

## ABOUT THE DRUG-FREE WORKFORCE COMMUNITY INITIATIVE (DFWCI)

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The Drug-Free Workforce Community Initiative (DFWCI) is a public-private partnership between the state of Ohio and *Working Partners*® to address the economic threat of substance abuse by employees and job seekers in our state. We are doing this by

- Bringing together key stakeholders and employers in 20 communities throughout the state to assess local challenges and resources and implement strategies to develop a job-ready workforce of drug-free individuals to serve employers' needs now and in the future.
- Working with employers to equip them with education, technical assistance and tools needed to prevent and respond to workplace substance abuse in a productive, legally-sound and meaningful way.
- Providing regular communications to leadership (local, state and national) to keep them apprised of all substance abuse issues and legislation that affect the workplace.

Our goal is to build healthier, stronger, more productive workforces and workplaces based on local needs and, in turn, build a healthier, stronger, more economically-sound Ohio.

## ACTIVITIES OF THE INITIATIVE

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*Working Partners*® will assess, develop, implement, and support 20 communities to enhance the community's drug-free workforce. Activities include:

- Identify and facilitate quarterly meetings with community leaders and organizations (aka stakeholders)
- Execute three (3) assessments for each community
  1. Community leaders and organizations
  2. Businesses
  3. Substance abuse treatment and prevention providers in position to support workplace and workforce.
- Identify and compile relevant secondary data to support community assessments
- Based on outcomes of assessments and of secondary data, create community reports with recommendations and facilitate stakeholder group to devise a plan to release results
- Produce two (2) online courses for job seekers and employees
- Create and execute marketing plan to recruit businesses to participate in technical assistance courses
- Deliver eight (8) technical assistance courses – two (2) in each quadrant of the state
- Work with identified substance treatment and prevention provider(s) to address barriers in servicing business community
- Raise awareness within the community regarding the impact of substance abuse on the workplace and workforce