

LSCP Foundation

Your Champion for Economic Development

Welcome to the new LSCP Foundation E-Newsletter. This publication will be used to keep all interested parties informed on the latest exciting news and happenings with the Foundation.

November 2006

Line Tech Students Work with NTN

On November 6, 2006 students from the Electrical Line Technician Program at K.I. Sawyer, were found installing light posts in the parking area on the Noquemanon Trail in Marquette.

The program, now in its fourth year, is a pre-apprenticeship program that prepares students to install, maintain and operate electrical systems to supply energy to residential, commercial and industrial customers and underground generation facilities.

Graduating students (now totaling 93) have over a 90% placement rate after finishing the one-year program.



Wealth Transfer Information Provided by LSCPF

It is widely known that today's retirees constitute one of the wealthiest segments of the U.S. population with more personal wealth than any previous generation. And, of course, those retirees aren't getting any younger. So, what is going to happen with those assets when the current retirees pass away? It is often the advice of attorneys and accountants that give the recommendation to the answer to that question.

Many people grew up in our area and want to see it prosper in the future for their grandchildren, great grandchildren, and many more generations down the line. They want to leave money for the community, but to who?

The Lake Superior Community Partnership Foundation (LSCPF) is working to educate local attorneys and accountants on the Foundation's efforts and how we are an excellent choice for charitable dollars that benefit the masses. Since our mission focuses on economic and community development, creating a livable community for generations to come is often appealing to those making wealth transfer decisions.

Gloria LaPointe, Accountant for Cowell & LaPointe, PC says, "I attended the recent Wealth Transfer Reception hosted by LSCP and was surprised and impressed with the extensive involvement they have in our community and workforce development. If you have the opportunity to sit down with someone from the Foundation, please take the time and opportunity to learn about this organization."

Anyone who is interested in more information concerning wealth transfer and LSCPF can contact any Foundation representative.

Grant Funds Given to LSCP Foundation



Recently it was announced that the Lake Superior Community Partnership Foundation received a \$90,000 Regional Skills Alliance (RSA) grant. The funding is an expansion of the existing Regional Industrial Manufacturing Skill Alliance, which is part of the Michigan Regional Skill Alliance Initiative through the Department of Labor and Economic Growth.

The \$90,000 RSA grant will be used to purchase training modules for the Career & Technical Education program at Westwood High School, which is set to kick-off in the fall of 2007. Darlene Gendron, Upper Peninsula Power Company employee and Vocational Initiative committee co-chair says, "The future is certainly bright for our youth who are interested in pursuing certification in a number of vocational areas. Receiving a quality introduction at the high school level will be a tremendous help to students and to the industries who will employ them."

The program, a collaboration of the NICE School District, with support from the Lake Superior Community Partnership Foundation, Midwest Skill Development Center and Northern Michigan University, will focus on information and skills related to Electrical Systems and Mechanical Systems as found in industry. The program, though housed at Westwood High School, will be open to students from Ishpeming, Republic-Michigamme, and Westwood in this Phase I.

"Many manufacturers have requested a program like this in Marquette County," said Amy Clickner, Chief Executive Officer of the Lake Superior Community Partnership. "Students receiving this type of hands-on education will be better suited to fill job needs being caused by the current aging workforce."

Scenes From the Midwest Skills Development Center



Brenda Njawaji and Gwen Timmons from the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth recently visited the Midwest Skills Development Center's Electrical Line Tech School at K.I. Sawyer. Shown (upper left) is Lead Instructor and UPPCO employee, Jerry LePage, explaining field drills to Njawaji and Timmons.



Additionally this fall, The Upper Peninsula Power Company donated a Derrick Line Truck to the line tech school. The truck was previously used by the Ishpeming service center. Shown (upper right) are Andy Tankka, line school student; Darlene Gendron, Ishpeming Customer Service Manager; John Heikkila, Ishpeming Customer Service Coordinator; Micah Aubert, line school student; and Jerry LePage.