



Board of Regents
Department of Job & Family Services

For Immediate Release
October 14, 2009

Contact: Michael Chaney, Chief Communications Officer, Ohio Board of Regents
Office: 614-752-9480 Cell: 614-633-5909
Email: mchaney@regents.state.oh.us

Brian M. Harter, Public Information Officer, Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, Office: 614-466-9482
Email: Brian.Harter@jfs.ohio.gov

**Help for Northeast Ohio Auto Workers and
Unemployed Available**
***Education and Community Resource Expo to Showcase Training
Opportunities and Safety Nets for Unemployed or Dislocated
Workers and Families***

TWINSBURG, Ohio – Laid-off or dislocated workers from Northeast Ohio’s hard-hit automotive communities are invited to an “Education and Community Resource Expo” on Wednesday, October 21, at the Hilton Garden Inn in Twinsburg. The day-long event is free for attendees and will feature representatives from Northeast Ohio education and training providers, the region’s career one-stop organizations, and providers of numerous safety nets for unemployed and underemployed people. There will also be representatives from targeted Northeast Ohio industries to share information with workers on how skills obtained in the automotive community can transfer to new careers in healthcare, information technology, and alternative energy, advanced, and green manufacturing fields.

“This event is designed to showcase programs and services available to Northeast Ohio’s unemployed and dislocated workers. People can learn what education and training programs are in the area and find out if they’re eligible for funding to increase skills or re-train for jobs in new high demand occupations,” said Ralph Sinistro, manager of The Job Center in Akron, one of the career one-stop providers sponsoring the expo. “People want help with their questions, and we want to help them get answers,” he continued.

The expo is for all those in Northeast Ohio whose jobs have been affected by changes in the automotive community, from the plant worker, to the supplier, to the service worker with the city, or cashier at the restaurant across the street from a factory in danger of closing. Attendees will get information on how to start a business, tips on resume writing

and job searches, and help for people who want to know more about unemployment or trade benefits, or assistance with food, rent, utilities, mortgage payments, or healthcare.

The event will take place near the site of the Chrysler Twinsburg Stamping Plant so current employees, retirees, and those who were laid-off or opted for buy-outs have easy access to the valuable information, though organizers are hoping outreach to the entire automotive and dislocated worker community in the Northeast Ohio region will bring more people through the doors who can be helped.

"Twinsburg lies at the center of the area most impacted by Ohio automotive closures and downsizing. The same characteristics that encouraged Chrysler to locate here – central location and ease of access – are characteristics that support offering the Expo in our community," said City of Twinsburg Mayor Katherine Procop. "We are pleased to be part of this effort and hope to contribute to the support of automotive workers and automotive suppliers who are facing significant challenges," Mayor Procop continued.

Several state, county, and local agencies are expected to have booths at the expo, as will many of the University System of Ohio's public universities, community colleges, and adult career-technical education centers and private education and training providers as well.

Expo sponsors include the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, the University System of Ohio, the City of Twinsburg, the Greater Akron Chamber, the Regional Talent Network, Summa Health System, University Hospitals, the Tri-County Regional Ohio AFL-CIO, career one-stop providers in Northeast Ohio: The Job Center (Summit County), GAPP – Geauga, Ashtabula Portage Partnership, The Employment Source (Stark County), Employment Connection (Cuyahoga County), Medina County Workforce Development Center (Medina County), and Summit County Department of Job and Family Services, Russell M. Pry, Executive.

About the Expo: Wednesday, October 21, 2009
 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
 Twinsburg Hilton Garden Inn
 (I-480 & SR 82)
 8971 Wilcox Drive, Twinsburg, Ohio 44087

For more information, visit www.uso.edu/resourceexpo.

###