



## **NCII Rural Pathways Project**

### **Institute 3: Connection to College and Connection to Programs: The Role of the Institution and Community Stakeholders**

**Team Session 3 – February 9, 2023**

#### **Overall Note:**

Team time templates are designed to be worked on initially during the Institute and then utilized back at the college as a point of departure for further inquiry. Completed post-institute team time documents are to be submitted to Sarah Cale at [sarah@ncii-improve.com](mailto:sarah@ncii-improve.com) by **March 17<sup>th</sup>**.

#### **Introduction to Team Time #3:**

Colleges and community members want to partner, but they don't always know what to ask for. This team time exercise is designed to help you think about ways to collaborate more effectively in the context of specific disciplines and industries.

Please identify an academic discipline or industry with strong enrollments, regional labor market demand, and the potential for living wages (you can use the program enrollment analysis from CCRC and the data decks provided in Team Session #1 to select a field).

List that discipline/industry here:

Break up into teams based on your roles and rank order the following list of your priorities for your chosen field.



**College Personnel:** Which would you value most from your community partners if your goal was to help more students grow professionally and attain a family-sustaining wage?

1. Hands-on learning opportunities
2. Pay incentives for working students to take courses
3. Schedule flexibility for working students to take courses
4. Lists of valued credentials/certifications/licenses that clarify key skills needed for direct employment
5. Examples of how specific 21st Century skills are used in this sector
6. Qualified professionals in the field to teach courses
7. Equipment donations
8. Hiring agreements for program graduates
9. Alert workers about training opportunities
10. Adjustments to pay scales based on educational attainment
11. [Other items of your choosing]

**Business and Industry Partners:** Which would you value most from the college if your goal was to create a thriving job market that enables workers to grow professionally and support their families?

1. Customized training to support upskilling
2. Customized training to support new employees
3. Course scheduling that minimizes conflict with standard work hours
4. Micro-credentials that align with specific skill sets or industry credentials
5. Classroom activities that are more aligned with common technical job tasks
6. Teach [21st Century skills](#) that are specifically aligned with the needs of the sector
7. Training on more modern equipment than what the college currently uses
8. Support students on cover letter and resume writing to better articulate relevant skills
9. Hiring agreements for program graduates
10. Communicate about upcoming training opportunities
11. [Other items of your choosing]

**K12 Partners:** What would you most value from the college if your goal was to create more transparent pathways into the community college and then to a transfer institution or directly into a job in the region?

1. Earlier career exploration
2. More frequent events that allow students to explore careers and the educational pathways that lead to those career opportunities
3. Targeted career conversations with the parents of your students so they understand the role of the college in their student's future
4. More dual enrollment opportunities in academic disciplines that traditionally result in a student transferring to a university
5. More dual enrollment opportunities in academic disciplines in career and technical fields
6. Opportunities for high school students to take a college-developed career exploration course
7. Additional opportunities for students to visit the college campus
8. College support for high school students to complete the community college application and FAFSA
9. Academic planning for students in high school that includes pathways into and through the community college
10. Hands-on learning experiences for students
11. [Other items of your choosing]

**Share your lists with each other.**

- How well aligned are they?
  
- How can you each provide the most relevant resources for each other?
  
- If you would prefer to have this discussion with discipline and industry experts who are not here today, identify who you would talk with and how you could engage them in discussing these questions.