



Transitions: The Education and Workforce Connection

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NGA Academy on Creating the Next Generation of Workforce Development Policy

■ Academy Goals

- Connect workforce development to state economic needs
 - Build stronger education pipeline
 - Expand opportunities for continuous learning
 - Enhance worker ability to manage career
 - Strengthen work supports
 - Strengthen governance and accountability
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Montana's Goals

- Workforce development system responds to employer's current and emerging needs for skilled workers
 - Postsecondary education is responsive to workforce development training which supports industry clusters and economic development
 - Workforce development policy is based on an efficient system that supports economic development
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The Montana Project

- Goals one and two focused on healthcare occupations.
 - Outcomes will be evaluated to determine if these strategies and action plans can be replicated to impact other worker shortage occupations.
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Major Results of Montana's Participation in Academy

- Organizing workforce development services around cluster-based initiatives
 - Adopting a Career Pathways approach in Community and Technical Colleges aligned with industry clusters
 - Creating apprenticeship programs in health care occupations
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Other Results...

- Passing legislation for a Primary Business Workforce Training Program funded through the Board of Investments
 - Participating as one of six states in the Integrated Performance Information Project – US Dept. of Labor
 - resulting in a statewide discussion for sharing data
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More...

- Targeted the Governor's WIA discretionary funds for collaborative healthcare programs in two-year colleges
 - Radiology-shared online curriculum
 - Healthcare Informatics-Pathway from two-year to four-year program
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Achieving Consensus

- The team structure promoted open communication, built trust and provided knowledge of each other's challenges, work relationships, and priorities
 - Team evolved into the State Agency Management Team
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State Agency Management Team

SAM

- Meet monthly
 - Advisory to the Governor's State Workforce Investment Board
 - Resource to Local Boards
 - Shared Professional Development
 - Policy review for consistency across agencies
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Surprises and Revelations

- Our work has found its way into several other state initiatives
 - Shared Leadership
 - P-20
 - Governor's Priorities

 - Created partnerships and new opportunities that would not have happened otherwise
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Connecting CTE and Economic Development

Has it helped or hindered our
goals for CTE in Montana?

A Boost to CTE in Montana

- Viewed as the vehicle for improving our economy
 - Skilled workforce incentive for new businesses
 - Expanding access to CTE has become a priority for our:
 - Governor
 - Legislators
 - Business Leaders
 - Communities
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THANK YOU!

