



Alliance for Working Together (AWT) Foundation
PO Box 123
Mentor, OH 44060
November 20th, 2020

AWT TRANSFORMATION TRAINING CENTER ANNOUNCEMENT

It is with great pleasure that our AWT Foundation Board of Directors and staff would like to announce the AWT Transformation Training Center publicly. The AWT Transformation Training Center is designed to scale-up Northeast Ohio's collective skilled manufacturing labor force. It is important to note that AWT's name *Alliance for Working Together* is representative of our collaborative nature and spirit fueling our mission of promoting rewarding manufacturing careers. With that said, this facility is designed in collaboration with our Northeast Ohio educational partners including Auburn Career Center, Lakeland Community College, Lake Erie College, Lake Shore Compact, Mentor Public Schools, and many other local partners. This facility will not have any redundant training options, instead this will be used as a next level training facility for skilled manufacturing positions and will compliment our region's current training equipment and offerings. Dr. Joe Glavan, Career and Technical Education (CTE) Coordinator for Mentor Public Schools, stated, "We are excited at Mentor schools to be a part of the new AWT Transformation Training Center. This training center represents what is possible when industry sector partnerships operate effectively. Through a collaboration of business, State and local government, and educational institutions, AWT is leading the charge in Northeast Ohio to align K-12, higher education, and business into one seamless pathway leading to rewarding careers for community members and ultimately help create a stronger northeast Ohio."

A recent manufacturing workforce study cited that there will be a 2.4 million skilled worker shortage in the manufacturing industry by 2025 (Deloitte, 2018) and due to the heavy baby boomer retirements in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, this number will likely continue to increase. This skilled worker shortage in the United States is particularly important to the State of Ohio as we are the third largest manufacturing state by employment with over 700,000 Ohioans working in the manufacturing industry. Moreover, manufacturing continues to grow Northeast Ohio's economy with Tyler Boulevard in Mentor, Ohio serving as the sixth largest manufacturing hub in the State of Ohio.

The AWT Training Center project's target finish date will be early 2022. The facility will be located on Tyler Boulevard in Mentor, Ohio. The AWT Training Center will provide Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM)-to-career programming for K-12 students, pre-apprenticeships for high school juniors and seniors, and apprenticeship training for those who are unemployed and incumbent workers. In addition, the AWT Training Center will act as a central hub for AWT Foundation operations and a place where manufacturers in Northeast Ohio

will join to share idea, best practices, and promote rewarding manufacturing careers. As always, we look forward to promoting rewarding manufacturing careers alongside you!

If you have any questions, please send them to Juliana Petti, AWT Foundation Executive Director Juliana@thinkmfg.com or 440-462-1995.

Sincerely,



Roger J. Sustar
Chairman, AWT Board of Directors
CEO, Fredon Corporation



Alyson Scott
President, AWT Board of Directors
President, Fredon Corporation



Juliana A. Petti
Executive Director, AWT