

# WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

TUESDAY TRAINING SERIES  
GREATERFERGUSFALLS.COM

**JANUARY 7, 2020, 11AM-1PM**

MN DUAL TRAINING GRANT: PROGRAM AND GRANT OVERVIEW (1 OF 2, NEXT SESSION FEBRUARY 18TH)\*

**LOCATION: LAKES COUNTRY SERVICE CO-OP  
1001 E MT FAITH AVE, FERGUS FALLS**

*Speakers: Annie Welch, MN Department of Labor, Jacquelynn Mol-Sletten, MN Office of Higher Education*

This event is specifically for the following industries: advanced manufacturing, agriculture, health care and information technology. The MN Department of Labor and Office of Higher Education are coming to Fergus Falls to teach you about the Pipeline Dual-Training Program and grant opportunity which will open for applications in March of 2020. Pairing on the job training with related instruction is crucial to develop today's workforce, and employers in the four targeted industries may apply for grants (up to \$6,000 per person) to reimburse for expenses related to attaining an industry-recognized degree, certificate or credential for their employees.

**JANUARY 21, 2020, 8AM-9:30AM**

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT GRANTS 101

**LOCATION: M STATE - FERGUS FALLS, ROOM S436**

*Speakers: Amy Hochgraber, Workforce Solutions, M State Community & Technical College, Annie Deckert, CEO of Greater Fergus Falls*

There are a plethora of employer resources and programs available to enhance your workforce. Speakers will discuss a variety of resources and funding sources (grant opportunities) for Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) Internships, on-site, customized training, equipment training and nationally accredited apprenticeships. M State Workforce Development Solutions, MJSP, Scitechsphere, Apprenticeships: overviews will be provided of these four training grant programs, business eligibility, types of training, funding amounts and application schedules. Grants range from \$2,500 to \$400,000, real life examples provided.

**FEBRUARY 4, 2020, 11AM-1PM**

EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT: WHAT IS IT, WHY DO I CARE, HOW DO I MEASURE IT AND HOW DO I IMPROVE IT?

**LOCATION: M STATE - FERGUS FALLS, ROOM S436**

*Speakers: Multi Business Solutions*

Employee Engagement is a term that has been around for a long time, and has been used by companies to determine how connected an employee feels to the company, and how vested they are in the success of the company. Are they working just for the paycheck, or do they care about contributing to the overall success of the company? Are they willing to go "above and beyond", or do they do the bare minimum? An engaged employee will provide better customer service, generate more sales, promote the business, and genuinely want to stay and grow their career with you. Looking at the HR metrics of your company, along with creating and administering an employee survey, will help to measure your current level of engagement. Once you know where you are at, you can design the roadmap for where you want to go. While there is no "magic bullet" to high employee engagement, we will give you some ideas and tips that you can use to drive your engagement in the right direction - up!

**FEBRUARY 18, 2020, 9AM-12PM**

MN DUAL TRAINING GRANT: APPLICATION WRITING WORKSHOP (2 OF 2)\*

**LOCATION: ALEXANDRIA TECHNICAL COLLEGE**

The MN Office of Higher Education will present a hands-on seminar to those pursuing an application for the Pipeline Program (opens in March). Course will provide tips, tricks and recommendations to strengthen the competitiveness of your application.

\*these sessions are specifically for employers/employees in the following industries: Agriculture, Advanced Manufacturing, Health Care & Information Technology

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**FEBRUARY 25, 2019, 11AM-1PM**

**SMALL FISH, BIG POND: HOW SMALL BUSINESSES CAN COMPETE WITH BIG BUSINESSES TO ATTRACT & RETAIN TALENT**

**LOCATION: LAKES COUNTRY SERVICE CO-OP  
1001 E MT FAITH AVE, FERGUS FALLS**

*Speakers: Multi Business Solutions*

As a small business owner, you might feel like you are a "small fish in a big pond" when it comes to attracting and retaining employees. It's normal to become discouraged when an employee leaves you to pursue an opportunity at a "larger company". Instead of looking at your size as a disadvantage; however, you need to turn the story around and focus on the advantages that you can offer as a smaller employer. We will share with you some benefit packages that small business can/should offer to attract employees and other "non-benefit" specific tips to help retain employees. Remember that there are more to great company benefits than a gym membership and a competitive salary.

**MARCH 10, 2020, 11AM-1PM**

**ENHANCING YOUR WORKFORCE THROUGH UTILIZING LOCAL STUDENTS**

**LOCATION: ALT EVENT CENTER, 1100 N UNION, SUITE B, FERGUS FALLS, MN**

*Speakers: Kathryn Enderson, ISD 544, Rich Wessells, MN Department of Labor & Industry*

Session will highlight efforts to create partnerships between schools and area businesses to expose students to a variety of career paths and address workforce shortages. Learn about state funding available to create these partnerships and implement a program in your community. Information about employing students under the age of 18 in hazardous occupations (i.e. manufacturing) will also be provided and discussed.

**MARCH 31, 2020, 8:30AM-12:30PM**

**THE NEXT DECADE: HOW TO BE A PREFERRED EMPLOYER & THRIVE**

**LOCATION: ALT EVENT CENTER, 1100 N UNION, SUITE B, FERGUS FALLS, MN**

*Speaker: Mike Henke*

The workforce crisis is not going away, but there are solutions that can improve attraction and retention, develop the next wave of leaders, and ensure that your organization has the talent to thrive. Hear how any business, large or small, and any industry, can connect to what employees will be looking for!

Mike Henke is a national speaker from Nebraska that grew up in Minnesota and has spent time in the Fergus Falls area and understands it's appeal. Mike has a passion for building strong teams, and has innovative solutions to create a positive, winning workplace culture. How to create teamwork and keep everyone happy is a moving target, but Mike continues to develop timely answers to insure that you are the "cool place to work!"

Mike has created over 50 innovative training programs, and his upbeat, interactive style gets great reviews, but also provides tangible solutions to improve your organization!



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