

Minneapolis Workforce Council Newsletter

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Unemployment Stats for Minneapolis

The February 2015 unemployment rate for Minneapolis stands at 3.6%, down from January's 3.8%. The federal government's estimate of the Minneapolis labor force is 228,810, with 8,190 unemployed and actively looking for work. The year-over-year trend for February shows both increased labor force participation (adding nearly 3,000 to the labor force) and lower unemployment by .9% both indicating confidence in the local and regional economy.

Anecdotal evidence confirms what the statistics show. Businesses seeking applicants via our diverse network of providers and the increase of traffic at recent job fairs and hiring events highlight the demand for employment services and the hope that comes with a growing economy. We see this worker shortage trend continuing over the long-term as businesses experience the increased retirement of baby-boomers and the career movement opportunities for those currently employed that allows for backfill of existing positions.

Challenges remain. Minority unemployment and skills gaps are higher than that for whites, especially among those lacking formal education or industry recognized credentials.

DEED has added a section to its website that examines the unemployment rate by various demographics. Go here for details. <http://mn.gov/deed/data/current-econ-highlights/alternative-unemployment.jsp>

Our program demographics:

Nearly 80% of successful job seekers in Minneapolis Employment and Training supported programs were minorities.

In 2014, through our network of 13 neighborhood-based Employment Service Providers, Minneapolis Employment and Training served over 4,500 youth and adults looking for work.

In youth programs alone, 95% of participants were minority youth 14-21.

Our programs were 52% female and 48% male.

100% of program participants, both youth and adults, were either low-income, unemployed, or a youth with a barrier to employment or school.

Minneapolis Among First of 20 Regions to Participate in President's 'TechHire' Initiative

On March 9, 2015, President Obama announced his TechHire initiative, to work with communities to get more Americans rapidly trained for well-paying technology jobs. TechHire is a multi-sector effort and call to action for local communities to collaborate in helping employers fill critical IT job gaps by empowering a diverse array of Americans to rapidly gain the necessary technology skills, including using nontraditional training options like "coding bootcamps" and high-quality online courses.

Minneapolis' TechHire Commitment will expand upon three accelerated tech training programs operating in the region – Prime Digital Academy, IT-Ready, and Concordia University – that will be training a combined 300 individuals this year for entry level software positions. The region's work also includes commitments from over sixty employers and apprenticeship partners representing thousands of software development, networking, and technical support jobs. Through partnerships with the City of Minneapolis, the State of Minnesota, the Creating IT Futures Foundation, the local non-profit Jewish Family and Children's Services, and the Minnesota High Tech Association, the local alliance will increase the accessibility of the programs by making funding available for qualified students who would otherwise be unable to afford to attend. (No federal funds were received by the City of Minneapolis as a result of this designation.)

Find TechHire details and resources including information on how to get involved on the website <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cped/metp/WCMS1P-129028>

West Broadway Education and Career Center to Begin Construction This Summer

Scheduled to open in 2016 at 800 West Broadway, the West Broadway Education and Career Center is a collaboration of education and health care tenants that will offer a collaborative model of career and training opportunities to the residents of North Minneapolis. The anchor tenant will be the North Minneapolis WorkForce Center (Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development [DEED]). Other major tenants include Minneapolis Public Schools (MPS), Minneapolis Community & Technical College (MCTC), and North Point Health and Wellness Center. A retail component is also planned for the building.

*You Are Invited to the West Broadway Education and Career Center Update
Tuesday, March 31, 2015, 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Capri Theater, 2027 West Broadway, Minneapolis, MN 55411*

*Networking and complimentary food and beverages will be take place from 6:00-6:30 p.m.
The official program starts at 6:30 p.m. and go until 8:00 p.m.*

For more information on the project, please visit our website.
<http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cped/wbecc>

Photo: Current rendering of West Broadway Education and Career Center.



EVENTS

Cedar Riverside Hiring and Training Fair

Tuesday, March 31, 10am-3pm

Brian Coyle Center

420 15th Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55454

Sponsored by City of Minneapolis Employment and Training and Hennepin County.

Flyer in English: [http://forums.e-democracy.org/groups/mpls-cr/files/f/mmkwHdRP63PzXzqTQdiAtMzgK2O-2wDe-](http://forums.e-democracy.org/groups/mpls-cr/files/f/mmkwHdRP63PzXzqTQdiAtMzgK2O-2wDe-2vE58GD/Hiring%20and%20Training%20Fair%20March%202015%20(2).pdf)

[2vE58GD/Hiring%20and%20Training%20Fair%20March%202015%20\(2\).pdf](http://forums.e-democracy.org/groups/mpls-cr/files/f/mmkwHdRP63PzXzqTQdiAtMzgK2O-2wDe-2vE58GD/Hiring%20and%20Training%20Fair%20March%202015%20(2).pdf)

Flyer in Somali:

http://forums.e-democracy.org/groups/mpls-cr/files/f/tPyNhwMglNF9dXwxAGqlgrFWTDP-1tal-2vE58LR/Hiring%20and%20Training%20Fair%20March%202015_SO.pdf

Mayor Betsy Hodges 2015 State of the City Address

Thursday, April 2, 2015, 12:00 P.M.

American Swedish Institute

2600 Park Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN

Event is open to the public.

Link to event: <https://www.facebook.com/events/828386233865429/>

MN Construction Crew Trades Hiring Expo

Monday, April 6, 7am-10am

Minneapolis Convention Center

1301 2nd Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN, 55403

Sponsored by City of Minneapolis Employment and Training and Hennepin County.

Link: http://chconstruction.net/public_html/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/MN-CONST-FINAL.pdf

Help Students Prepare for Summer Internships at the 2015 STEP-UP Mock Interviews

April 13-16, 4:45-6:15pm, Minneapolis Convention Center

Join 500+ professionals to help 1,800 young people complete their STEP-UP work-readiness training.

Find more details and sign up for one or more evenings here.

<http://support.achievempls.org/emailviewonwebpage.aspx?erid=237433&trid=02b4fe26-4acd-4d96-96cb-8304093a5a70>

Ninth Annual Minneapolis Teen Job Fair

Saturday, April 25, 12pm-3pm

Minneapolis Central Library

300 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis, MN 55401

This is a great opportunity to connect with young people who are eager to learn more about opportunities in your organization. Whether you offer employment, internships, job training, or volunteer opportunities, please consider hosting a free information table.

More Information: <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cped/metp/MinneapolisTeenJobFair>

RESOURCES

2015 Spring/Summer Employment & Opportunity Guide for Minneapolis Youth

This guide, produced by City of Minneapolis Employment and Training, helps young people find out who is hiring, get job search tips, discover employment resources, and locate non-employment opportunities. Guide:

<http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/www/groups/public/@cped/documents/webcontent/wcms1p-105576.pdf>

Minneapolis Job Seeker Bulletin

The City of Minneapolis Job Seeker Bulletin is a bi-monthly e-newsletter provided to Minneapolis jobseekers, career counselors, and workforce development professionals with information on: job and career fairs, hiring and training events, job training programs, links to job listings, and tips for jobseekers.

To subscribe or read past issues, please click here.

<http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cped/metp/jobseekerbuletin>

Growing Minneapolis

GrowingMinneapolis is a monthly newsletter from the City of Minneapolis department of Community Planning and Economic Development (CPED) with information about the latest news and updates from the programs and services offered by CPED and their partners, new business developments, employment and training information, and housing information.

To subscribe or read past issues, please click here. <http://minneapolismn.gov/cped/growingminneapolis>

For Your Calendar

Minneapolis Workforce Council Meeting Schedule

All meetings are from 8:00-9:30 a.m. with the exception of the Summer Youth Worksite Tour.

Tuesday, May 19th

Tuesday, July 21st – Summer Youth Worksite Tour – 8:00 am – Noon

Tuesday, September 15th

Tuesday, November 17th