & Training were the guest speakers for annual spring semester kick-off session for Madisonville Community College employees. There were approximately 178 people in attendance. PowerPoint presentations were utilized to introduce the Work Ready Community initiative and to share information about NCRC. (Appendix Item #2)

- January 18, 2012 – A Work Ready Community information luncheon was held on the 8th Floor of Trover Tower. Event sponsors were:
    - Office of the Hopkins County Judge Executive
    - City of Madisonville
    - Madisonville-Hopkins County Economic Development Corporation
    - Madisonville-Hopkins County Chamber of Commerce
    - Hopkins County Schools
    - Dawson Springs Independent School System
    - Madisonville Community College
    - Murray State University-Madisonville Regional Campus
    - Trover Health System
    - West Kentucky Workforce Board

  Informative presentations were delivered by Tom West, Executive Director of the Kentucky Workforce Investment Board, and Joseph L. Paul, NCRC Coordinator – Office of Employment & Training to approximately 70 people in attendance. At the conclusion of the presentations, the Mayor of Madisonville, the Hopkins County Judge Executive, as well as, representatives from the Madisonville-Hopkins County Economic Development Corporation and the Madisonville-Hopkins County Chamber of Commerce endorsed the Work Ready Community initiative for Hopkins County.

  Hopkins County Work Ready Community Survey cards were available at each table; 27 response cards were completed indicating support of the initiative and/or requesting

additional information about adding NCRC as a hiring process component. Responses were utilized to compile the Work Ready Community Criteria Committees. (Appendix Item #3)

- January 19, 2012 – The Messenger published a front page article about the Work Ready Community initiative. (Appendix Item #4)

- January 27, 2012 – The first meeting of the Work Ready Community criteria committee chairs was held. Chairs were identified as:
    - Graduation Rate – Jason Clark, Hopkins County Schools
    - NCRC – Mike Davenport, Britney Mitchell, Madisonville Community College; Stan Hill, Office of Employment and Training
    - Community Commitment – Joyce Riggs, Madisonville Community College
    - Educational Attainment – Heather Roy, MSU-Madisonville; Jay Parrent, Madisonville Community College
    - Soft Skills Measurement – Dr. Susan Edington, MSU-Madisonville.

  Composition of each criteria committee was reviewed; discussions on the initiative and the application submission process were held. Target submission date was identified as June 11, 2012. (Appendix Item #5)

- February 2, 2012 – The Madisonville-Hopkins County Chamber of Commerce Annual Luncheon and Awards Presentation event was held at Covenant Community Church. Tom West, Executive Director of the Kentucky Workforce Investment Board, was the keynote speaker on the topic of becoming a Work Ready Community. There were approximately 250 community and business leaders in attendance. Ron Sanders of SurfKY.com posted an article highlighting the event. (Appendix Item #6)

- February 21, 2012 – A Kentucky Certified Work Ready Community Hopkins County Project Update was distributed to the members of the Madisonville-Hopkins County Chamber of Commerce Board during its regular meeting. (Appendix Item #7)

- February 22, 2012 – A Work Ready Community application update was sent via email to the criteria committee chairs outlining the initiative's proposed plan/structure. (Appendix Item #8)

- March 16, 2012 – The Criteria Committee Chairs met at 11 a.m. in room 308/JHG on MCC's North Campus. Chairs reported on the progress of their respective committees. (Appendix Item #9)

- March 16, 2012 – The Work Ready Community Local Application Committee (aka Taskforce) met at 1 p.m. in the Madisonville Mayor's Office conference room. Chairs of the Community Commitment and Educational Attainment committees provided updates of their respective committee's progress. (Appendix Item #10)

- March 25, 2012 – The Messenger published a second front page article titled "Team Effort Drive Work Ready Bid." (Appendix Item #11)

- March 27, 2012 – The Madisonville-Hopkins County Economic Development Corporation Board passed a resolution endorsing the Work Ready Community initiative and providing a letter of commitment. A group photo was made following the meeting. (Appendix Item #12)

- April 9, 2012 – National Career Readiness Certificate testing began at four locations – MCC Assessment Center, Office of Employment & Training, MCC Workforce Solutions, and JobNet Career Center. An NCRC brochure was developed and widely distributed to provide information and benefits of earning the NCRC as well as information on the testing dates, times, and locations. (Appendix Item #13)

- April 20, 2012 - The Work Ready Community Local Application Committee (aka Taskforce) met at 1 p.m. in the Madisonville Mayor's Office conference room. Progress reports from the Graduation Rate, NCRC, and Soft Skills Measurement committees were provided. (Appendix Item #14)

- April 30, 2012 - Cindy Fiorella from the Workforce Solutions Department at Owensboro Community & Technical College (OCTC) met with a group of individuals to share how Daviess County changed the culture of the community concerning the NCRC and OCTC's role. Attending this information session were Mike Davenport, Dr. Susan Edington, Stan Hill, Britney Mitchell, Ann Oldham, Jay Parrent, Sheri Plain, Dr. Judy Rhoads, Ken Robinson, Heather Roy, and Aggie West.

- May 1, 2012 - The Criteria Committee Chairs met at 3 p.m. in room 308/JHG on MCC's North Campus. Chairs reported on the progress of their respective committees. (Appendix Item #15)

- May 10, 2012 – Dr. Judy Rhoads met with members of the 2012-2013 Madisonville Community College Work Ready Community committee. Information was shared on the focus of the initiative, NCRC, and increasing the educational level of the region. The committee will meet again in August to begin its work to move the Work Ready Community initiative forward in Hopkins County. Attending were Christy Adkins, Jake Hildebrant, Felecia Johnson, Matt Luckett, Temesia Perdue, Kim Simons, and Debbie Wright.

- May 15, 2012 – The 10th Annual Job Expo was held in the Brown Badgett, Sr. Energy & Advanced Technology Center on the campus of Madisonville Community College. An estimated 50 employers and college representatives participated. Individuals looking for work had an opportunity to meet employers, attend job search strategies workshops, and question/answer sessions. Employers accepted resume and some on-site interviews were

conducted. Information about NCRC, testing dates, and location was also available. (Appendix Item #16)

- May 31, 2012 – The Messenger published a third article on the progress of the Work Ready Community application titled "Work Ready Application Nearly Complete." (Appendix Item #17)

- June 11, 2012 – Target date for Work Ready Community application submission.

Community Commitment Appendix

Appendix Item	
1	Work Ready Community Exploration Meeting Minutes
2	Madisonville Community College Spring 2012 Kick-Off agenda and attendee list
3	Work Ready Community Luncheon agenda, pictures, attendee list, and Hopkins County Work Ready Community Survey card
4	The Messenger article: Initiative designed to aid quality of local work force
5	Work Ready Community Criteria Committee Chair Meeting minutes, committee composition list
6	Madisonville-Hopkins County Chamber of Commerce Annual Luncheon and Awards Presentation agenda, SurfKy.com news article
7	Hopkins County Project Update prepared for Madisonville-Hopkins County Chamber of Commerce Board
8	Work Ready Community Update
9	Work Ready Community Criteria Committee Chair meeting minutes
10	Work Ready Community Local Application Committee meeting minutes
11	The Messenger article: Team effort drive Work Ready bid
12	Picture of endorsement by Madisonville-Hopkins County Economic Development Corporation
13	NCRC brochure
14	Work Ready Community Local Application Committee meeting minutes
15	Work Ready Community Criteria Committee Chair meeting minutes
16	Job Expo 2012 flyer
17	The Messenger article: Work ready application nearly complete

Work Ready Community Exploration Meeting

Meeting Minutes

October 31, 2011

Present:

- Cris Crowley, Madisonville Community College Adult Education Director
- Mike Davenport, Madisonville Community CollegeWorkforce Solutions Director
- Stan Hill, Office of Employment and Training
- Don Howerton, Associate, Performance & Accountability, Kentucky Adult Education
- David Jackson, Mayor of Madisonville
- Dr. Judy Rhoads, Madisonville Community College President
- Heather Roy, Murray State University-Madisonville Regional Campus
- Michael Wortham, Madisonville-Hopkins County Economic Development Corporation, Inc.

I. Announcements

Dr. Rhoads thanked everyone for attending and distributed copies of the Application Package entitled "Work Read Communities" to each attendee. Dr.Rhoads then shared a powerpoint presentation on the proposed project.

II. Discussion

A discussion ensued on each of the criteria for the Work Ready Community Project. Heather Roy mentioned that the way high school graduation rates are measured will be revised in the coming year. Participants agreed that the criteria hardest for the county to meet would be the educational attainment at 25% being 3.5% short of the goal, the National Career Readiness Certificate numbers, and Internet availability within the county.

The discussion continued and focused on ideas for getting business and industry to buy into the NCRC certificates, and also ways of giving recognition to specific businesses and industry participants for adopting the NCRC. Currently the Office of Employment offers the NCRC test at $32 while the college charges $55. All agreed that a visit from Tom West (Statewide WIA Coordinator) to SHRM and MAMA could be helpful in getting more individuals involved in the NCRC and the project as a whole. Mayor Jackson suggested appointing task forces for each of the major areas as they relate to the criteria, and that a steering committee be appointed in relation to the overall project. The group agreed that the Chamber of Commerce, City, County and Economic Development groups should lead the charge in this effort, and meet to decide the next steps.

With no other business, Dr. Rhoads adjourned the meeting.

Next meeting: Friday, January 27, 2012

Appendix Item #2

Madisonville

Community College

Spring 2012 Kick-Off

January 6, 2012 8:30 am

Quad Room

Brown Badgett, Sr. Energy & Advanced Technology Center

8:00 am	Continental Breakfast
8:30 am	Welcome & Announcements President's Report Facilities Master Plan 2011-2061
9:30 am	Work Ready Community Presentation

- Thomas M. West
  Executive Director
  Kentucky Workforce Investment Board

- Joseph L. Paul
  NCRC Coordinator
  Office of Employment & Training

11:00 am	Next Steps
11:30 am	Adjourn

Spring All Employee Kick-Off
January 6, 2012

Adams, Sara L	Sara B Adams
Adkins, Christy S.	Christy S
Allen, Betsy	Betsy Allen
Allen, E Shannon	Shannon Allen
Allen, Sharon K	Sharon Allen
Alsip, David C	David Alsip
Anderson, David M	
Atcher, Leah A	
Ausenbaugh, Wes	Wes Ausenbaugh
Bailey, Amberly Brooke	Brooke Bailey
Ball, Teresa Kay	Teresa K. Ball
Barnard, Tonya M	Tonya M Barnard
Baughn, Carole L	Carole L Baughn
Beauchamp, Mike A.	
Bennett, Candace	Candace Bennett
Bennett, Denyse G	
Bennett, Tate R	Tate
Berges, Cherry L	Cherry Berges
Bidwell, Jeffrey L.	
Bidwell, Monica M.	M Bidwell
Billman, Karen Anne	Karen Billman
Birdsong, Ronnie D.	Ronnie Bird
Blumrick, Robert A.	
Bogle, Judy C.	Judy Bogle
Bowles, James H	James Bowles
Brown, Jawana M	Jawana Brown
Burton, Misty V	Misty Burton
Buskov, Kristie D	Kristie Buskov
Caskey, Ricky D	
Charbonneau, Penny A	Penny Charbonneau
Chumley, Dawn	Dawn Chumley
Clayton, Donald O	
Clayton, Paula B	Paula Clayton
Clayton, Wendy D	Wendy Clayton

Spring All Employee Kick-Off
January 6, 2012

Coffey, Angie S	
Conrad, Karol A	Karol Conrad
Cook, Ava M	Ava Cook
Cooper, Natalie F	Natalie Cooper
Cothran, Paul W	Paul Cothran
Cotner, Carol L	
Cotton, Kelly Sue	Kelly Cotton
Cox, Deborah M	
Crick, Roger D	
Crook, Bobby A	Bobby Crook
Crowley, Cris A	
Cunningham, Chet	Chet
Cunningham, MaLisa A	MaLisa Cunningham
Curtis, Lynn K	
Davenport, Michael A	
Davis, Marcella A	Marcella Davis
Davis, Martha A	Martha A. Davis
Davis, Reid A	
Davis, Sharon D	Sharon Davis
Davis, Timothy F.	
Deal, Andrea L	
Deal, Robert Michael	
Dean, Jack M	
Dixon, Aaron C	
Downall, Bradley K	
Downey, Corey D	
Duncan, Marlin D	Marlin Duncan
Edens, Kellie Brooke	
Edington, Danny R	
Edmiston, Brandi N	
Edwards Jr., Jack W	
Elder, Loretta J.	
Elliott, Elissa S	
Evans, Marcia L	

Spring All Employee Kick-Off
January 6, 2012

Faulk, Gloria F	Gloria Faulk
Fisher, Debra Gail	Debbie Fisher
Florea, Jeffrey M.	
Florea, Katrina	Katrina Florea
Fouse, Patricia	Patricia Fouse
Frasier, Donald F	
Fugate, Sharon J.	Sharon J. Fugate
Gallegos, Darlena	
Garrard, Diane E	Diane E. Garrard
Garrity, Savanna C	
Gary, Stacie L	Stacie Gary
Gibson, Tonia R	Tonia R Gibson
Gillaspie, E R	
Gooch, Joe T.	Joe T Gooch
Gootee, Ashley L	
Gordon, Richard M	
Grace, April M	
Hagan, Gregory D.	Greg Hagan
Hailey, William J	
Hall, Ronald W	
Hardy, Tammy M.	
Harralson, Connie M	Connie Harralson
Hawkins, Mark	
Hawkins, Elizabeth K	
Hawkins, Gail	Gail Hawkins
Hayes, Kelly A.	Kelly Hay
Heady, Beverly K	
Hernandez-Stevenson, Brittney	B. Stevenson
Hewell, Sherry D	
Hildebrant, Jacob M	
Hildebrant, Michael G	
Hill, Clarissa Rana	Clarissa R. Hill
Hofmann, M. Ann	
Howerton, Lisa A	Lisa Howerton

Spring All Employee Kick-Off
January 6, 2012

Hughes, Thomas E	
Humphreys, George G	
Janssen, Mary E.	
Jernigan, Dianne H.	
Jessup, Penny D	
Jewell, Gregory W	
Jewell, Patricia L	
Johnson, Felecia K	
Johnson, Kelli E	
Johnson, Lori	
Johnson, Michael L	
Johnson, Timothy W	
Jones, Joey R	
Jones, Sara Jane	
Joseph, Julia M.	
Kington, Cynthia R	
Knott, Danny B	
Lange, Paula Louise	
Latham, Dawn	
Lawrence, Octavia A	
Lear, Elyssa G	
Lear, Tracie D	
Leasure, Anna R	
Lee, Lisa E	
Lewis, Russ	
Lingle, Scott C	
Littlehale, Tracy	
Lomache, Donald A.	
Long, Nancy R	
Long, Teresa A.	
Lowbridge, John	
Luckett, Matthew S	
Lutz, Rebecca Faith	
Magee, Colin Patrick	

Spring All Employee Kick-Off
January 6, 2012

Majors, Martha A	
Marks, Thomas E	
Matheny, Nena I	
Matthews, Deborah A	
McClearn, Nancy J.	
McCoy, Barbara J	
McGregor-Mullen, Abby	
Melton, Chandy D	
Minton, Carol A.	
Mitchell, Britney	
Mitchell, Judy	
Moore, Beth	
Morris,Vicki D	
Morrow, Kim L	
Murphy, David W	
Norton, Beth	
Nygaard, Timothy A.	
Oglesby, Sarah A	
Ordal, Kathryn K	
Parker, Shauna M	
Parrent, Jonathan V.	
Pendergraff, Paula J	
Perdue, Temesia D	
Peters, John E	
Peyton, Sarah R	
Pfingston, Joann M	
Phelps, Martha L	
Poole, Mary J	
Poole, Mitchell C.	
Qualls, Mary Kim	
Quisenberry, Michelle N	
Radford, Roshun	
Ramsey, Eric W	
Ray, Martine	

Spring All Employee Kick-Off
January 6, 2012

Reynolds, Dorothy L	Dorothy L. Reynolds
Rhoads, Judith L.	Judy Rhoads
Richardson, Casie L	Richardson
Richmond, Camille E	Camille Richmond
Rickard, Vickie N	Vicki Rickard
Riggs, Barbara J	Barbara Riggs
Rohatgi, Janardan S.	
Roy Jr, Lawrence	Lawrence Roy
Sandberg, Rachel M	Rachel Sandberg
Sasser, Cynthia J.	
Schuermer, David A	
Shifflett, Mike	Mike Shifflett
Shockley, Sonya Michelle	Sonya Shockley
Siddon, Tina M.	Tina Siddon
Simmons, Bob G	Bob Simmons
Simmons, Patricia L.	
Simons, Kimberly L	K Simons
Skeen, Amanda F	Skeen
Smith, Pamela S	
Stallins, Chantay	Chantay Stallins
Stanley, Kristal P	
Steele, Dorothy M	Dorothy Steele
Stewart, Mary Lee	Mary Stewart
Stout, Brandi L	Brandi Stout
Stutler, Timothy S	
Suhre, Sandra K	Sandra Suhre
Summerford, Jenny	
Summers, Anita	Anita Summers
Talukdar, Aseem	Aseem
Tapp, Karyn Renee	
Tarter, Retha C	
Taylor, Jessica L	Jessica Taylor
Taylor, Stephanie A.	Stephanie Taylor
Terry, Rachel E	Elaine Terry

Spring All Employee Kick-Off
January 6, 2012

Todd, Sherri D	
Trice,Timothy P	
Vander Ploeg, Scott D	
Vaughan, Cathy Ann	
Vespie, Patricia K	
Wagner, Jeremiah S	
Warren, Roger D	
Weil, Melinda J	
Welch, Jennifer R	
Werner, Mary B	
West, Agnes R	
West, Marlena K	
West, Robin	
Wheeler, Jeremy M	
Wiles, Thomas Richard	
Wilkerson, Aimee Bullock	
Wilkerson, Michael D	
Williams, Sherraine P	
Wilson, Christina M	
Wilson, Lydia P	
Wilson, Vincent C	
Witt, Tiffanie L	
Wolfe, Randy	
Wolfe, Valerie J	
Woodall, Chris	
Woodall, Kimberly D	
Woodall, Marsha D	
Wortham,Toni C	
Wright, Debbie L	
Wright, May F	
Young, Casey R	
Young, Patricia A	

Appendix Item #3

Work Ready Community Luncheon

Wednesday, January 18, 2012
11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.
8th floor – Trover Tower

Agenda

Welcome	Mayor David Jackson City of Madisonville
	Judge Donald E. Carroll Hopkins County Judge Executive
Introduction of Speakers	Dr. Judith L. Rhoads President Madisonville Community College
Presentations	Tom West Executive Director Kentucky Workforce Investment Board
	Joseph Paul Coordinator National Career Readiness Certification Program
Q & A Session	
Next Steps	Dr. Judith L. Rhoads

Sponsored by

Office of the Hopkins County Judge Executive
City of Madisonville
Madisonville-Hopkins County Economic Development Corporation
Madisonville-Hopkins County Chamber of Commerce
Dawson Springs Independent School System
Hopkins County Schools
Madisonville Community College
Murray State University-Madisonville Regional Campus
Trover Health System
West Kentucky Workforce Board

WORK READY COMMUNITY LUNCHEON

January 18, 2012

Guest Speakers:
Tom West, Executive Director, Kentucky Workforce Investment Board
Joseph Paul, Coordinator, National Career Readiness Certification Program

Work Ready Community Luncheon

Wednesday, January 18, 2012
11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.
8th floor – Trover Tower

NAME	COMPANY
Linda G. Zellich	Hopkins County Schools
[illegible]	" " "
James L Steves	" " "
Lori Harrison	" "
Lonnie Strader	" "
Jay Parrent	MCC
Charlie S Beshears	Magistrate
[illegible]	Trover Health Systems
[illegible]	Fiscal Court
Susan Edenington	Murray State
[illegible]	MCC
Charlotte Jones	AACS
Aggie West	MCC
[illegible]	KCED
Peg Lindsey	Hampton Inn & Suites
K Simons	MCC
Aaron Johnson	Goldenrod Dairy
Dr. Judy Rhoads	MCC
Joyce Riggs	MCC
Doreen Dennis	The Messenger
Bill Smith	
William Coroves	Coroves Construction

- KCTCS Employees

Work Ready Community Luncheon

Wednesday, January 18, 2012
11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.
8th floor – Trover Tower

NAME	COMPANY
Suzanne Seder	McCoy & McCoy Labs
Bruce West	McCoy & McCoy Labs
Joe Paul	Office of Employment & Training
Sandra Stinson	Member TIB
Lee Locke	McCoy & McCoy Labs
Harriett Whitaker	Chamber of Commerce
Melissa Bond	People Plus
Ann Hill	KY-OET Madisonville
Bob Burn	Trover Health
– Bob G Simmons	MCC-City
Barry Mercer	Mayor Nortonville
Marcy Taylor	Hancock Bank
Tricia Noel	Hopkins Co. Tourism
David Lang	Trover
David Jackson	City of Madisonville
Bryan Adams	Carhartt
Kent Mills	Old National Bank
Dan Howert	KYA8
– Deborah McCoy	MCC
– Britny Mitchell	MCC
– Casie Richardson	ACE / MCC
Karol Welch	Ho. Co. Magistrate

Work Ready Community Luncheon

Wednesday, January 18, 2012
11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.
8th floor – Trover Tower

NAME	COMPANY
Rudy G Stone	City of Madisonville
Donald E Carney	Hopkins Co
Alexis Seymore	Dawson Springs Schools
Ann Oldham	WKWIB
[illegible]	City of Madisonville
Lewis B Young	Old National Bank
Kent Wade	Ruby Concrete
Hannah Myers	City of Madisonville
[illegible]	Madisonville Community College
Gerald Cook	EDC
Pat Vincent	Daymar College
Heather Roy	MSU
Lori Wilson	Audubon Area Community Services
Karen Glenn	First United Bank
Teresa Levesque	Daymar
Rachel A Lanville	CARHARTT
Tom West	KWIB
	* Several attendees failed to sign-in.

Hopkins County Work Ready Community Survey – January 2012

Name: _____ Email Address _____

Company: _____ Phone: _____

_____ I am committed to making Hopkins County a Work Ready Community and will support the initiative through letter writing and other activities.

_____ I would like additional information about the Work Ready Community program.

_____ I am interested in serving on a committee to develop Work Ready Community criteria/goals in the following area(s):

- ☐ *Graduation Rates*
- ☐ *Educational Attainment*
- ☐ *NCRC Certified Holders*
- ☐ *Soft Skills Measurement*
- ☐ *Community Commitment*
- ☐ *Availability of Internet*

_____ My company would consider adopting the NCRC as a component in our hiring process.
☐ I would like to schedule a time to learn more about NCRC.

_____ I am agreeable to conducting an educational assessment of current employees and encouraging higher education.

_____ My company _____ currently offers _____ or would consider offering tuition assistance to employees seeking higher education.

Comments:

_____

_____

_____

_____

The Messenger

LOCAL NEWS

Initiative designed to aid quality of local work force

Print Page

By Doreen Dennis, Messenger Staff Writer, ddennis@the-messenger.com

Published: Thursday, January 19, 2012 8:08 AM CST

Economic developers, educators, employers and leaders in Hopkins County are taking steps to improve the quality of its work force.

Area professionals and leaders gathered for a Kentucky Work Ready Communities luncheon at Trover Tower for an introduction from the Kentucky Workforce Investment Board and the Education and Workforce Development Cabinet Wednesday.

Dr. Judith Rhoads, president of Madisonville Community College, said it will take Hopkins County two or three months to complete the application process.

"We can be one of the first counties in the state to be a Work Ready Community," Rhoads said to the group.

The program, designed for communities to improve its work force through education, certifications and other credentials, is a key component in gaining a competitive edge over other areas to attract industry and grow economically.

Madisonville-Hopkins County Chamber of Commerce President Harriett Whitaker said it could work for the area because everyone works well together.

"Let's do it," she said.

Madisonville Mayor David Jackson said he is glad Hopkins County has begun the process.

"I wish we had started this 10 years ago," he said.

Tom West, director of the state's work force investment board, said he has presented the program to 30 counties in the state thus far and hasn't seen a bigger turnout than Hopkins County.

West said funding and budget cuts by the state and federal governments mean communities must take initiatives to build economic bases. Improving the workforce can generate good jobs and expand the quality of life for citizens.

Community agencies such as the college, schools, employers, job training and government can work together to keep costs down for testing certifications also, said Stan Hill, administrator of the Office of Employment and Training in Hopkins County.

The cost for a National Career Readiness Certification is approximately $55. It is a credential acquired by workers to verify their skills through testing.

see work/page A3

Six criteria the local community must meet to become a Work Ready Community are high school graduation rates, NCRC certified holders, community commitment, education attainment, soft skill development and Internet availability.

For every employer and economic developer, work ethics are a big deal also, West said.

Currently, Hopkins County has 324 NCRC-certified holders and has a goal of 5,000 certifications in the next three years.

Hopkins County exceeds the required 82.32 percentage rate for high school graduation. It almost meets the 90 percent criterion of Internet availability, which is at 86 percent, Rhoads said.

"Some of the criteria will not take long for us to meet," Rhoads said, adding that some of the goals will take more time.

Work Ready Community Criteria Committee Meeting

Meeting Minutes

January 27, 2012

Present:

- Joyce Riggs, MCC Director of Public Relations
- Dr. Susan Edington, MSU-Madisonville
- Jay Parrent, MCC Dean of Student Affairs
- Jason Clark, Hopkins County Schools
- Heather Roy, MSU-Madisonville
- Stan Hill, Office of Employment and Training
- Britney Mitchell, MCC Manager of Assessment and Testing
- Mike Davenport, MCC Director Workforce Solutions
- Dr. Judy Rhoads, MCC President

I. Announcements

Dr. Rhoads thanked everyone for attending and agreeing to serve as a criteria committee chair. The committee list was distributed for review. She shared that the committees are fluid and names could be added or removed at the discretion of the chair.

II. Discussion

The Work Ready Community application packet was distributed and chairs were asked to review the requirements for their respective criteria. The Powerpoint presentation delivered by Tom West at the January 18th community luncheon was reviewed. Dr. Rhoads stated that Hopkins County would possibly be applying for the Work Ready Community in Progress status.

Dr. Rhoads asked each chair to brainstorm a few ideas for their committees and to share with the group.

After discussing possible application submission dates, the group decided to submit their Work Ready Community application to the Kentucky Workforce Investment Board on June 11, 2012.

The next meeting of the criteria committee chairs will be Friday, March 16, 2012 beginning at 11 a.m. in room 308 of the John H. Gray Building on MCC's North Campus. At this meeting, chairs will asked to provide an update on the progress of their committees.

With no other business, Dr. Rhoads adjourned the meeting.

WORK READY COMMUNITY COMMITTEES

GRADUATION RATES		
Jason Clark-Chair	jason.clark@hopkins.kyschools.us	270-825-6000
Kim Simons	kimberlyl.simons@kctcs.edu	270-824-8639
Lori Wooten	lori.wooten@dawsonsprings.kyschools.us	270-797-3811
Sue Love		

SOFT SKILLS		
Dr. Susan Edington-Chair	sedington@murraystate.edu	270-825-4379
Alexis Seymore	alexis.seymore@dawsonsprings.kyschools.us	270-797-3811
Melissa Bond	mbond@peopleplusinc.com	270-825-8939
Lonnie Strader	lonnie.strader@hopkins.kyschools.us	270-825-6000
Teresa Lequesque	tlevesque@daymarcollege.edu	270-643-0312
Paula Pendergraff	paula.pendergraff@kctcs.edu	270-8248660
Dr. Beth Norton	beth.norton@kctcs.edu	270-824-8686

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT		
Heather Roy, Jay Parrent Co-Chairs	hroy@murraystate.edu jay.parrent@kctcs.edu	270-825-4379 270-824-8571
Linda Zellich	linda.zellich@hopkins.kyschools.us	270-825-6000
Bruce West	b.west@mccoylabs.com	270-821-7375
Mike Barton		
Harriett Whitaker	president@madisonville-hopkinschamber.com	270-821-3435

COMMUNITY COMMITMENT		
Joyce Riggs-Chair	joyce.riggs@kctcs.edu	270-824-8581
Mike Duncan	mkduncan@hopkinscounty.net	270-871-1680
Mike Franklin	mfranklin@madisonvillegov.com	270-824-2100
Pat Vincent	pvincent@daymarcollege.edu	270-643-0312
Sandra Stinson	Jimsandy1@earthlink.net	270-339-9869

NCRC		
Mike Davenport, Britney Mitchell, Stan Hill-Co Chairs	mike.davenport@kctcs.edu britney.mitchell@kctcs.edu	270-824-8661 270-824-1701 270-824-7562
Ann Oldham	Ann.Oldham@ky.gov	270-821-9966
Karen Glenn	kglenn@efirstunitedbank.com	270-824-1616
Aaron Johnson	a.johnson@ucmilk.com	270-821-7221

Appendix Item #6

MADISONVILLE HOPKINS COUNTY Chamber of Commerce

Annual Luncheon and Awards Presentation February 2, 2012

Welcome.....*Harriett Whitaker, President*

Invocation.....*Rev. John M. Thomas*
Christ the King Church

Introduction of Speaker.....*David Jackson*
Mayor, City of Madisonville

Becoming a Work Ready Community.....*Thomas West*
Executive Director, Kentucky Workforce Investment Board

Chairman's Remarks.....*Amy Sanderson*
2011 Board Chair

A Look Ahead.....*Mary King*
2012 Board Chair

Awards Presentation

Horizon Award.....*Lisa Moberly*

Small Business of the Year.....*Shelia Carter*

Business of the Year.....*Bruce West*

Educator of the Year
K-12 Division.....*Susanne Wolford*
Madisonville Community College.....*Dr. Judy Rhoads*
Murray State University.....*Dr. Susan Edington*

Ambassador of the Year.....*Andy Rideout*

Volunteer of the Year.....*JAT Mountjoy*

Loman C. Trover Healthcare Award.....*Allen Rudd*
Board Chair, Trover Health System

Corum Community Service Award.....*Rick Welch*

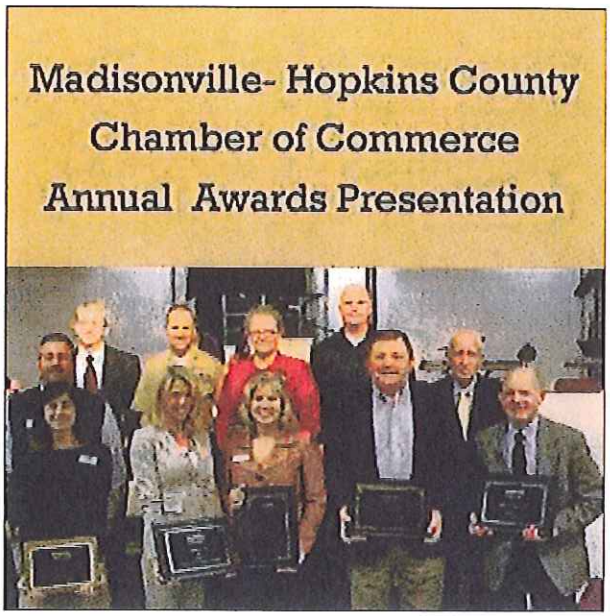
The Chamber gratefully acknowledges the support of Madisonville's Hampton Inn & Suites for this event.

The Golden Triangle Has Competition – The Black Diamond

Feb 03 | 08:57 AM
Last Updated on Friday, 03 February 2012 09:47

Ron Sanders

HOPKINS COUNTY, KY (2/3/12) – "If it were not for this chamber's supporting CLINK, there would not be I-69 shields up today, so keep pushing for I-69."



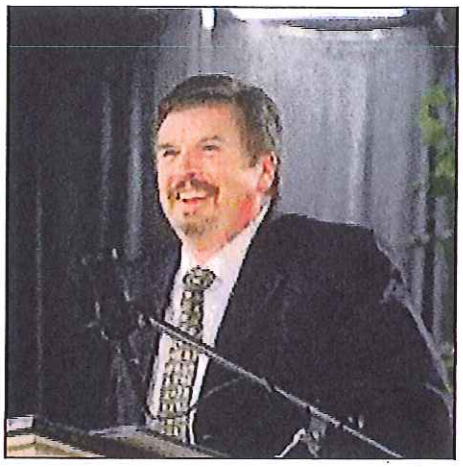
These were the words of outgoing chamber board chairwoman, Amy Sanderson president of People Plus. "If the Western Kentucky chambers continue to partner together – You've got Henderson to Hopkinsville and Paducah and the lakes to Elizabethtown and to me on the map it looks like a diamond – we should be the Black Diamond of Western Kentucky so watch out Central Kentucky and your Golden Triangle the Black Diamond of Western Kentucky is making changes."

Sanderson's (pictured below) remarks were part of the Madisonville- Hopkins County Chamber of Commerce Annual Luncheon and Awards Presentation.

Thomas West, Executive Director, Kentucky Workforce Investment Board, (pictured below and to the right) addressed the gathering of over 250 business, educational, and community leaders. West pointed out the list of criteria for community to become a Work Ready Community:

1. High School graduation rates.
2. Education attainment. A degree over high school indicates 1 million more in earnings.
3. National Career Readiness Certificate.
4. Soft skills – leadership – attendance – communications skills.
5. Internet availability.
6. Community collaboration to leverage shrinking resources for Work Ready

"The employers in your area will be competitive in the world because you have a skilled, smart and competitive work force." West said. He also said that Hopkins County officials have been working with his department and State of Kentucky to move the area ahead.



The Chamber also presented the awards:

1. Horizon Award presented by Lisa Moberly to Wendy Kolb, Giggles and Grins Consignment Boutique.
2. Small Business Award for employer under 50 employees presented by Shelia Carter to Kevin Cotton, Brother's Bar-B-Que.
3. Business of The Year presented by Bruce West to Armstrong Coal Company, Kenny Allen.
4. Educator of the Year presented by Susanne Wolford to Darryl Patton.
5. Madisonville Community College Educator of the Year presented by Judy Rhoads to David Schuermer.
6. Murray State University Educator of the Year presented by Susan Edington to Donna Crouch.
7. Ambassador of the Year presented by Andy Rideout to Shauna Parker.
8. Volunteer of the Year presented by JAT Mountjoy to Richard George.
9. Loman Trover Healthcare Award presented by Allen Rudd to Dr. William J. Crump, Jr.
10. Bill Corum Community Service Award presented by Rick Welch to First United Bank accepted by Karen Glenn, president.

Incoming chair, Mary King, reviewed the various committee functions for the upcoming year and development efforts going forward as well as publications developed by the chamber.

Surf Ky

Kentucky Certified Work Ready Community
Hopkins County Project Update

February 21, 2012

Under the Kentucky Certified Work Ready Community program, the Kentucky Workforce Investment Board will certify counties as Work Ready or Work Ready in Progress based on the following criteria. Earning this designation will provide tangible evidence to current and potential employers that Hopkins County has skilled workers and is committed to keeping them skills.

- **Graduation Rates** – 82.32% (calculated with the method used in reporting for the State of Kentucky)
  - *Current status:*
    - *DSHS – 72.22%*
    - *HCCHS – 83.21%*
    - *MNHHS 87.25%*

- **National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC) Holders** – raise the rate to 15% of working-age adults (18-64) within three years
  - *Current status – 324; need 5,000 in 3 years*

- **Community Commitment** – demonstrate true collaboration and progress toward achieving strategic goals that bring together education, workforce, economic development, and elected leadership.
  - *Current status – in progress; documented meeting attendance and participation needed*
    - *Work Ready Community announcement luncheon – January 18, 2012 (approximately 70 in attendance)*

- **Educational Attainment** – at 25% of working-age adults (18-64) with at least a two-year degree; increase to 32% within three years (Kentucky average) and 39% within five years (national average)
  - *Current status – 20.5% (2,485); need an additional 1,624 to reach 25%*

- **Soft Skills Measurement** – program(s) to address work ethic/soft skills development and credentialing for both the secondary school and post-secondary adult populations.
  - *Current status – in progress; enhancement of School Counts! program and other college programs*

- **Availability of Internet as an indicator of digital literacy** – 90% of households in community with Internet (4Mbps speeds) available; data must come from www.broadband.gov.
  - *Current status – 86%*

Work Ready Community Application Activities

- Local application committee formed; chairs are:
  - Graduation Rate – Jason Clark
  - NCRC – Mike Davenport, Stan Hill
  - Educational Attainment – Jay Parrent, Heather Roy
  - Soft Skills – Susan Edington
  - Community Involvement – Joyce Riggs

- Currently in process of gathering information; committee chairs will be meeting on March 16, 2012

- Next steps:
  - create plans and complete the required narratives
  - gather letters of commitment, meeting minutes, attendee lists, and signatures
  - complete the application materials and submit

- **June 27, 2012** - Two complete copies of all materials will be sent via US mail and one electronic copy of the application page via email to: Kentucky Workforce Investment Board – Attention: Tom West

Key Stakeholders

Office of the Hopkins County Judge Executive
City of Madisonville
Madisonville-Hopkins County Economic Development Corporation
Madisonville-Hopkins County Chamber of Commerce
Dawson Springs Independent School System
Hopkins County Schools
Madisonville Community College
Murray State University-Madisonville Regional Campus
Trover Health System
West Kentucky Workforce Board

Appendix Item #8

From: Wilson, Chris (Madisonville) Sent: Wed 2/22/2012 11:20 AM
To: hroy@murraystate.edu; Parrent, Jonathan V (Madisonville); Riggs, Joyce (Madisonville); Stanley3.Hill@ky.gov; Susan Edington (sedington@murraystate.edu); Mitchell, Britney E (Madisonville)
C
sent on behalf of Dr. Rhoads-Work Ready Communities
Message Work Ready Community Committees.docx (25 KB)

Work Ready Communities Update

Hopkins County
Date: February 17, 2012

I just wanted to send an update on the progress with the Work Ready Communities Initiative, and a proposed plan to put some structure to the initiative. If schedules allow, we can have another meeting or everyone can respond to this e-mail with suggestions or changes.

Committees Appointed

1) See attachment for the committee list. The chairs include Jay Parrent and Heather Roy (Educational Attainment), Jason Clark (Graduation Rate), Mike Davenport and Stan Hill (NCRC), Susan Edington (Soft Skills), and Joyce Riggs (Community Involvement).
2) The committees are to follow the instructions for application; determine what we are doing now, as well as plans for the future to meet the established goals.
3) Next meeting of the committee chairs is March 16, 2012 beginning at 11:00 a.m. in room 308 of the John H. Gray Building at MCC.
4) Chairs have access to the plans from Owensboro, Bowling Green, Woodford County, and Russell County.
5) Plan to be complete by June 22, 2012.

Task Force for Work Ready Communities

1) Possible members include; Harriett Whitaker, Judge Carroll, Mayor Jackson, Gerald Cook, Linda Zellich, Judy Rhoads, and???
2) Taskforce could meet on the second Friday of March 9, April 13 and May 11. In March, committee chairs for Educational Level and Community Support will give reports to the taskforce; April reports to be heard would be NCRC and High School Graduation Rates; May reports to be heard would be Soft Skills and Internet Capability. Task Force members may ask questions and give further ideas for the final document.
3) On June 25, 2012, the final report will be sent to task force members via e-mail for any changes or suggestions.
4) The final document will be sent to Frankfort on June 27, 2012.
5) In June, there could be a community celebration on Work Ready Communities.

Implementing change to meet goals

1) August – November—February and May written progress reports to go to taskforce members and committee members (emailed).
2) June—Report to taskforce and community on progress.
3) Continue making progress and celebrate our progress.

Work Ready Community Criteria Committee Meeting

Meeting Minutes

March 16, 2012

Present:

- Joyce Riggs – Community Commitment Chair
- Dr. Susan Edington – Soft Skills Measurement Chair
- Jay Parrent – Educational Attainment Co-chair
- Jason Clark – Graduation Rate Chair
- Heather Roy – Educational Attainment Co-chair
- Stan Hill – NCRC Co-chair
- Britney Mitchell – NCRC Co-chair
- Mike Davenport – NCRC Co-chair
- Dr. Judy Rhoads, Work Ready Community Local Application Committee Member

Next meeting: Will be scheduled via email

I. Announcements

Dr. Rhoads called the meeting to order and thanked everyone for attending. The Community Commitment and Educational Attainment committees will meet with the Task Force at the Mayor's office this afternoon to present their progress to date. The NCRC and High School Graduation Rate committees will present to the Task Force on April 20, and the Soft Skills and Internet Capabilities committees will present to the Task Force on May 11.

II. Discussion

Jason Clark shared that the High School Graduation Rate committee met two weeks ago. The committee decided the best way to improve the local graduation rates was to focus on plans and ideas to keep students in school. Following the committee meeting, Jason gathered drop out data from exit surveys and compiled the information into two reports; 2010-2011 and 2011-2012. While there were no major surprises in the data, Jason felt his committee could utilize the information at their next meeting to formulate a plan of action.

Joyce Riggs reported that the Community Commitment committee met on March 8. They reviewed the application requirement and identified individuals to complete a letter of commitment to accept the NCRC. The committee did question the legal implications for companies that accepted the NCRC. A suggestion was made that companies not commit to the NCRC but state that it is preferred. Included in the report to be submitted to the Task Force, the committee also discussed ways to raise community awareness. Suggetions included newspaper articles, Focus on Hopkins County (Tim Thomas), radio programs, Hot Topic Luncheon in June and utilizing social media. The Work Ready group suggested approaching MAMA and SHRM about voting to endorse the Work Ready Community and their efforts.

Heather Roy and Jay Parrent brought the group up to date on the work of their committee; Educational Attainment. Based on US Census data from 2008-2010 included in the report to be

submitted to the Task Force, the committee believes Hopkins County may already meet and/or exceed the 25% required of a Work-Ready Community. Also included in the report are the programs the committee identified already in place promoting educational attainment and opportunities the committee will focus on to raise the educational level locally.

Stan Hill began by sharing his committee's concern over the lack of understanding and misconceptions many in the business community share about the NCRC. The NCRC Committee feels that a luncheon for businesses in the area focusing on the NCRC and the benefits would be helpful. When the committee members met they pulled Owensboro's application and reviewed the requirements. The committee believes a window of opportunity is approaching to increase NCRC participation with the April-June push to offer free GED and NCRC testing. Advertising has already begun focusing on PSA's, radio spots, newspaper ads and social media all advising interested parties of the testing locations within the community, dates, times and points of contact. Mr. Hill agreed that the NCRC Committee and Community Commitment Committee need to coordinate efforts to gain support for the NCRC within the business community.

Susan Edington met with her Soft Skills committee and compiled a list of what was going on with soft skills and target populations. Within the high school population, the committee discovered that a questionnaire located in the students' ILP could be utilized. At the college level, soft skills could be part of the general education competencies listed on the syllabus along with a strong effort to inform faculty the committee's goals regarding soft skills. For the general population a workshop on soft skills could be offered at the Job Expo on May 15. Susan shared that there is a NCRC Plus that tests for soft skills, but it is in addition to the regular NCRC. A discussion followed on the commitment required by an individual to take both tests and the perceived benefits.

Dr. Rhoads stated the next meeting will be set via email.

With no other business, Dr. Rhoads adjourned the meeting.

Work Ready Community Local Application Committee Meeting

Meeting Minutes

March 16, 2012

Present:

- Dr. Judy Rhoads, President of Madisonville Community College
- David Jackson, Mayor of Madisonville
- Gerald Cook, Director of Madisonville-Hopkins County Economic Development, Inc.

Guests:

- Joyce Riggs, Community Committee Criteria Committee Chair
- Heather Roy, Educational Attainment Criteria Committee Co-chair

---

Dr. Rhoads called the meeting to order and thanked everyone for attending. Chairs of the Community Commitment and Educational Attainment committees presented their respective committee's progress to date.

Joyce Riggs reported that the Community Commitment committee met on March 8. They reviewed the application requirement and identified individuals to complete a letter of commitment to accept the NCRC. The committee did question the legal implications for companies that accepted the NCRC. A suggestion was made that companies not commit to the NCRC but state that it is preferred. The committee is exploring options to raise community awareness. Suggestions included newspaper articles, Focus on Hopkins County (Tim Thomas), radio programs, Hot Topic Luncheon in June, and utilizing social media.

Heather Roy reported on the work of the Educational Attainment committee. Based on US Census data from 2008-2010, the committee believes Hopkins County may already meet and/or exceed the 25% required of a Work-Ready Community. Also reported were the programs the committee identified already in place to ensure that Hopkins County residents have opportunities for advancing their education; programs identified were:

- Dual Credit Opportunities
- Workforce Transitions Program
- Academic Assistance/Tutoring Support
- Disability Resources
- First Semester Experience
- School Counts! Work Ethic/Scholarship Program
- Scholarship/Funding Support
- Flexible Learning Opportunities
- Murray State University – Madisonville Community College Joint Admission Program
- Credit for Prior Learning
- JobNet Employment Classes
- Transitional Education Accelerating Gains Program

Also reported were strategies adopted to continually place focus on the local opportunities for education at the associate's level and beyond; these strategies were:

- Individual Student Focus Based on Earned Hours
- Employer Focus on Tuition Waiver
- Finish It Hopkins County Campaign
- Murray State University Individual Student Evaluation
- Murray State University 2+2 Advising Sheets
- unsatisfactory Academic Progress/Financial Aid Alternatives

With no other business, Dr. Rhoads adjourned the meeting.

The Messenger

Appendix Item #11

LOCAL NEWS

Team effort drives Work Ready bid

Print Page

By Erin Schmitt
Messenger Staff Writer
eschmitt@the-messenger.com

Published: Sunday, March 25, 2012 8:07 AM CDT

Hopkins County is looking to become a Kentucky Certified Work Ready Community.

Meeting all the requirements for this distinction will be challenging, but one educators and county officials are pursuing in an effort to attract potential employers.

"To be a Work Ready community will be very important to the economic development of Hopkins County and add to the quality of life in our community, " said Dr. Judy Rhoads, the president of Madisonville Community College.

Judge-Executive Donnie Carroll, Madisonville Mayor David Jackson, Economic Development President Gerald Cook and the Chamber of Commerce have all endorsed the initiative.

The county hopes to submit an application for certification to the Kentucky Work Ready Communities review panel by June 27, said Rhoads.

The state certification sets specific goals that have to be met either prior to application or within three years, she said.

There are six criteria for becoming a work force ready community: graduation rates, national career readiness certificate holders, community commitment, educational attainment, soft skills measurement and availability of the nternet as an indicator of digital literacy.

The judge-executive's office has a project in place to address the Internet criteria, but each of the other five criteria are being studied in committees to help gather data and offer solutions to improve in all areas, she said.

The committees, in turn, report to the project's work task force.

"The committee chairs have done a great job," Rhoads said. "They looked in depth at what's already going on and given great ideas on what to do."

Graduation Rates Committee

The committee is looking at reasons why students may not be on track to graduate in four years, said chairman Jason Clark, who is also Hopkins County Schools director of secondary education and assessment.

When a student drops out of school, he or she must fill out an exit survey, Clark explained. The surveys include a list of reasons they are leaving school.

See bid/ Page A3

Looking over the data, Clark said his committee found that 42 of the 48 students who dropped out during the current school year did not participate in an extracurricular activity.

"That is a bit troubling," he said. "It just confirms what we've always known. The key to students staying in school is making them feel like they are part of something."

There were 14 students who said they had failed classes and that was the primary reason to drop out, Clark said. Twenty-one of the students had more than 20 absences in a year, and 35 had been suspended.

"The traditional reasons why students aren't staying in school is bearing out in our data," Clark said. "Now as a committee, we have to come up with a plan for students to stay in school and graduate in four years."

There are programs established like School Counts!, but the committee will be gauging their effectiveness, he said.

Getting students invested and interested in school is also an imperative.

The goal is to meet and exceed the graduation rate requirement of 82.32 percent to achieve certification.

Dawson Springs High School is at 72.22 percent, Hopkins County Central High School is at 83.21 percent and Madisonville-North Hopkins High School is at 87.25 percent.

Clark said his committee meets again in a few weeks to draft a proposal to submit with the application in June.

National Career Readiness Certificate

The National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC) is an ACT-sponsored test consisting of reading, applied math and location for information questions, said committee co-chairman Mike Davenport, director of the community and economic development department at MCC.

The certification meets the requirements for about 75 percent of all industries in the United States. This means that for all but 25 percent of employers, the NCRC meets the hiring requirements industries need for basic employees, Davenport said.

Kentucky has adopted the test, and as a result, every county must show that 15 percent of adults between the ages of 18-64 have received certification.

"We've got a long way to go," he said. "We're nowhere near that."

Hopkins County needs 5,000 adults certified in the next three years but has only 324.

The key to raising the number is getting as many industries and businesses in the area as possible to adopt the NCRC as a required skills measurement tool for employees, he said.

The committee has asked several businesses to do just that and haven't gotten any commitments yet but have spoken to several that are interested, Davenport said.

The test costs money, so the committee is also looking for grants to ensure businesses and their potential employees would not foot the cost, he said.

Besides industries, the committee is also looking to make it a requirement for high school seniors, those graduating from the community college, and unemployed people to take the test.

Community Commitment

Getting publicity for the project and educating the public is a key component to the community commitment committee, said chair Joyce Riggs, MCC's public relations coordinator.

The committee plans to reach out to the media like print and radio, as well as on social networks like Facebook and YouTube to get the word out, she said. In turn, that should help other committees move forward in the goals.

"It bleeds into all areas of that in just getting the support of the community behind the project," Riggs said.

The committee has also sought and received commitments from economic development, elected officials, educators, work force development, businesses and industries.

On the application submission, it must be shown that there has been a true collaboration and progress toward achieving strategic goals that bring together education, work force, economic development and elected leadership.

Riggs said the committee has recorded documentation of progress, including the minutes of meetings to submit to the review panel.

Educational Attainment

This committee's goal is to ensure that at least 25 percent of adults 18-64 have at least a two-year degree, said co-chairman Jay Parrent, MCC's dean of student affairs.

Within three years, the figure must jump to 32 percent to meet the Kentucky average and to 39 percent to meet the national average.

"Our numbers look promising now when we look at that," Parrent said. "We think we have a fairly high

percentage."

One report indicates that 20.5 percent of the county's adults have a two-year degree, but Parrent said the committee is studying if that data is accurate. They are checking the 2010 census to find out the latest percentage.

There are several programs in place to help people obtain two-year degrees, including MCC's work force transition program. This program takes professionals who are trained at their place of employment by the college's work force solution department and recruit them for classes that lead to a degree.

MCC also has a joint admissions program with Murray State University, Parrent said. The committee also plans to target people who have 45 hours of college credit, but no degree.

"We feel really good about what we have in place," Parrent said. "We've got some great ideas, and we are really focused on those adults who have hours to try to come back and finish their degrees."

Soft Skills

People have different definitions of what soft skills are, but the committee has identified them as attendance, punctuality, professionalism, dress, attitude, teamwork, cooperation and critical thinking skills, said chair Dr. Susan Edington.

Edington also oversees Madisonville Early Childhood and Elementary Education for Murray State University.

"It seems to be regardless if you have an advanced degree, employers are saying that graduates are missing the particular qualities they want," she said. "So these are the things we are looking at."

Soft skills are hard to address because they encompass so many areas, Edington said. However, the committee has found that local employers are using similar soft skills training.

While they were similar, they are not connected, so the committee will look to pull resource ideas and address social skills on a more global level, Edington said.

The county must show evidence of a soft skills program or progress for both secondary and postsecondary schools in its certificate application.

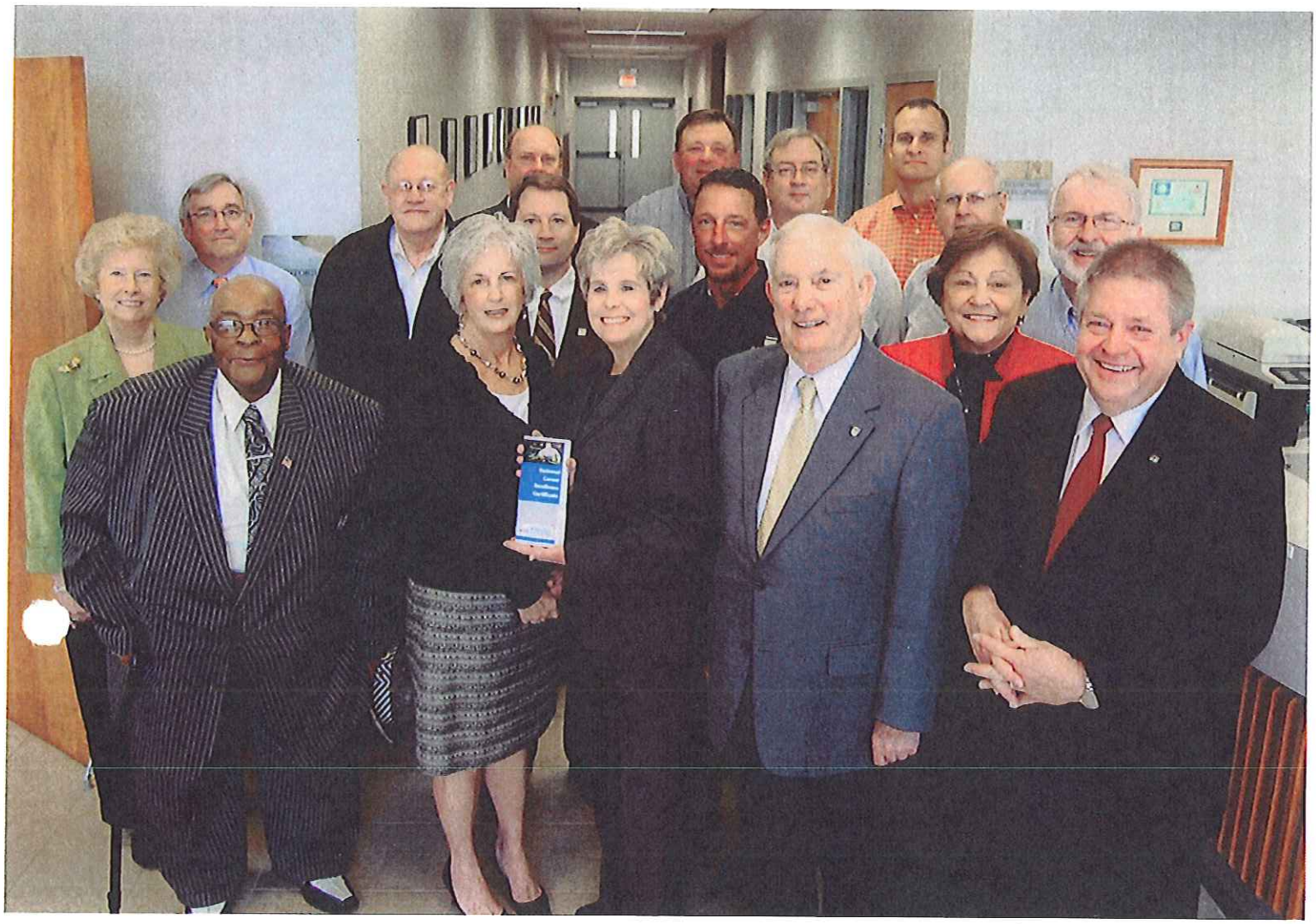
School Counts! serves as a way to promote soft skills for high school students. There is also a career fair planned in May that should expose soft skills to the general population.

Copyright © 2012 - The Messenger

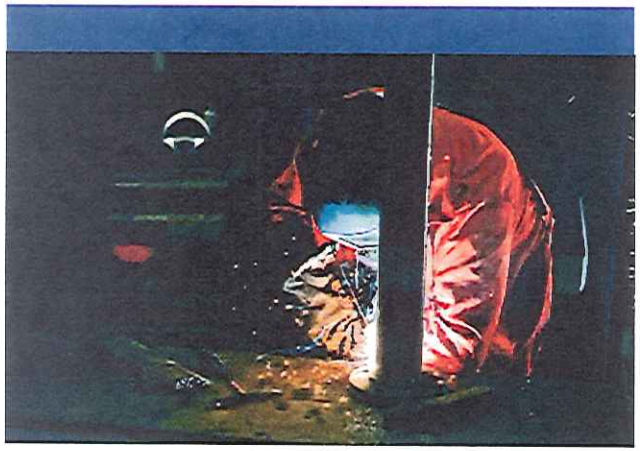
[x] Close Window

Appendix Item #12

Madisonville-Hopkins County Economic Development Corporation Board of Directors
March 27, 2012 Endorsement of Work Ready Community Initiative



Picture are (l-r): 1st row – Mayor Frank Stafford, Harriett Whitaker, Linda Zellich, Bob Simmons, Dr. Judy Rhoads, and Gerald Cook; 2nd row – Jenny Sewell, Joe Miller Judge Donald Carroll, Darren Brown, Kent Mills, Barry Vaughn; 3rd row – Steve Cox, Kenny Allen, Joe Evans, Skip McGaw, and Bill Corum



NCRC testing is held each week at the locations listed below. Please contact these offices for additional testing information.

Monday 1 p.m.- 5pm.
MCC Assessment Center
Britney Mitchell • (270) 824-1701

Tuesday 9 a.m.- 1 p.m.
Office of Employment
Joyce Wolfe • (270) 824-7562

Wednesday 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.
Madisonville Community College
Carol Cotner • (270) 824-8658

Thursday 9 a.m. -1p.m.
JobNet Career Center
Kim Buckman • (270) 821-9966

"The National Career Readiness Certificate is an excellent way to assist career and technical educators in preparing the current and future workforce. Developing a skilled workforce—one that has the ability to quickly adapt to new and changing workforce demands—is a primary focus of the career and technical education programs offered through the nation's secondary and postsecondary public schools. Identifying, quantifying, and assessing those skills necessary to prepare the workforce is critical to career and technical education."

Jan Bray, Executive Director
Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE)

More information about the NCRC is available at www.act.org/certificate/index.html

NCRC Testing

WorkKeys® is a job skills assessment system that helps employers select, hire, train, develop, and retain a high-performance workforce.

Applied Mathematics, Locating Information, and Reading for Information are three WorkKeys assessments that are the basis of the National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC) program. NCRC is a portable, evidence-based credential that measures essential workplace skills and is a reliable predictor of workplace success.

The NCRC has been adopted by:

- Manufacturing Skill Standards Council (MSSC)
- American Welding Society (AWS)
- Society of Manufacturing Engineers (SME)
- National Center for Construction and Engineering Research (NCCER)
- Center for Energy Workforce Development (CEWD)
- The Manufacturing Institute

For more information about NCRC testing:
Britney Mitchell
Assessment Center Manager
(270) 824-1701

Stan Hill
Office of Employment & Training
(270) 824-7562

National Career Readiness Certificate

Madisonville Community College | WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS
CUSTOMIZED EMPLOYEE TRAINING

KENTUCKY COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLL[illegible]TEM

What is the NCRC?

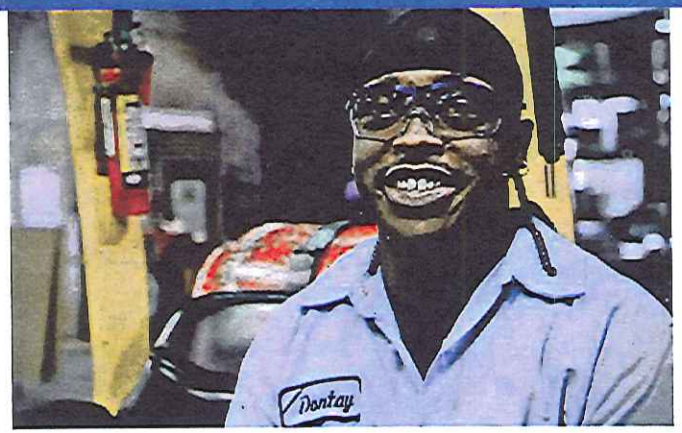
Employers across the country report that they are often overwhelmed by stacks of applications for only a handful of open positions. Sifting through these applications is time-consuming and inefficient. You need a way to quickly pinpoint individuals with essential, verifiable workplace skills. The National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC™) is your solution.

The National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC) is an industry-recognized, portable, evidence-based credential that certifies essential skills needed for workplace success.

This credential is used across all sectors of the economy and verifies the following cognitive skills:

- Problem solving
- Critical thinking
- Reading and using work-related text
- Applying information from workplace documents to solve problems
- Applying mathematical reasoning to work-related problems

MCC is an equal education & employment opportunity institution



- Setting up and performing work-related mathematical calculations
- Locating, synthesizing, and applying information that is presented graphically
- Comparing, summarizing, and analyzing information presented in multiple related graphics

Earning the Certificate

Individuals can earn the NCRC by taking three WorkKeys® assessments:

- Applied Mathematics
- Locating Information
- Reading for Information

WorkKeys assessments measure "real world" skills that employers believe are critical to job success. Test questions are based on situations in the everyday work world.

Benefits for Employers

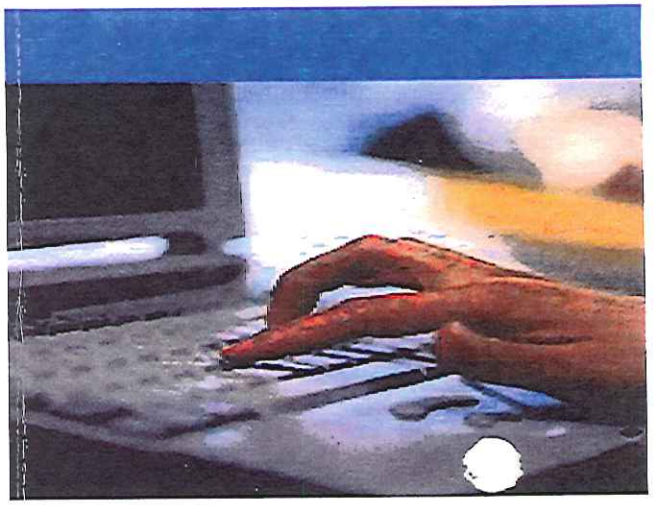
Employers can screen applicants and find the right workers for jobs at all levels, as well as make decisions about training and advancement of current employees.

A Proven Success

The Certificate is a proven, successful program because it is based on the WorkKeys system that employers have used for nearly 20 years to document real results, including decreased turnover and training time. Along with other education and background information, The Certificate serves as a valuable tool in making employment and training decisions.

Learn More

Take that first important step toward standing up for a skilled workforce at your organization by asking for The Certificate. Once you do, you'll be on your way to finding the most skilled applicants.



Work Ready Community Local Application Committee Meeting

Meeting Minutes

April 20, 2012

Present:

- Dr. Judy Rhoads, President of Madisonville Community College
- David Jackson, Mayor of Madisonville
- Gerald Cook, Director of Madisonville-Hopkins County Economic Development, Inc.
- Harriett Whitaker, President of Madisonville-Hopkins County Chamber of Commerce
- Mike Duncan for Hopkins County Judge Executive Donald Carroll
- Bert Whitaker, Trover Health System

Guests:

- Jason Clark, Graduation Rate Criteria Committee Chair
- Mike Davenport, NCRC Co-chair
- Stan Hill, NCRC Co-chair
- Britney Mitchell, NCRC Co-chair

Dr. Rhoads called the meeting to order and thanked everyone for attending. Discussion was held regarding the date to submit the Work Ready Community application packet to the Kentucky Workforce Investment Board.

Criteria committee reports were given for the areas of Graduation Rate, NCRC, and Soft Skills Measurement.

Jason Clark, Graduation Rate criteria committee chair, shared a synopsis of current data. Hopkins County's current Kentucky Average Freshman Graduation Rate (KY AFGR) is 82.25%, according to the 2009-2010 KY AFGR spreadsheet available on the Kentucky Department of Education website. Early identification measures, such as the Persistence to Graduation Tool (PTGT) and the Truancy Court Program, were discussed. Current interventions were also reviewed.

In the absence of the Soft Skills Measurement criteria committee chair, Harriett Whitaker presented the committee's report prepared by Dr. Susan Edington. Strategies currently underway include:

- Public Schools – School Counts, School to Work Career Education Initiative
- Colleges – General Education Competencies, Workforce Development Training, Strategies for Success Class, Retention Alert system, Flag system
- Governmental Agencies and Private Sector – Office of Employment and Training, County Government, Madisonville-Hopkins County Chamber of Commerce, Madisonville-Hopkins County Economic Development, People Plus

Mike Davenport, Stan Hill, and Britney Mitchell, NCRC criteria committee co-chairs, reported on their committee's progress. Total NCRCs needed for Hopkins County in the 18-64 employable age group is 4,853; total NCRCs reported by State website as of 3/31/12 was 220. Activities to promote the NCRC include widespread distribution of the NCRC brochure, company visits, participation in the annual Job Expo on May 15, 2012, and working with Hopkins County Schools to recognize NCRC as a required exit exam for graduating seniors. The Kentucky Employment Network-Career Centers offer weekly classes and the NCRC is part of the service.

With no other business, Dr. Rhoads adjourned the meeting.

Work Ready Community Criteria Committee Meeting

Meeting Minutes

May 1, 2012

Present:

- Joyce Riggs – Community Commitment Chair
- Dr. Susan Edington – Soft Skills Measurement Chair
- Jay Parrent – Educational Attainment Co-chair
- Jason Clark – Graduation Rate Chair
- Heather Roy – Educational Attainment Co-chair
- Stan Hill – NCRC Co-chair
- Britney Mitchell – NCRC Co-chair
- Mike Davenport – NCRC Co-chair
- Dr. Judy Rhoads, Work Ready Community Local Application Committee Member

Guests:

- Ann Oldham – NCRC Committee Member and West Kentucky Workforce Program Coal Program Liasion
- Ken Robinson - Muhlenberg Alliance for Progress

I. Announcements

Dr. Rhoads called the meeting to order and thanked everyone for attending. Dr. Rhoads shared that the application deadline is fast approaching. June 11, 2012 is the submission deadline for staff review and June 27, 2012 is the application deadline for the review panel. The committee agreed to have narratives submitted via email to Dr. Rhoads by May 31 for review. Once received, Dr. Rhoads will have David Schuermer align everything for final submission.

II. Discussion

Jason Clark shared the Graduation Rate Narrative with the committee. The narrative included a synopsis of the current data, early identification measures, current interventions and planned or revised interventions. The committee agreed the narrative was innovative, detailed, informative and organized. They commended Jason and his committee on their work.

Dr. Susan Edington distributed the Soft Skills narrative to the committee. The narrative contained current strategies within the public schools, our colleges and governmental agencies. The report then outlined new strategies to be adopted and existing strategies to be enhanced. All agreed this narrative was also detailed, informative and well organized. The committee was excited and impressed with the work done by the Soft Skills Committee.

Heather Roy shared that she and Jay Parrent had met with representatives from Daymar College and Lindsay Wilson. They found that each institution is targeting different areas of the population. Heather and Jay feel that a partnership with both institutions will help to finish Hopkins County's campaign.

Joyce Riggs said that her committee is still working to solicit letters of commitment. She shared that Erin Schmitt from the Messenger plans to interview Task Force members very soon for another newspaper article.

Mike Davenport gave the committee an update on the NCRC testing. To date, all four testing sites have administered the NCRC. A total of 49 people have been tested within the last two weeks. Mike shared that funding for the test may run out before the June 30 deadline.

Dr. Rhoads told the committee that Madisonville Community College added a Work Ready Committee to the list of internal service committees this year, and there was a lot of interest from faculty and staff at the college. Dr. Rhoads shared that the excitement and energy generated at the college level would be good to move the initiative forward.

With no other business, Dr. Rhoads adjourned the meeting.

Job Expo 2012

10th Anniversary

Where connections are made!

"ARE YOU JOB READY?" WORKSHOP at 11:00 AM

FACE to FACE Q & A Session with EMPLOYERS at 1:00 PM

PRIZE DRAWINGS EVERY HALF HOUR!

Come dressed to impress!

Tuesday, May 15th
10:00 AM– 2:00 PM

Bring copies of your resume!

Madisonville Community College

in the

Brown Badgett Energy and Advanced Technology Center

For more information contact:

JobNet Career Center 270-821-9966

Madisonville Community College 270-824-8648

Madisonville Office of Employment and Training 270-824-7562

MADISONVILLE HOPKINS COUNTY Chamber of Commerce

MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY

West Kentucky Workforce Investment Board

TROVER HEALTH SYSTEM

Madisonville – Hopkins County Economic Development Corporation — Unbridled Business Spirit

ACE² Adult Centers for Educational Excellence

Kentucky Career Center

Madisonville Community College — Higher Education Begins Here

Kentucky — Unbridled Spirit

Midwest KY SHRM

Appendix Item #17

The Messenger

LOCAL NEWS

Work ready application nearly complete

Print Page

By Erin Schmitt
Messenger Staff Writer
eschmitt@the-messenger.com

Published: Thursday, May 31, 2012 8:12 AM CDT

Those involved in making Hopkins County a Kentucky Certified Work Ready Community are putting the finishing touches on an application bid to the state.

Following months of preparation, the work task force overseeing the initiative plans to send off its application to the state by June 11.

The initiative is part of a concerted effort to let current and prospective employees know Hopkins County places a "very high value" on having the most qualified and best educated work force that it can develop, said Harriett Whitaker, Madisonville-Hopkins County Chamber of Commerce president and work task force member.

"I think that the testing process is a way to make us more competitive to most current and prospective employers because it demonstrates that people taking the test and passing certification have certain skill levels," Whitaker said. "I think that's a marketable commodity."

Madisonville Mayor David Jackson, a member of the task force, said he thinks the initiative will be viewed very positively by potential employers looking to locate in Hopkins County.

"It's another piece of the overall economic development perspective," Jackson said. "When companies compare Hopkins County to other communities, hopefully, this will give us a competitive edge to locate businesses here."

Designation as a Kentucky Certified Work Ready Community would just be one more plus for Hopkins County, said Judge-Executive Donnie Carroll.

Madisonville and Hopkins County governments are co-sponsoring the initiative, while Madisonville Community College and representatives from several entities have been doing the legwork through committees formed to help complete qualifications.

"We're just trying to work with everybody to see what we can do to make the county more appealing when people are looking to come in and locate their enterprise or facilities," Carroll said.

Graduation rates, national career readiness certificate holders, community commitment, educational attainment, soft skills measurement and the availability of the Internet as an indicator of digital literacy are the six criteria to become a work force ready community.

"Community involvement is such a big, big thing," said MCC President

See Application/Page A3

Dr. Judy Rhoads, a member of the task force. "So, the more people we involve, the more people get on board and do something about it."

There were five committees assigned to help gather data and offer solutions on how to improve in these areas. The judge-executive's office has a project that addresses the Internet criteria.

Each committee has already presented their findings to the work task force in a series of meetings during the past three months. The committees plan to submit their fine-tuned narratives to the work

task force today so it can be edited before the final application is sent to Frankfort, said Joyce Riggs, MCC's public relations coordinator and chairwoman of the community committee.

MCC has applied for a $250,000 coal severance grant in support of National Career Readiness Certification, which would pay for marketing materials and testing fees, Riggs said. The multicounty grant would benefit people taking the exam in Hopkins, Webster and Muhlenberg counties for a two-year period.

Since March, about 800 people have tested for National Career Readiness Certificate, said Mike Davenport, director of the community and economic development department at MCC and co-chairman of the NCRC committee for the project.

Hopkins County will need to have 5,000 adults certified in the next three years to meet the initiative's recommendations.

The state has set aside funding to allow people to take the test for free through the end of June or until the money runs out, Davenport said, adding there are still funds available.

Trover Health System, Alcan, Hopkins County Schools, Hopkins County government, Madisonville City government, MCC, Murray State University, the West Kentucky Investment Board and the Office of Employment and Training have all pledged to prefer NCRC applicants for potential employers and encourage current employees to take the test, he said.

"Trover Health System has been a big anchor for us," Davenport said. "They're going to allow us to NCRC assess most of their hourly staff. It's working out really well for us."

Trover's reasons for pursuing the certification are twofold, said CEO and President Bert Whitaker, who is also a member of the task force. Participating in economic development is good corporate citizenship and also reflects the health system's beliefs.

So far, 264 out of about 500 Trover employees tapped to take the test have done so. Another 163 employees are scheduled to take the exam, he said.

"We're getting a very good response and encouragement from our employees," he said. "It matches our value system to make sure our people meet minimum standards and exceed them when we can."

While several major local employers have agreed to back the NCRC certification by making it a hiring preference, Harriett Whitaker said she thinks it's critical that more employers buy into the process and commit.

An employer may check their files during the hiring process and see how the applicant fared on the NCRC. This could help with turnover at a later date, because the employer would have another means of sorting out who is ready for the job, Rhoads said.

Copyright © 2012 - The Messenger

[x] Close Window

Letters of Commitment

Madisonville – Hopkins County
Economic Development Corporation
Unbridled Business Spirit

Dear Work Ready Community Steering Committee,

Please consider this documentation of our commitment to the Kentucky Work Ready Community Program for Hopkins County. The Madisonville Hopkins County Economic Development Corporation commits to participate in the program, support the program and work to spread the word and to gain participation from others in our community.

In addition to the above, we are willing to participate by:

- Sending a representative to an annual strategic planning retreat for our Work Ready Community effort.
- Attending Periodic community meeting to discuss the program with others, and
- Accepting the National Career Readiness Certificate as a valid work readiness credential preferred in our hiring and / or promotions processes for employers.

Approved by Action of the Board of Directors this 27th day of March, 2012

Kent Mills
Chairman

Harriet Whitaker
Secretary

HOPKINS COUNTY FISCAL COURT

Hopkins County Government Center
56 North Main Street • P. O. Box 523
Madisonville, Kentucky 42431
270-821-8294 • Fax 270-821-8295
Email: judgeexecutive@hopkinscounty.net

JUDGE EXECUTIVE
Donald E. Carroll

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
Kim Blue

April 19, 2012

Work Ready Community Steering Committee:

Please consider this documentation of my commitment to the Kentucky Work Ready Community Program for Hopkins County, Kentucky. I, Donald E. Carroll, Judge Executive of the Hopkins County Fiscal Court commits to participate in the program. I support this program and will work to spread the word about this program and to gain participation from others in our community.

I am willing to participate by doing the following:

- Send a representative to an annual strategic planning retreat for our Work Ready Community Effort.
- Attend periodic community meeting to discuss the program with others, and
- Accept the National Readiness Certificate as a valid work readiness credential preferred in our hiring and/or promotions process for employers.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Donald E. Carroll

Donald E. Carroll
Hopkins County Judge Executive

MAGISTRATES

Karol Welch, District 1 | William E. Groves, District 2 | Christopher Toney, District 3 | Larry Wilson, District 4 | Shaun Roberts, District 5 | Charlie G. Beshears, District 6 | Maurice Wilson, District 7

CITY OF MADISONVILLE

David W. Jackson
Mayor

May 3, 2012

Work Ready Community Steering Committee:

Please consider this documentation of my commitment to the Kentucky Work Ready Community Program for Hopkins County, Kentucky. I, David W. Jackson, Mayor of the City of Madisonville, commit to participate in the program. I support this program and will work to spread the word about this program and to gain participation from others in our community.

I am willing to participate by doing the following:

- Send a representative to an annual strategic planning retreat for our Work Ready Community Effort.
- Attend periodic community meetings to discuss the program with others, and
- Accept the National Readiness Certificate as a valid work readiness credential in our hiring and/or promotions process for employers.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

City of Madisonville

David W. Jackson
Mayor

DWJ/ls

P.O. Box 705 • Madisonville, KY 42431 • (270) 824-2100 • Fax (270) 821-6161 • email: mayor@madisonvillegov.com
www.madisonvillegov.com

CITY OF DAWSON SPRINGS
200 West Arcadia Avenue
P.O. Box 345
Dawson Springs, KY 42408

DAWSON SPRINGS
KENTUCKY
A VERY SPECIAL PLACE

Jenny Sewell
Mayor
Janet M. Dunbar
City Clerk/Treasurer

May 31, 2012

Dear Work Ready Community Steering Committee:

Please consider this letter documentation of our commitment to the Kentucky Work Ready Community Program for Hopkins County. The City of Dawson Springs commits to participating in the program, supporting the program, and working to spread the word and to gain participation from others in our community.

In addition to the above, we are willing to participate by:

- Sending a representative to an annual strategic planning retreat for our Work Ready Community Effort;
- Attending periodic community meeting to discuss the program with others; and
- Accepting the National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC) as a valid readiness credential preferred in our hiring and/or promotions processes.

Sincerely,

Jenny Sewell
Mayor

(270) 797-2781 • Fax (270) 797-2221
City Web Page: http://www.dawsonspringsky.com
E-Mail: mayor@dawsonspringsky.com
Jdunbar@dawsonspringsky.com

City of Dawson Springs is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Kentucky UNBRIDLED SPIRIT

City of Mortons Gap

Mayor Frank Stafford
Vickie Marsh, City Clerk

May 31, 2012

Work Ready community Steering Committee:

Please consider this documentation of my commitment to the Kentucky Work Ready Community Program for Hopkins County, Kentucky. I, Frank Stafford, Mayor of the City of Mortons Gap commits to participate in the program. I support this program and will work to spread the word about this program and to gain participation from others in our community.

I am willing to participate by doing the following:

Send a representative to an annual strategic planning retreat for our Work Ready Community effort.
Attend periodic community meeting to discuss the program with others, and
Accept the National Readiness Certificate as a valid work readiness credential preferred in our hiring and/or promotions processes.

Sincerely,

Frank Stafford
Mayor

102 S. Main Street P.O. Box 367 • Mortons Gap, Kentucky 42440
Tel. (270) 258-5362 • Fax (270) 258-5006 • cityofmortonsgap@bellsouth.net

Linda Q. Zellich
Deputy Superintendent

Hopkins County Schools
Every Child • Every Effort • Every Day
James L. Stevens, Superintendent

May 30, 2012

Dr. Judith L. Rhoads
President's Office
Madisonville Community College
2000 College Drive
Madisonville, KY 42431

Dear Work Ready Community Steering Committee:

Please consider this letter documentation of our commitment to the Kentucky Work Ready Community Program for Hopkins County. Hopkins County Board of Education commits to participating in the program, supporting the program, and working to spread the word and to gain participation from others in our community.

In addition to the above, we are willing to participate by:

- Sending a representative to an annual strategic planning retreat for our Work Ready Community effort;
- Attending periodic community meetings to discuss the program with others; and
- Accepting the National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC) as a valid readiness credential preferred in our hiring and/or promotions processes.

Sincerely,

James L. Stevens
Superintendent

JLS/dt

320 South Seminary Street • Madisonville, KY 42431
270-825-6100 • Fax 270-825-6072
An equal educational opportunity employment institution

2000 College Dr.
Madisonville, KY 42431
Telephone: (270) 821-2250
: (270) 824-1866
..adisonville.kctcs.edu

May 29, 2012

Dear Work Ready Community Steering Committee:

Please consider this letter documentation of our commitment to the Kentucky Work Ready Community Program for Hopkins County. Madisonville Community College commits to participating in the program, supporting the program, and working to spread the word and to gain participation from others in our community.

In addition to the above, we are willing to participate by:

- Sending a representative to an annual strategic planning retreat for our Work Ready Community effort;
- Attending periodic community meetings to discuss the program with others; and
- Accepting the National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC) as a valid readiness credential preferred in our hiring and/or promotion processes.

If additional information or assistance is needed, feel free to contact me at 270.824.8562 or email judithl.rhoads@kctcs.edu.

Sincerely,

Judy Rhoads

Judith L. Rhoads, Ed.D.
President

KCTCS is an equal opportunity employer and education institution.

Madisonville
Community College

KENTUCKY COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM

MURRAY
STATE UNIVERSITY

Madisonville Regional Campus
2000 College Drive
Madisonville, KY 42431
270.825.4379
270.809.5469 fax

www.murraystate.edu

June 5, 2012

Work Ready Community Steering Committee
c/o Madisonville Community College
2000 College Drive
Madisonville, KY 42431

Dear Work Ready Community Steering Committee:

Murray State University is committed to participating in, supporting, and spreading the word about the Hopkins County Work Ready Community program. Through this initiative, Murray State University-Madisonville Regional Campus will continue to partner with other local education entities to support and educate our local workforce.

A work ready community will positively impact not only Hopkins County, but the entire region. Murray State University believes in strong community partnerships aimed at raising the educational level of the workforce directly impacting community economic success. In an effort to assist in this joint community effort, Murray State University-Madisonville will show support by sending representatives to the annual strategic planning retreat, attending community meetings and forums, working to encourage and produce career-ready, credentialed graduates, and will recognize and prefer the National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC) as a credential for our hiring and/or promotion process.

Murray State University-Madisonville is committed to the efforts of the Hopkins County Work Ready Community program. Should additional information be needed in reference to our level of support, please feel free to contact me at 270-825-4379 or by email at hroy@murraystate.edu.

Sincerely,

Heather Roy
Madisonville Campus Director

Equal education and employment opportunities M/F/D, AA employer

yourworld toexplore

West Kentucky Workforce Investment Board
300 Hammond Dr.
Hopkinsville, KY
42240-4929

May 29, 2012

Dear Work Ready Community Steering Committee:

Please consider this letter as documentation of our commitment to the Kentucky Work Ready Community Program for Hopkins County. The *West Kentucky Workforce Investment Board* encompasses the 17 counties that are served by both the Pennyrile and Purchase Area Development Districts. Hopkins County is one of those counties. Primarily, our goal is to support business expansion and retention by building a well-trained and skilled workforce in the region. Our participation and support of Hopkins County's application to be certified as a Work Ready Community or a Work Ready Community in Progress is yet another step in our attainment of this goal, therefore, we are completely committed to assist in achieving and maintaining this designation as "work ready" in Hopkins County.

In addition to the above, we are willing to participate by:

- Sending a representative to an annual strategic planning retreat for our Work Ready Community effort;
- Attending periodic community meetings to discuss the program with others; and
- Accepting the National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC) as a valid readiness credential preferred in our hiring and/or promotions processes.

Yours truly,

Clyde Elrod

Clyde Elrod
Board Chairman

◆ **Phone** 270.886.9484 ◆ **Fax** 270.886.3211 ◆ **Web** www.wkwib.org ◆
Serving the Pennyrile Area Development District / Purchase Area Development District

Pennyrile Area Development District

a regional planning and development agency

300 Hammond Drive, Hopkinsville, KY 42240 voice (270) 886-9484 fax (270) 886-3211

www.peadd.org email peadd@peadd.org

May 29, 2012

Dear Work Ready Community Steering Committee:

Please consider this letter as verification of our commitment to the Kentucky Work Ready Community Program for Hopkins County. Hopkins County is one of nine counties served by the *Pennyrile Area Development District*, which also includes Caldwell, Christian, Crittenden, Livingston, Lyon, Muhlenberg, Todd, and Trigg Counties. The designation of "work ready" is a perfect fit into our organization's mission of regional planning, community and economic development, and improving the overall quality of life throughout the Pennyrile area of Western Kentucky. We pledge to fully participate and support this endeavor in Hopkins County and assist in securing involvement from other stakeholders within the county and region.

In addition to the above, we are willing to participate by:

- Sending a representative to an annual strategic planning retreat for our Work Ready Community effort;
- Attending periodic community meetings to discuss the program with others; and
- Accepting the National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC) as a valid readiness credential preferred in our hiring and/or promotions processes.

If there are any questions or if more information is needed, please feel free to contact this office.

Sincerely,

Chris Sutton

Chris Sutton
Executive Director
chris.sutton@ky.gov

Adult Centers for Educational Excellence
100 School Avenue • Madisonville, Kentucky 42431 • 270-824-1821

June 1, 2012

Dear Work Ready Community Steering Committee:

Please let this letter serve as documentation of our commitment to the Kentucky Work Ready Community Program for Hopkins County. Hopkins County Adult Education, ACE2, commits to participating and supporting the program through outreach activities and student engagement.

Our commitment of participation and support will include:

- Committee representation;
- Attending and/or presenting the program at community meetings;
- Promoting the National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC) as a work readiness credential; and
- Providing training and remediation for NCRC attainment to adult education eligible participants.

We see the Work Ready Community designation as an economic development and educational tool that will help move our county forward.

Sincerely,

Cris Crowley
Adult Education Director

Cris Crowley, Director
Telephone: 270-824-1818
Fax: 270-824-1870

KENTUCKY ADULT EDUCATION LEARNING FOR LIFE

Madisonville Community College

MADISONVILLE
HOPKINS COUNTY
Chamber of Commerce

June 1, 2012

Dr. Judy Rhoads, President
Madisonville Community College
2000 College Drive
Madisonville KY 42431

Dear Dr. Rhoads:

On behalf of the board of directors of Madisonville-Hopkins County Chamber of Commerce, this letter affirms our commitment to support efforts toward certification as a **Work-Ready Community.**

As a member of the Work-Ready Community Task Force, I have served on two committees documenting our efforts toward achieving this status. I believe that there is widespread support among major employers to encourage their employees to earn the National Career Readiness Certification, and this achievement can only have a positive impact on our continued economic development and growth, demonstrating to current and prospective employers that we are serious about providing the best-trained workforce in the region.

The Chamber will serve as a partner in the process, to help make employers aware of the benefits to current and future work force, and to help residents understand how achieving NCRC status can only enhance their earnings and career mobility potential. We will also support efforts to encourage the Hopkins County Board of Education to make NCRC testing available to graduating students, to demonstrate that they are prepared to enter the workforce.

We will also participate in ongoing strategic planning and other efforts to encourage adoption of all requirements for earning and maintaining status as a work-ready community.

I look forward to continuing to work with the Task Force and see this as a tremendous positive step for our community!

Sincerely,

Harriett Whitaker, President

15 East Center Street • Madisonville, Kentucky 42431 • Ph. 270-821-3435 • Fax 270-821-9190

MADISONVILLE
READY. AIM. FUN.
HOPKINS CO. KY

Hopkins County Tourist and Convention Commission

June 5, 2012

Dear Work Ready Community Steering Committee:

Please consider this letter as documentation of our commitment to the Kentucky Work Ready Community Program for Hopkins County. The Hopkins County Tourist & Convention Commission commits to participating in the program, supporting the program, and working to spread the word and to gain participation from others in our community.

In addition to the above, we are willing to participate by:

- Sending a representative to an annual strategic planning retreat for our Work Ready Community effort;
- Attending periodic community meetings to discuss the program with others; and
- Accepting the National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC) as a valid readiness credential preferred in our hiring processes.

Sincerely,

Tricia Noel

Tricia Noel
Executive Director
Hopkins County Tourist & Convention Commission
hopkinstourism@newwavecomm.net

ASSOCIATED ENGINEERS, INC.
ENGINEERS • GEOLOGISTS • SURVEYORS

May 30, 2012

Work Ready Community Steering Committee
Madisonville Community College
2000 College Drive
Madisonville, KY 42431

Dear Work Ready Community Steering Committee:

Please consider this letter documentation of our support for the Kentucky Work Ready Community Program for Hopkins County. Associated Engineers, Inc. commits to participating in the program, supporting the program, and working to spread the word and to gain participation from others in our community.

We acknowledge the National Career Readiness Certificate, NCRC, as a viable credited tool for hiring and/or incumbent worker skills assessment.

Sincerely,

David A. Lamb, P.E.
President
dlamb@associatedengineers.com

Dan's Electric
2332 Simmental Street
Madisonville, KY 42431
(270) 584-5556
dan@dan-TheElectricMan.com

May 31, 2012

Work Ready Community Steering Committee
Madisonville Community College
2000 College Drive
Madisonville, KY 42431

Dear Work Ready Community Steering Committee:

Please accept this letter as verification that Dan's Electric supports the Kentucky Work Ready Community Program of Hopkins County. Dan's Electric is committed to supporting this program and participating in activities which promote this program to other businesses in Hopkins County.

Dan's Electric recognizes the National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC) as a viable tool for hiring and/or assessing the skills of incumbent workers.

Sincerely,

Dan Edington

Dan Edington, Owner
Kentucky Licensed Master Electrician # ME31098
Kentucky Licensed Electrical Contractor # CE31099

First United Bank
162 North Main Street • Post Office Box 1190 • Madisonville, KY 42431
(270) 821-5555 • Fax (270) 821-0010 • www.first-u-bank.com

May 30, 2012

Dear Work Ready Community Steering Committee:

Please consider this letter documentation of our commitment to the Kentucky Work Ready Community Program for Hopkins County. First United Bank commits to participating in the program, supporting the program, and working to spread the word and to gain participation from others in our community.

In addition to the above, we are willing to participate by:

- Sending a representative to an annual strategic planning retreat for our Work Ready Community effort;
- Attending periodic community meetings to discuss the program with others; and
- Accepting the National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC) as a valid readiness credential preferred in our hiring and/or promotions processes.

Sincerely,

Karen S. Glenn

Karen S. Glenn
President/CEO
First United Bank and Trust Company
270-824-1616
kglenn@efirstunitedbank.com

Goldenrod DAIRY FOODS
Quality Since 1927

U • C • MILK COMPANY, LLC

P.O. Box 400 • 234 N. Scott St. • Madisonville, Kentucky 42431-0040 • Tel. (270) 821-7221 • Fax (270) 821-7292

Elsie
Borden

June 1, 2012

Work Ready Community Steering Committee
Madisonville Community College
2000 College Drive
Madisonville, KY 42431

Dear Work Ready Community Steering Committee:

Please accept this letter as verification that Borden Dairy Madisonville / dba as Goldenrod Dairy supports the Kentucky Work Ready Community Program of Hopkins County. Borden Dairy is committed to supporting this program and participating in activities which promote this program to other businesses in Hopkins County.

Borden Dairy recognizes the National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC) as a viable tool for hiring and/or assessing the skills of incumbent workers.

Sincerely,

Aaron Johnson
Plant Manager

JENNMAR

Work Ready Community Steering Committee
Madisonville Community College
2000 College Drive
Madisonville, KY 42431

Dear Work Ready Community Steering Committee:

Please consider this letter as documentation of **Jennmar of West Kentucky's** support for the Kentucky Work Ready Community Program of Hopkins County. **Jennmar of West Kentucky** is committed to supporting this program and participating in activities which promote this program to other businesses in Hopkins County.

Jennmar of West Kentucky recognizes the National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC) as a viable tool for hiring and/or assessing the skills of incumbent workers. Please contact myself, Dennis Lear, Plant Manager, if I can be of further assistance. Our plant address is 860 North Sandcut Road, Earlington, KY 42410. You may, also, contact me at (270) 326-3640 or dlear@jennmar.com

Sincerely,

Dennis Lear

Dennis Lear
Plant Manager

PEBBLE CREEK
FAMILY DENTISTRY

May 29, 2012

Work Ready Community Steering Committee
Madisonville Community College
2000 College Drive
Madisonville, KY 42431

Dear Work Ready Community Steering Committee:

Please consider this letter as documentation of Pebble Creek Family Dentistry support for the Kentucky Work Ready Community Program of Hopkins County. Pebble Creek Family Dentistry is committed to support this program and participate in activities which promote this program to other businesses in Hopkins County. Investment in our community is an important priority for our business.

Pebble Creek Family Dentistry recognizes the National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC) as a viable tool for hiring and/or assessing the skills of incumbent workers.

Sincerely,

Ronald J. Segebarth, D.D.S.

Ronald J. Segebarth
Dentist

Ronald J. Segebarth, DDS • Suzanne S. Spencer, DMD • Timothy J. King, DMD
2100 North Main Street • Madisonville, KY 42431 • p. (270) 825-2686 f. (270) 821-7306
www.pebblecreekdentistry.com

PEOPLE PLUS INC
providing staffing solutions®

June 1, 2012

Work Ready Community Steering Committee
Madisonville Community College
2000 College Drive
Madisonville, Kentucky 42431

Dear Work Ready Steering Committee:

People Plus is in the business of meeting the staffing needs of business clients in the areas served by the Madisonville Community College. We must provide skilled, qualified, educated and experienced employees to our customers.

People Plus and MCC have a long history of working together on numerous projects to improve educational attainment for the students and workers of our respective service areas. People Plus and Ace² have teamed up and assisted many of our employees to pass their GED; and, many of those have advanced their educations further moving to high paying careers. This program continues in all of our office locations. People Plus has been proud of the accomplishments realized with School Counts and being able to work in a leadership role with that program.

Like School Counts and Ace², we support the Kentucky Work Ready Community Program of Hopkins County. The staff, officers and owners of People Plus are committed to supporting this program and participating in outreach activities to other businesses in Hopkins County. People Plus further supports the initiatives of the Work Ready Program in achieving a National Career Readiness Certificate and developing worker soft skills; such as leadership, attendance and communications skills. We also support fostering competition to improve Internet availability to all segments of our population.

Community collaboration is necessary to leverage shrinking resources for Work Ready. And community collaboration is necessary to better define the specific skill sets necessary for the productive citizen of the future. People Plus Inc. is glad we can help in this effort. Please contact me if you have questions.

Thank you

Sincerely,

Ronald L. Sanders
Executive Vice President

Madisonville (Home Office)
1095 Nebo Road
Madisonville, KY 42431

Henderson
316 3rd Street
Henderson, KY 42420

Paducah
2119 Broadway Street
Paducah, KY 42001

Central City
126 East Broad, Suite B
Central City, KY 42330

Lexington
1795 Alysheba Way, Suite 5102
Lexington, KY 40509

Princeton
110 W. Market Street
Princeton, KY 42445

Louisville Area
142 Buffalo Run Road, Suite E
Shepherdsville, KY 40165

RHOADS & RHOADS, P.S.C.

Attorneys At Law

9 East Center Street
Madisonville, KY 42431
TEL: 270-825-1490
TOLL FREE: 800-771-1490
FAX: 270-821-8512
EMAIL: info@rhoadsandrhoads.com

Jerry P. Rhoads
Thomas M. Rhoads
Bradley P. Rhoads*
Christopher L. Rhoads
*Also Admitted in Tennessee

OWENSBORO OFFICE
115 East Second St.
P.O. Box 2023
Owensboro, KY 42302
Tel: 270-683-4600
Toll Free: 888-683-4600
Fax: 270-683-1653

PLEASE RESPOND TO
MADISONVILLE OFFICE

May 30, 2012

Dear Work Ready Community Steering Committee:

We are supportive of the Kentucky Work Ready Community Program for Hopkins County.

We would consider the National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC) as a valid readiness credential in any future hiring process by our firm.

Sincerely,

Jerry P. Rhoads

ca

Ruby
CONCRETE COMPANY

P.O. Box 449
134 N. Dempsey Street
Madisonville, KY 42431
270-821-3870
fax: 270-821-3873
www.rubyconcrete.com

- *Concrete Blocks*
- *Brick*
- *Manufactured Stone*
- *Mortar*
- *Sand*
- *Portland Cement*
- *Bagged Concrete*
- *Retaining Walls*
- *Pavers*
- *Keystones*
- *Commercial Doors*
- *Hardware*
- *Marshalltown Tools*
- *Crick Levels*
- *Sealants*
- *Caulks*
- *Rebar*
- *Angle Iron*
- *Angle Iron Covers*
- *Masonry Blades*
- *Fireplace Accessories*
- *Expansion Joint*
- *Wire Mesh*
- *Block Insulation*
- *Foundation Vents*
- *Crawl Space Doors*
- *Anchor Bolts*
- *Concrete Lintels*

May 31, 2012

Work Ready Community Steering Committee
Madisonville Community College
2000 College Drive
Madisonville, KY 42431

Dear Work Ready Community Steering Committee:

Please consider this letter as documentation of Ruby Concrete Company's support for the Kentucky Work Ready Community Program of Hopkins County. Ruby Concrete Company is committed to supporting this program and participating in activities which promote this program to other businesses in Hopkins County.

Ruby Concrete Company recognizes the National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC) as a viable tool for hiring and/or assessing the skills of incumbent workers.

Sincerely,

Kent Waide

Kent Waide
General Manager

STAFF partners

Your Partner in Staffing

1195 S. Main St., Suite 1
Madisonville, KY 42431
E-mail: staffpartners@bellsouth.net

(270) 824-9300
Fax (270) 824-9008

Work Ready Community Steering Committee
Madisonville Community College
2000 College Drive
Madisonville, KY 42431

Dear Work Ready Community Steering Committee:

Please consider this letter as documentation of Staffpartners support for the Kentucky Work Ready Community Program of Hopkins County. Staffpartners is committed to supporting this program and participating in activities which promote this program to other businesses in Hopkins County.

Staffpartners recognizes the National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC) as a viable tool for hiring and/or assessing the skills of incumbent workers.

Sincerely,

Richard George

Richard George
Region Manager

The Messenger

P.O. Box 529, Madisonville, Kentucky 42431
Phone 270-824-3300
Fax 270-821-6855

June 1, 2012

Work Ready Community Steering Committee
Madisonville Community College
2000 College Drive
Madisonville, Kentucky 42431

Dear Steering Committee Members

I am writing this letter as my way of showing support for the Work Ready Community project. The Madisonville Messenger has written extensively, including a recent front page article, in an effort to educate the public about the benefits of making Madisonville and Hopkins County a Work Ready Community. The Messenger is committed to supporting this program and participating in activities which promote this program to other businesses in Hopkins County.

We fully understand the need for being able to quantify to industry prospects and other businesses considering Hopkins County as a place to locate, that we do indeed have a well educated and trained workforce. The Messenger also recognizes the National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC) as a viable tool for hiring and assessing the skills of applicants, as well as incumbent workers.

Sincerely

Rick Welch

Rick Welch
Publisher
The Messenger

The Workshop True Value Hardware

624 South Main Street • Madisonville, Kentucky 42431
Phone: 270-821-3991 • Fax: 270-821-9587

Work Ready Community Steering Committee

Madisonville Community College

2000 College Drive

Madisonville, KY 42431

Dear Work Ready Community Steering Committee:

Please consider this letter as documentation of Workshop True Value Hardware's support for the Kentucky Work Ready Community Program of Hopkins County. Workshop True Value Hardware is committed to supporting this program and participating in activities which promote this program to other businesses in Hopkins County.

Workshop True Value Hardware recognizes the National Career Readiness Certification (NCRC) as a viable tool for hiring and/or assessing the skills of incumbent workers.

There are quite a few buildings currently empty in Madisonville and Hopkins County which we would like to see filled with both small and larger businesses – having a pool of certified, skilled workers could help that happen as more industries would feel comfortable with the labor force in this area. Workshop True Value Hardware has developed a reputation for hiring both older and younger employees and we have found that the people in this community are very skilled and capable of learning. We also try to encourage our younger employees to further their education and are willing to work with their schedules to enable them to do so.

Sincerely,

James Fleck

James Fleck

President and Owner of Stiefel Brothers, Inc.,

dba Workshop True Value Hardware

usbank
Five Star Service Guaranteed

One South Main Street
Madisonville, KY 42431
270 821-6075
270 825-2033 fax

May 31, 2012

Work Ready Community Steering Committee
Madisonville Community College
2000 College Drive
Madisonville, KY 42431

Dear Work Ready Community Steering Committee:

Please consider this letter as documentation of U. S. Bank's support for the Kentucky Work Ready Community Program of Hopkins County. U. S. Bank is committed to supporting this program and participating in activities which promote this program to other businesses in Hopkins County.

U. S. Bank recognizes the National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC) as a viable tool for hiring and/or assessing the skills of incumbent workers.

Sincerely,

Timothy N. Teel
Community President
District Manager
Madisonville/Hopkinsville KY

USB
UNITED SOUTHERN BANK

Work Ready Community Steering Committee
Madisonville Community College
2000 College Drive
Madisonville, Ky. 42431

June 1, 2012

Dear Work Ready Community Steering Committee:

Please consider this letter documentation of United Southern Bank's support for the Kentucky Work Ready Community Program of Hopkins County. United Southern Bank is committed to supporting this program and participating in activities which promote this program to other businesses in Hopkins County.

United Southern Bank recognizes the National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC) as a viable tool for hiring and/or assessing the skills of incumbent workers

Sincerely,

Jack D. Moore
Director/Retired President/CEO
United Southern Bank
Christian, Hopkins, and Todd Counties Ky.

Sound Broadcasters, Inc. P.O. Box 338 Madisonville, KY 42431
WFMW (270) 821-4096 • WKTG (270) 821-1156

May 31, 2012

Work Ready Community Steering Committee
Madisonville Community College
2000 College Drive
Madisonville, KY 42431

Dear Committee Members:

Please accept this letter as verification that Sound Broadcasters, Inc., parent company of WFMW and WKTG Radio, support the Kentucky Work Ready Community Program of Hopkins County. Radio stations WFMW and WKTG are committed to supporting this program and participating in activities which promote this program to other businesses in Hopkins County.

Our company recognizes the National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC) as a viable tool for hiring and/or assessing the skills of incumbent workers.

Sincerely,

Bob Kelley
Owner
bob@wktg.com