

FAIRFIELD COUNTY WORKFORCE CENTER RECOGNIZED FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS

[LANCASTER, OH] – The Fairfield County Workforce Center recently received recognition from an industry association and a state university for its success in workforce development.

In September, the Ohio Economic Development Association (OEDA) gave Fairfield County the Excellence in Workforce Development Award, recognizing its unique approaches to all aspects of workforce development, as well as innovative practices and programs. In addition, the Center's impact in meeting Ohio's workforce needs and overcoming associated challenges was also praised. The OEDA award was presented at its annual conference where it also awarded others for excellence in economic development.

"It's great to see our unique approach to workforce development get recognized by the OEDA," said Rick Szabrak, Fairfield County Economic and Workforce Development Director. "The real award is the impact we're making on the students at the Workforce Center – especially seeing so many of them start successful careers. But to be recognized by our peers is always nice because we would love to see more programs like this across the state."

Szabrak and Fairfield County Commissioner Dave Levacy were also honored to accept an Outstanding Community Partner Award from Ohio University on the heels of the OEDA award. The presentation highlighted the Fairfield County Workforce Center's innovative approach to developing future workers through its partnership with Ohio University and the investment made by the County Commissioners to achieve this success.

"Fairfield County continues to lead the state in workforce training and development innovation and it's a role we take very seriously," said Levacy. "These awards validate our efforts and outcomes and illustrate the importance of the relationships we maintain with our educational partners, our employers, and our community. Together we are accomplishing great things while addressing the very real workforce issues in central Ohio."

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