STRATEGIC IMPLEMENTATION PLANS

Momentum West Action Plan

Working Details of the Momentum West Talent Attraction and Retention Action Plan

| A | ACTION PLANNING FOR TALENT ATTRACTION & RETENTION |
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| CHALLENGE OR ISSUE TO BE ADDRESSED: | Priority Challenge 1.1: Area businesses do not have enough skilled talent taking positions that are newto-career (e.g., entry level to less than five years of experience required). |
| GOAL: | Goal 1.1: Attract young professionals to relocate to the region and stay. |
| INITIATIVE | Initiative 1.1: Develop a targeted marketing campaign to communicate the region's unique quality of place assets to students graduating from area universities before they leave the region. |
| ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REQUIRED TO MOVE FORWARD | Gain input and feedback from young professional networks to test different messages Assess what young professionals currently identify as "unique quality of place assets" on an on-going basis to update messages and to ensure attention is paid to improving the most relevant assets. Adapt existing economic development and tourism messages to emphasize the region's attractiveness as a place to live and work for young adults. Communicate directly with college students to encourage them to stay Expand (or establish) higher educational institution career services provided to alumni Inform new residents about relevant amenities and services through social media and direct contact (e.g., Career Connection). A continuously updated inventory of unique regional assets (including social activities) that appeal to young educated professionals |
| TO MOVE FORWARD | Assessment of how well the area's housing market responds to the needs of young educated professionals (e.g., urban rental market near key regional assets) Success Measures |
| PROGRESS MEASURE: | Number of young educated professionals living in the region Number of individuals served by the "Welcome New Residents" programs Number of people reading online reviews of the region |

| | Partners |
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| POTENTIAL CONVENING ORGANIZATION(S): | Momentum West with support from the Universities, Young Professionals & Convention & Visitors' Bureaus |
| KEY PARTNERS: | Area universities Area technical colleges Wisconsin Department of Tourism Local chambers of commerce Local convention and visitors' bureaus Live in Eau Claire |
| RELATED INITIATIVES | Area universities' alumni networks Wisconsin Perception Research 2016 ("Think. Make. Happen.") Confluence Project "UW meets EC" early-semester event in Eau Claire for freshmen. (Continue through all four years?) Fox Cities Talent Upload Chamber leadership programs are offered in some communities for emerging adult leaders and for high school leaders (expand to engage university students) Waunakee Chamber Hi Neighbor Governor's Council on Workforce Investment 2014-2018 Strategic Plan recommendations #2 Add Attraction and Retention Tax Credits for Skilled Graduates #3 Incorporate Relocation Tax Credit and Loan forgiveness #7 Engage in Marketing that Attracts Millennials & Entrepreneurs #8 Expand Broadband Access |
| Funding Considerations | |
| FUNDING NEEDS: | Resources for the marketing campaign Staff to support programming Establishing and maintaining a web presence |
| POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES: | Area rental and real estate firms Local communities |

| A | ACTION PLANNING FOR TALENT ATTRACTION & RETENTION |
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| CHALLENGE OR ISSUE TO | Priority Challenge 1.2: |
| BE ADDRESSED: | The region's three universities graduate students who leave to find jobs, but many may wish to return as they begin to establish families if they knew how to continue their career in the region. |
| GOAL: | Goal 1.2: Entice more alumni from the region's educational institutions (include universities, colleges, and high schools) to return to the region. |
| INITIATIVE | Initiative 1.2: |
| | Develop coordinated communications and outreach to area alumni |
| | about the benefits of living in the Momentum West region. |
| IDEAS FOR ACTIONS: | Determine employment needs and critical occupations for targeted industries. Target messaging about key critical occupations through electronic and print media advertisements to alumni networks. Coordinate with MW or others to sell region and specific career opportunities to |
| | alums when universities have alumni events |
| | Coordinate advertisements for job boards in University Alumni magazines |
| | Support regional and national alumni events that promote available and potential job opportunities in Momentum West. |
| | Develop strong social media platforms to connect alum back to the region Support local "Welcome New Residents" programs and coordinate with an employee hospitality program for prospective and newly hired employees moving to the region. |
| | Provide trailing partner support to those relocating to the region (e.g., Career Connection) |
| | Gain testimonials from newly arrived residents in the form of online reviews about the ease of transition. |
| | Expand (or establish) higher educational institution career services provided to alumni |
| | Create a consistent regional online brand for marketing activities. Emphasize Quality of place, Quality of Affordable living, quality schools, K-12, higher ed., quality of community leadership |
| ADDITIONAL | Critical occupations in target industries |
| INFORMATION REQUIRED | Access to alumni network lists |
| TO MOVE FORWARD | Assessment of area's housing market for young families (e.g., entry level owner- occupied housing) |
| | Assessment of region's childcare providers and barriers to providing additional affordable childcare services |
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| Success Measures | |
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| PROGRESS MEASURE: | The number of alumni who apply for open positions The number of alumni returning to the region |
| | Partners |
| POTENTIAL CONVENING ORGANIZATION(S): | Momentum West working with a coordinated network of the alumni associations at the 3 UW system schools and the 2 technical colleges |
| KEY PARTNERS: | Area employers in targeted (e.g., manufacturing, health care, information technology, etc.) University of Wisconsin Stout Alumni Association University of Wisconsin River Falls Alumni Association University of Wisconsin River Falls Alumni Association Wisconsin Indianhead Technical College Alumni Association K-12 institution Alumni Associations |
| RELATED INITIATIVES | Area university alumni networks' outreach efforts Career Connection program Chippewa Valley IT Professionals (CVITP) Narrowing the Skills Gap Report, Recommendation 4 Success By 6 Family Friendly Workplace™ Fox Cities Chamber of Commerce Talent Upload Seize Des Moines (Greater Des Moines Partnership) Kama`aina Come Home (Maui High Tech Council) Erie Homecoming (Erie Regional Chamber and Growth Partnership) Stanford USA MBA Fellowship Connect America Fund Phase II Arizona State model for recruiting alumni from Seth Governor's Council on Workforce Investment 2014-2018 Strategic Plan recommendations #2 Efforts to add Attraction and Retention Tax Credits for Skilled Graduates #3 Incorporate Relocation Tax Credit and Loan forgiveness #7 Engage in Marketing that Attracts Millennials & Entrepreneurs #8 Expand Broadband Access |
| | Funding Considerations |
| FUNDING NEEDS: | MarketingEvents |
| POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES: | • |

| ACTION PLANNING FOR TALENT ATTRACTION & RETENTION | |
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| CHALLENGE OR ISSUE TO BE ADDRESSED: | Priority Challenge 1.3: Area businesses seek talent for local jobs while thousands of Momentum West residents work in the Twin Cities, spending a great deal of time in traffic. |
| GOAL: | Goal 1.3: Help area residents working elsewhere to find jobs in local firms. |
| INITIATIVE | Initiative 1.3: Market local job opportunities to out-commuters currently working in |
| | the Twin-Cities. |
| IDEAS FOR ACTIONS: | Develop an online regional promotion and information hub to raise awareness about regional companies and careers. Identify employees already commuting from the Twin Cities (with the help of local employers) to encourage them to relocate to Momentum West Use geo-fencing to target commuters coming home (Paul Bauer) Brand the online resource (e.g., "Work West Wisconsin") Focus on digital media with catchy phrase like, "10,000 job openings in Western Wisconsin, what are you waiting for?" Hire intern or other to develop a targeted marketing campaign for "Work Western Wisconsin" Create a replicable program for each community to roll out a work local program |
| ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REQUIRED TO MOVE FORWARD | The impact of Work River Falls and Work Amery Additional data on the number and demographics of current out-commuters (Useful data source: Census LEHD program) |
| Success Measures | |
| PROGRESS MEASURE: | Change (decrease) in out-commuting Change (increase) in in-commuting from Minneapolis-Saint Paul Number of website views Number of applicants/hires employers receive as a result of marketing efforts |

| | Partners |
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| POTENTIAL CONVENING ORGANIZATION(S): | Momentum West working with a collaborative of New Richmond, River Falls, Falls, and Hudson Chambers of Commerce collaborating with Work River Falls and Work Amery |
| KEY PARTNERS: | St. Croix Economic Development Corporation Chambers of Commerce County Economic Development Corporations Regional Employers Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development Area universities and technical colleges |
| RELATED INITIATIVES | Work River Falls; Work Amery Area university alumni networks' outreach efforts Governor's Council on Workforce Investment 2014-2018 Strategic Plan recommendations #8 Expand Broadband Access |
| | Funding Considerations |
| FUNDING NEEDS: | Establishing and maintaining a web presence Advertising Programming and education costs |
| POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES: | Participating counties Regional employers |

| A | ACTION PLANNING FOR TALENT ATTRACTION & RETENTION |
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| CHALLENGE OR ISSUE TO BE ADDRESSED: GOAL: | Priority Challenge 1.4: The Momentum West region does not have enough people currently in the workforce to fill the jobs available and a high labor force participation rate within the existing adult population. Goal 1.4: Seek out non-traditional sources of potential workers from area residents not participating in the labor force and from new population groups moving to the |
| INITIATIVE | area. Initiative 1.4: |
| | Provide job and support services targeted to traditionally under- |
| IDEAS FOR ACTIONS: | Expand area programs providing adults with employment barriers (e.g., disabled, returning veterans, ex-offenders, and others) help with securing and retaining jobs Conduct talent recruitment and hospitality support efforts aimed at a more ethnically and racially diverse population Collaborate with employers to identify and adapt existing employment practices in response to the work-life needs of adults with employment barriers or diverse population groups, including older workers (e.g., flexible schedules or special accommodations) Identify best practices by employers or communities in the region who have successfully diversified their workforce |
| ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REQUIRED TO MOVE FORWARD | Model programs such as Minnesota Compass building on the Twin Cities' role as an international immigrant gateway city Positive stories about successful workers that overcame employment barriers Identification of potential strains on community resources (K-12 schools, social services, charities, etc.) |
| | Success Measures |
| PROGRESS MEASURE: | Number of adults with employment barriers in the region's workforce Labor force participation among hard-to-employ populations Number of international immigrants in the workforce |

| | Partners | |
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| POTENTIAL CONVENING ORGANIZATION(S): | West Central Wisconsin Workforce Development Board | |
| KEY PARTNERS: | Regional employers Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development Chambers of commerce Local economic development organizations County departments of human services Other social service providers serving jobseekers with employment barriers | |
| RELATED INITIATIVES | Wisconsin Works services for non-traditional jobseekers and youth services Wisconsin <u>Disability Employment initiative</u> <u>Project SEARCH</u> Wisconsin <u>Office of Veteran Services</u> Best practices on <u>re-employing returning veterans</u> Wisconsin <u>ex-offender toolkit</u> <u>Wisconsin Job Honor Awards</u> Examples of integrating ex-offenders in the workplace, including <u>Central Minnesota</u> and <u>Safer Foundation</u> <u>Denver Day Works</u> for homeless <u>Governor's Council on Workforce Investment 2014-2018 Strategic Plan recommendations</u> #6 Deliver Financial Incentives for Attraction/Entrepreneurship | |
| Funding Considerations | | |
| FUNDING NEEDS: | Establishing and maintaining a web presence Advertising Programming and education costs | |
| POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES: | Participating countiesRegional employers | |

| ACTION PLANNING FOR TALENT ATTRACTION & RETENTION | |
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| CHALLENGE OR ISSUE TO BE ADDRESSED: | Priority Challenge 2.1: Businesses have trouble filling open positions in the current labor market, and they are not effectively signaling to prospective workers and education providers what skills they need. |
| GOAL: | Goal 2.1: Identify industry-specific skill requirements for workers and effective strategies for developing and managing talent. |
| INITIATIVE IDEAS FOR ACTIONS: | Initiative 2.1: Address industry talent needs for targeted industries (e.g., health care, advanced manufacturing, information technology, and higher education) |
| IDEAS FOR ACTIONS: | Organize industry-specific employer partnerships to better engage employers with educators and trainers Collect information from firms in targeted industries about their current and future worker needs as well as their own assessments of why recruiting new talent has been difficult Articulate skills required for those workers and key worker barriers Identify current sources of qualified talent for these industries, especially from area educational institutions, training partners, and/or other firms Assess how education and training institutions are doing in meeting employer talent needs in these industries Determine whether employer hiring policies align with jobseeker requirements and employment practices Identify creative solutions to provide greater flexibility in hiring and retaining workers (e.g., talent sharing, job sharing, Don't RejectRefer, etc.) Coordinate efforts to implement one or more creative solutions as pilot response to improve worker retention and more effectively use existing workers (e.g., supporting business collaboratives to provide onsite health care, Career Connection, etc.) |

| ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REQUIRED TO MOVE FORWARD | Career pathway needs by industry (for targeted industries) Skill gaps by industry Typical jobseeker requirements by industry Area employment practices by industry, including unique approaches to retaining employees that may be modeled Lessons from other piloted job sharing and/or talent sharing as an alternative employment practice |
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| | Success Measures |
| PROGRESS MEASURE: | Number of companies participating in employer collaborations Job vacancy rates and time to hire for critical occupations Proportion of area hires sourced from local talent pools |
| | Partners |
| POTENTIAL CONVENING ORGANIZATION(S): | West Central Wisconsin Workforce Development Board in partnership with Momentum West |
| KEY PARTNERS: | Area employer collaboratives County and municipal governments Chambers of Commerce Economic Development Corporations Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development University career centers Chippewa Valley Technical College Wisconsin Indianhead Technical Colleges |
| RELATED INITIATIVES | Existing job boards CVTC Applied Technology Center CVTC Grant? (Heather Smith / Pam Owens) Ladysmith High School FabLab The Future Wisconsin Project Talent Sharing employment model Workforce Alignment Workshops Sector Strategies, including Information Technology Academy, Manufacturing Training Academy, Blueprint for Prosperity Grants, and related efforts (Local Workforce Plan) Governor's Council on Workforce Investment 2014-2018 Strategic Plan recommendations #5 Support Transportable Skill Sets for Transportable Careers #13 Develop an image-building campaign for career opportunities in high demand fields #18 Support industry engagement |
| | Funding Considerations |
| FUNDING NEEDS: | • |
| POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES: | West Central Wisconsin Workforce Board Wisconsin Fast Forward |

| ACTION PLANNING FOR TALENT ATTRACTION & RETENTION | | |
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| CHALLENGE OR ISSUE TO BE ADDRESSED: | Priority Challenge 2.2: Not enough students pursue academic courses that prepare them for local jobs at a time when businesses need talent with skills more closely aligned with available careers. | |
| GOAL: | Goal 2.2: Improve labor force preparedness by making educators, students, parents, and the community more aware of the skills required to undertake a successful local career. | |
| INITIATIVE | Initiative 2.2: Provide career planning support and skills information (about targeted industries) to key audiences in collaboration with employers, educational institutions, and workforce organizations. | |
| IDEAS FOR ACTIONS: | Improve marketing of career clusters and pathways to parents and employers through interactive videos that feature real local employers in an engaging way Provide educators with career-relevant curriculum content, including (1) business problem scenarios to be used in the classroom, (2) a playbook to help students and parents in exploring career options and (3) career profiles for targeted industries Share industry-specific information with business leaders about how work and careers are changing and about strategies for recruiting youth for opportunities in their industries Engage private sector employers to mitigate recruitment challenges in designing career pathway initiatives that support WI High School efforts Expand dual credential opportunities for high school students seeking technical careers to reduce the amount of time students need to earn a technical degree and enter the workforce. Assess and mitigate barriers to facilitating dual credential programs. | |
| ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REQUIRED TO MOVE FORWARD | Identify best strategies to engage knowledgeable private industry representatives (i.e., through alternatives to in-person advisory meetings) in order to provide real time industry-specific information Insights about career pathway options and academic careers that help prepare for those careers (e.g., Wisconsin Career Pathways) Chippewa Falls Area Unified School District Career Clusters, e.g., Information <u>Technology Academy</u> Relevant career content describing business problems, e.g., National Business <u>Education Association standards</u> or State of Arkansas curriculum Compilation of existing career videos and brochures | |
| | Success Measures | |
| PROGRESS MEASURE: | Number of educators using applied career info in their curricula Number of students engaged in using curriculum resources (e.g., playbooks, career profiles, etc.) Number of students enrolled in career-relevant academic programs (e.g., science, technology, engineering, and math) | |

| | Partners |
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| POTENTIAL CONVENING ORGANIZATION(S): | West Central Wisconsin Workforce Development Board working with the Momentum West Talent Attraction Committee, Cooperative Educational Service Agencies (CESA), and key industry networks (e.g., area technology alliance, area manufacturers association, area health care leaders, etc.) |
| KEY PARTNERS: | Local Economic Development Corporations Chambers of Commerce Area universities Northwestern WI Collaborative for STEM Area technical Colleges Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development Junior Achievement, Boy and Girl Scouts, and other youth service groups Wisconsin Dept. of Public Instruction and area School Districts |
| RELATED INITIATIVES | Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction career planning pilot projects WI DPI PI 26 - Education for Employment (with ACP) Manufacturing Works/Gold Collar Careers Chippewa Valley experience matching Eau Claire Area EDC Critical Talent Committee Your Future Chippewa Valley Chippewa Valley High-Tech Alliance (CVHTA) CareerWise Colorado eduFACTOR Indiana Youth Initiative College and Career Success Mentoring Toolkit Governor's Council on Workforce Investment 2014-2018 Strategic Plan recommendations #1 Develop Career Counseling/Career Month |
| | Funding Considerations |
| FUNDING NEEDS: | Content development, including preparation of playbook Marketing, including staff support for outreach Coordination of business sponsored events |
| POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES: | Workforce development board Cooperative Educational Service Agency (CESA) |

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| CHALLENGE OR ISSUE TO | Priority Challenge 2.3: |
| BE ADDRESSED: | Businesses are struggling to find entry level and new-to-career workers. |
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| GOAL: | Goal 2.3: |
| | Increase the awareness about area careers and pathways among of workers, educators, students, parents, and the community. |
| INITIATIVE | Initiative 2.3: |
| | Provide business-led career learning opportunities for young adults |
| | , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , |
| IDEAS FOR ACTIONS: | (age 24 and under). • Organize and expand efforts to recruit business leaders to make classroom |
| BEAUTOR AUTORO. | Organize and expand efforts to recruit business leaders to make classroom presentations |
| | Develop and deliver cluster-based employment fairs for high school students and young adults with related Academic Career Plans |
| | Produce facility tours that include career exploration programming that responds |
| | to the needs of targeted industries (e.g., manufacturing, information technology, health care, etc.) |
| | Organize job shadowing opportunities for students interested in learning about critical occupations in those targeted industries |
| | Develop "cooperative" internship programs for small employers (i.e., intermediaries perform recruitment and initial screening) |
| | Organize youth apprenticeships targeted to critical manufacturing occupations, |
| | emphasizing programs targeted to graduating high school seniors or recent high school graduates |
| | Develop an "easy button" (of related tools created) for businesses to participate in youth apprentice programs |
| | Assess and mitigate barriers for youth and businesses to participate in apprenticeship programs |
| ADDITIONAL | Inventory existing activities (such as that may be related to these actions |
| INFORMATION REQUIRED | List of companies willing to host career events |
| TO MOVE FORWARD | , - |
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| | Success Measures |
| PROGRESS MEASURES: | Number of businesses sharing career information with students, parents, faculty, |
| | and the community |
| | The number of sponsored career information events, including business leader presentations, facility tours, etc. |
| | Number of career exploration "experiences" (e.g., tours, job shadow placements, |
| | internship placements) |
| | Number of business partners engaged in providing an experience |
| | Number of youth apprenticeships underway in the Momentum West region |
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| Partners | | |
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| POTENTIAL CONVENING ORGANIZATION(S): | West Central Wisconsin Workforce Development Board in collaboration with the county economic development corporations | |
| KEY PARTNERS: | Chambers of commerce Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development County departments of human services Area universities' career services (Chuck Bomar willing to help) Technical college career services | |
| RELATED INITIATIVES | Area university career centers (e.g., Hire Blu-Gold, Hire a Falcon, UW Stout CareerLink) Workforce Resource Learn and Earn Program US Chamber Foundation Youth Employment Network Department of Public Instruction's 'Agenda 2017' Junior Achievement Mayo Clinic Career Exploring Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts DWD youth apprenticeship program NECA-IBEW apprenticeships CVTC apprenticeships Wisconsin DWD apprenticeship contacts New Skills for Youth Governor's Council on Workforce Investment 2014-2018 Strategic Plan recommendations #4 Expand Youth and Adult Apprenticeship Participation and Programming #10 Allow high school juniors to start work-based learning to graduate on-track #12 Ensure every high school student experiences quality work-based learning opportunities | |
| | Funding Considerations | |
| FUNDING NEEDS: POTENTIAL FUNDING | Funding to organize events and to support the work of an intermediary organization Matching funds for internships | |
| SOURCES: | | |

| ACTION PLANNING FOR TALENT ATTRACTION & RETENTION | | | |
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| CHALLENGE OR ISSUE TO BE ADDRESSED: | Priority Challenge 2.4: Businesses have trouble filling open positions because jobseekers do not have adequate information about available opportunities. | | |
| GOAL: | Goal 2.4: Improve employer recruitment and hiring practices through stronger collaboration among employers, educational institutions, and workforce organizations. | | |
| INITIATIVE | Initiative 2.4: Raise awareness among job seekers about local openings and among employers about job search practices. | | |
| IDEAS FOR ACTIONS: | Promote greater use of existing local job boards among companies and jobseekers. Provide training to area small and mid-size businesses to update their talent recruitment approaches to reflect jobseeker strategies (e.g., Don't RejectRefer). Expand efforts to help jobseekers improve their resumes, job applications, and interviewing skills. Look at bus trip idea with Madison engineering degree students | | |
| ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REQUIRED TO MOVE FORWARD | Research on how different age groups are searching for and finding jobs Incorporate targeted messages into marketing (such as "job fulfillment", "cool" factor and leverage, schedule flexibility, quality of life, and indirect messages to parents) Training curriculum for businesses on effective recruitment techniques Expand counseling efforts for young adults and adults changing careers. | | |
| | Success Measures | | |
| PROGRESS MEASURE: | Amount of time required to fill area positions Number of companies participating in recruitment training programs Number of jobseekers participating in resume and interview-skill building programs | | |

| | Partners |
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| POTENTIAL CONVENING ORGANIZATION(S): | West Central Wisconsin Workforce Development Board in partnership with Momentum West |
| KEY PARTNERS: RELATED INITIATIVES | Chambers of Commerce Economic Development Corporations Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development Existing job boards Wisconsin Fast Forward Chippewa Valley and Wisconsin Indianhead Technical Colleges Youth representation Existing job boards Wisconsin Fast Forward Chippewa Valley "Don't RejectRefer!" (coordinated by Manpower) North by Choice company recruiting (APEX, Duluth) |
| | Funding Considerations |
| FUNDING NEEDS: | Research Training Marketing |
| POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES: | West Central Wisconsin Workforce Board |