

News Release - For Immediate Release

The Community Action Committee of Pike County Announces Program Merger: Workforce & Business Development

Community Action Committee of Pike County is proud to announce the merger of the Business Development Program and the Employment and Training Program effective January 1, 2018. The Program is now the **Workforce & Business Development Program**.

Keith Pitts, Executive Director for the Community Action Committee of Pike County stated, “The merger and name change reflect the consolidation of two programs that serve a similar client dynamic. The Workforce & Business Development Program will still provide all of the services under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), as well as assist area small businesses providing business development services. The programs fit well together and can offer a better client experience as a comprehensive program.”

By working together as one, the Program will serve Pike County and the surrounding area offering expertise in small business services, free income tax preparation, financial literacy, as well as WIOA and TANF programs and services that prepare adults and youth facing serious barriers to employment.

The program will continue to be an active partner of OhioMeansJobs. The OhioMeansJobs Resource Center offers an array of free resources for job search, career planning, and access to community resources. The Resource Center will continue to be open to the public Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Anyone seeking employment can visit the Resource Center during normal business hours.

All services will continue without interruption. The Workforce & Business Development Staff will continue to be housed at the Community Action Committee of Pike County’s main agency location at 941 Market Street, Piketon, Ohio.

“I believe the merger of the departments is a win-win for all involved. Having the programs together as one program allows us to offer services directly that previously had to be completed by a referral process. The new program will allow a more universal approach to helping individuals and businesses.”

“I am so excited to lead this very talented group of people in continuing to offer employment and small business services to our community and am looking forward to the enhancing the Program,” stated Lisa Pfeifer, Workforce & Business Development Program Director.

Some of the Workforce & Business Development Services offered include Career Readiness Workshops, Customized Training, Occupational Classroom Training, On-the-Job Training (OJT), Internship Training, Youth Programs, and Resume Development Services. Monies are allocated specifically for youth between the ages of 14-24, adults that are unemployed or incumbent workers, individuals unemployed due to a plant closure or long-term unemployment, and individuals with little or no work experience. Youth applicants must meet 100% of the Poverty Guidelines or 70% of the Lower Living Standard Income Levels (whichever is highest) or meet specified criteria. Adult Applicants must meet 200% of the Poverty Guidelines, and Dislocated Workers must have a notice of permanent layoff or plant closure prior to enrollment.

Services offered to area Small Businesses (including start-ups) include small business classes and one-on-one training and technical assistance, computer training in Excel and QuickBooks, as well as the Small Business Loan Program that offers financing to individuals in Jackson, Pike, Ross, Scioto, Adams, Brown, and Lawrence Counties wanting to start, expand, or purchase a small business.

For more information on the Workforce & Business Development programs, please contact them at 740-289-2371 or toll free at 1-866-820-1185. Visit them on the web: www.workforcebusinessdevelopment.org or find them on Facebook!

