



# healthcare/

sector partnership  
supported by conxusNEO

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*where people learn, connect, and innovate*

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*As we near the end of the year, I want to say thank you for your commitment to the Healthcare Sector Partnership! I am excited for 2023 and looking forward to great successes ahead. Looking back at 2022, there is a lot our partners can celebrate!*

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## **REACHING OUR GOAL**

At the onset of the pandemic, many employers identified a critical need for STNAs and implemented improvements in job quality (e.g., leadership training, upskilling) using the [National Fund for Workforce Solutions](#) Job Design Framework as a potential remedy for recruitment/retention challenges.

With the help of our partners, we are happy to announce that 114 individuals have enrolled in the STNA training program through [Stark State College](#). Our goal is to recruit and train 125 individuals by May 2023 and thanks to partners [Akron Public Schools](#), [Akron Urban League](#), and [OhioMeansJobs](#) for your creative efforts to make this goal a success!

As a reminder to employers who want to connect with newly trained students, Stark State allows for recruitment tables to be held on campus, along with posting jobs in the online platform Handshake. For more information, contact [Elise Moore](#).

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## **BUILDING A PIPELINE**

Partners prioritized the need to generate awareness about in-demand careers, develop qualified candidates and remove barriers to these great opportunities. We were grateful to receive the Ohio Industry Sector Partnership grant we requested to support our partners' efforts this year:

- The launch of our first healthcare summer camp for nine students at Akron Public Schools. In demand careers highlighted during the week included, Respiratory Therapy, EMT, Nursing, Radiology and Pharmacy.
  - To foster more interest in healthcare from immigrants and refugees, [Summa Health](#) partnered with [ASIA Inc](#) to provide a week-long experience for young adults ages 16-24
  - Childcare and transportation expenses were offset for individuals enrolled in healthcare training at [The Well CDC](#) and Stark State College.
  - Leadership training offered by [PHI](#), who specializes in training in the long-term and disability sectors, to 14 managers who desired to take a relationship-centered approach to ensure respect and teamwork are central to their workplace culture.
  - The [Akron Urban League](#) Ambassador program helped 13 individuals advance in healthcare career pathways.
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## **COMING SOON**

### ***Training Non-Native English Speakers***

Project Learn and Stark State College will be launched their first STNA cohort for non-native English speakers in Spring 2023. ESOL participants will attend classes two days a

week over the course of 12 weeks to receive hands on training and additional curriculum support courses from Project Learn. Funding is secured for this opportunity, however we are looking for supports to cover the following: Please see the [flyer](#) for more information or contact [Timothy Bailey](#).

- Physicals
- Books and Workbooks
- Scrubs and Shoes

If you are interested in providing any support for this effort, please [contact Ameeca](#).

### ***Employer Meet-Ups***

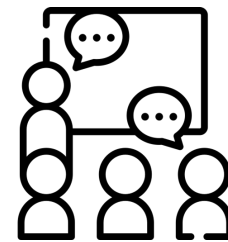
Healthcare meets-up are returning!! During these informal virtual meet-ups, employers create a community of learning and discuss workforce challenges, learn from one another, and share best practices and policies in order to better support their employees. Keep an eye out for the first date in January 2023!



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## **JOB COACHES MAKING A DIFFERENCE**

[Kent State University](#) College of Public Health team and [Summit DD](#) have been working together to evaluate the impact job/success coaches have on employee retention. This initiative is offered to new hires to increase retention as a result of addressing barriers that could impact their employment within their first 90 days. We can't wait to share with you the impact job coaches make!!



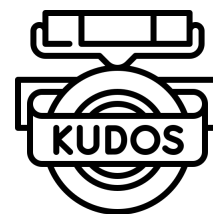
[Akron Children's Hospital](#) provides mentoring/coaching for participants in its Career Launch program which offers current employees and community members support to gain the necessary training for specific in-demand roles (RN, LPN, medical assistants, and pharmacy techs)

Summa's Career Pathways Ambassador Program launched with the goal to ease the anxiety of new hires at Summa Health by providing a personal connection with an established employee, leading to long-term employee retention.

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## **KUDOS**

- [OneKey Medical](#) has expanded and OneKey Virtual Care has officially launched! This service ensures patient safety remotely with real time monitoring and live response. For more information, contact [Kristen Nervo Dowey](#).
- Summa also launched the Smart Start Health program to help combat ongoing staffing challenges. This program, in partnership with Aultman College of Nursing and Health Sciences, gives individuals an opportunity to earn a Phlebotomy or Medical Assistant degree with 100 percent paid tuition.
- Summa launched their Daily Pay program. Employees can transfer available funds at any time to use before payday. Any remaining funds will be deposited on the actual scheduled pay day. Great way to demonstrate you care about your employee's financial well-being.



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## **LOCAL RESOURCES**

The [University of Akron](#) offers CQE (Certificate of Qualification for Employment) clinics for individuals who have criminal convictions to assist them in applying for a Certificate of Qualification for Employment. The clinics are usually held on Saturdays from 9am-12pm at the University of Akron.

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The [Summit NEXT](#) is a free program that provides retention and support services for recently employed individuals who have experienced a decline in public assistance caused by an increase in household earnings.

To learn how your employees or clients can benefit, contact [summitnext@jfs.ohio.gov](mailto:summitnext@jfs.ohio.gov)

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[Goodwill Industries](#) administers a transportation program to support individuals with transportation needs. Individuals or 501(c)(3) organizations can apply by visiting [here](#).

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Employers, looking for training programs to connect to that are preparing graduates for your jobs? Don't forget to check out our [training database](#) of academic programs in our region that align with your hiring needs.

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Findings from the [Where are the Workers?](#) research rolled out in August. This extensive research project addresses the issues of recruitment and retention in the Greater Akron area. Please visit the website for a list of full resources, suggested strategies and to find out more about the project.

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[Career STAT](#) is a free resource to increase investment in the skills and careers of frontline healthcare workers. For more information, please contact [Melissa Kleder](#). To view a short video click [here](#).

*I hope you feel good about the work that has been done together! If you would like additional information about the work of this collaborative, please feel free to contact me.*

*Thank you for being great partners and I look forward to working together in 2023! Happy holidays!*



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