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Summer 2015[View this email in your browser](#)

ATLANTA CareerRise

[Atlanta CareerRise](#) builds employer-led workforce partnerships in high-growth industries to fill jobs, close the skills gap, and move underemployed individuals up the career ladder.

Logistics Workforce Partnership Graduates First Certified Logistics Technicians

Congratulations are in order for the first ever Certified Logistics Technicians holding national certification from the Manufacturing Standards Skills Council (MSSC). The ten students celebrated their success at a graduation hosted by training partner Bobby Dodd Institute which was attended by employers Home Depot and Future Forwarding. Certification results in employees being ready to succeed in a fast-paced distribution environment, and is documented to provide significant cost-savings to employers due to improved performance and retention.

Atlanta CareerRise developed and launched the program after extensive research with employers in the southern crescent about hiring needs, skill gaps and barriers to advancement. This feedback, coupled with research on the projected growth in this sector in Clayton and surrounding counties, led to the establishment of a Logistics Workforce Partnership targeting two initial training pathways: entry level materials handling workers and entry level customs brokering.

The training program, developed and certified by the MSSC with employers all over the country, combines safety, occupational skills, employability and soft skills, and technology training. The Bobby Dodd Institute in Jonesboro, now a certified MSSC testing site, facilitated the training as a three week full time program. In preparation, instructors were required to test and become certified under the rigorous MSSC curriculum requirements. Students obtained a foundational-level Certified Logistics Associate certificate, forklift operation certificate and soft skills training, and ultimately a mid-level technical Certified Logistics Technician credential.

Employers or individuals interested in this program should contact Scott Karlen at Scott.Karlen@bobbydodd.org.



The first Certified Logistics Technicians in the metro area graduated on July 24th.

International Trade Training Pathway Graduates Second Cohort

The second International Trade Training pathway cohort (pictured below), comprised of 13 unemployed Clayton State University students, just graduated in late June. The "ABCs of Customs Brokerage" curriculum provides entry-level

workers with the skills and knowledge equivalent to one year of experience as a customs specialist, as well the opportunity to earn national certification as a Certified Customs Specialist (CCS) through the National Customs Brokers and Forwarders Association of America's National Educational Institute. Developed by Mullins International, a well-known international trade training and consulting firm and offered by Clayton State University's Continuing Education department, this course is a foundational step that can start an individual toward significant career advancement in customs brokering and international trade.

The CCS certification is typically earned through an online course of study and requires significant on the job experience. Through a special arrangement with Atlanta CareerRise, students completing the 90-hour course that pass the final course exam are eligible to take the NCBFAA/NEI exam proctored through Clayton State University.



The second International Trade Training Pathway cohort graduate on June 30th.

DeKalb Medical Launches Incumbent Advancement Program

With support from Atlanta CareerRise, DeKalb Medical is launching a new School at Work™ program this August for two cohorts of frontline employees. School at Work (SAW)™ is a career development system developed by Catalyst Learning that prepares entry-level employees in the healthcare industry for advanced positions and for enrollment in local community colleges and technical schools through refreshing of soft skills, self-assessment, and career exploration. This nationally recognized model has shown to improve entry-level job performance, engagement, retention, and succession planning. In addition, Atlanta CareerRise Healthcare Partnership Manager Helen Slaven will assist DeKalb Medical in developing a needs assessment to yield a frontline workforce advancement strategy. Leroy Walker, Vice President of Human Resources, attended the National Fund for Workforce Solutions annual conference in June to learn more firsthand from peers around the country who have increased their performance through employee advancement programs.

Atlanta CareerRise and MAX Highlighted as Best Practice

A new report from the Annie E. Casey Foundation, [Changing the Odds: The Race for Results in Atlanta](#), highlights the city's north-south divide and data showing that where children and families live — often synonymous with their racial or ethnic background — can determine their prospects for success in life. The report highlights three key areas that

support or thwart children's healthy development: (1) the community where they grow up; (2) school experiences; and (3) family access to economic opportunities.

Atlanta CareerRise and MAX were highlighted as best practices in strengthening access to opportunities for economic mobility—Atlanta CareerRise through sector-specific training programs which focus on underemployed workers in the regions served and MAX for facilitating connections and capacity of the regional workforce system.

New Board Member

CareerRise welcomes our newest board member, Wendy Jamerson of Bank of America, who will be replacing Cecilie Goodman as she moves into a new role in the Bank of America Foundation. Bank of America is a founding investor in Atlanta CareerRise.

Atlanta CareerRise Announces Funding

Atlanta CareerRise recently received \$411,000 in new funding from Bank of America, the J.P. Morgan Chase Foundation, and United Way of Greater Atlanta to continue work advancing frontline employees in employer-led partnerships. Since its inception in late 2011, Atlanta CareerRise has secured more than \$3 million in investment to implement its demand-driven, dual customer model of workforce development in the metro Atlanta region.

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