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2024 Skilled Labor Advisory Board (SLAB) Overview

Mission Statement

To serve and inspire organizations, families, individuals of the greater Northeast Ohio region to assist in the growth, support, and future of the individualized community needs.

The Why:

At One Step Ahead Ohio (OSAO), we understand that a traditional four-year college or university is not for everyone. The Skilled Labor Foundations first component is hosting annual community advocacy events targeted towards middle school students to raise awareness for the benefits of a career in the skilled labor industry. OSAO also helps selected high school seniors offset the costs of post-high school skilled labor education for underserved, economically disadvantaged students.

The long-term component provides the financial foundation for educational institution support and growth through annual development grants including but not limited to new training equipment, increasing class room capability, and additional hands-on courses.

Did You Know...

- More than 1/3 of skilled workers are 50+ years of age.
- According to the National Skills Coalition, Ohio will need to fill an estimated 656,000 middle-skill jobs by 2025, many of which will require training in skilled labor.

Financial Goals:

To provide a trained and skilled workforce for specialty tradesperson sectors in Northeast Ohio by advocating with local leaders across these industries for collaboration with trade, technical, and vocational institutions throughout the region. The SLAB has a specific focus on raising awareness for the long-term career benefits of the trade industries, with an emphasis on the annual development grant recipient.

The long-term goal is to grow a fund sizable enough to provide recurring scholarships sourced from the fund's earnings as well as awarding grants to early educational institutions, with or for, skilled labor specific programs.

- Q4 – 2024 - \$70,000
- Q3 – 2025 - \$100,000
- Q1 - 2028 - \$250,000

2024 Advisor Board Seat Mandatory Commitment & Benefit:

- 100% Board Member Participation
- Annual \$5,000 "Give or Get" Donation
- In-Person Event Commitment
 - 12 Total Hours
 - Q1 – OSAO Fundraiser - 4 hours
 - Q3 – Community Advocacy Event – 5 hours
 - Q4 – Annual Retreat - 3 Hours
- Virtual Commitment
 - 4 Total Hours (*1 board meeting per quarter*)
- September Vote for Annual Development Recipient & Donation Amount
- General Commitment Expectations
 - 3 Hours Weekly
 - Individual Skilled Labor Foundation Projects
 - Fundraising & Networking
 - Individual SLAB Projects Facilitation
 - Advocating

If you are interested in learning more about becoming a member of the Skilled Labor Advisory Board, please reach out to Joe Manofsky (330-406-8824) or Jim Phelps (224-330-5630) for additional information and board member details.

Joe Manofsky
President | Co-Founder

Jim Phelps
Skilled Labor Ambassador