

The Source

Turning Challenges into Opportunity: Saizya's Story

Saizya's visit to the OhioMeansJobs Stark County center marked the start of a long-awaited journey: to pursue LPN training. Since graduating in 2010, life and financial challenges had repeatedly delayed her plans—but this time, she promised herself nothing would stop her.

With support from OhioMeansJobs Stark & Tuscarawas Counties, Saizya enrolled in the Canton City School's LPN program. Despite car troubles, daycare challenges, and other obstacles along the way, she kept going—maintaining a 90% GPA and building confidence with each success. *"Not only was I making it, I was also doing pretty well in my classes."*

Her hard work paid off. After passing the NCLEX, she began working at Belden Village Nursing and Rehab, earning **\$30/hour**. Grateful for the support she received, Saizya credits OhioMeansJobs—and her case manager, Cheyenne—for helping her build a stable career and create a better life for herself and her son.



JobsOhio Creates Relocation Incentive for Out of State Technical Talent

The JobsOhio Relocation Incentive helps Ohio employers of any size in ten critical sectors expand their workforce, specifically in STEM and technical occupations, with direct financial incentives for attracting out-of-state professionals.

[Learn More](#)

Meet the Board

Ever wonder who's helping drive workforce solutions in our community? This month, get to know **Steve Rippeth** - Assistant Director of Adult Education at Buckeye Career Center, who has been serving on the Board for over three years.



[Read about Steve](#)

Rapid Response in Action: Kraton Corporation

When the Kraton plant closure was announced, our local Rapid Response team quickly stepped in to support affected workers and their families. The OhioMeansJobs Stark & Tuscarawas Counties team provided timely guidance on resume preparation, resource connections, unemployment benefits, and retraining or reemployment opportunities.

A job fair was then organized that connected 46 impacted employees with 16 employers—resulting in at least 10 hires within weeks.

By linking displaced workers to new opportunities before income is interrupted, our local Rapid Response team helps stabilize the community, retain skilled talent, and ensure residents know their workforce is ready to adapt to change.

Board Staff Attends 3rd Annual Ohio Workforce Association/IAWP Conference

This year's theme—Elevate. Innovate. Connect—brought workforce professionals together from across the state to share best practices, spark new ideas, and gain insights we can bring back to strengthen opportunities in our own communities.

Pictured: Board staff alongside Jennifer Meek-Eells, Executive Director of the Ohio Workforce Association.



Partner Spotlight Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities

OhioMeansJobs center partners play a critical role in our local workforce system. Learn more about our OhioMeansJobs Stark and Tuscarawas County partners.



**Opportunities for
Ohioans with
Disabilities**

[Read More](#)

Building a Stronger Community Career Connect

From local organizations to community-driven initiatives, see how people and partnerships are working together to create opportunities and strengthen Stark and Tuscarawas Counties.



[Read More](#)

Learn About Workforce Funded Training

Attend a workforce-funded training orientation sessions to see if you qualify to receive funding for training

[Learn More](#)

Three Ways OhioMeansJobs Can Help with Your Job Search

Explore available job opportunities and get the tools you need to take your career to the next level.

[Click Here](#)

Employer Services: Streamlining Your Talent Search

Discover how we can help connect your business with qualified candidates to grow your team.

[Click Here](#)