



## Cinnati-Hamilton County Community Action Agency

*We help make things happen*

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### **CAA receives “Best Practice Award” for job training program** *Stimulus-funded manufacturing program recognized for its success*

(Cinnati, OH) – The Cinnati-Hamilton County Community Action Agency (CAA) received a “Best Practice Award” for the successful implementation of its Cinnati Manufacturing Certificates Program (CMC). Given by the John Glenn School of Public Affairs at The Ohio State University and the Ohio Association of Community Action Agencies, the award honors innovative and effective programs that meet the needs of clients and the community by assisting low-income families in becoming self-sufficient. CAA is one of eight agencies to win the Best Practice Award this year.

Created for laid off or low-earning individuals, the CMC program equips production technicians with the high-tech skills and knowledge needed within the manufacturing industry. CMC uses the national certification curriculum developed by the Manufacturing Skill Standards Council (MSSC) to provide 140 hours of education and testing on topics such as hazardous material safety, blueprint reading, and machine operations. Students can earn up to four MSSC Production Certifications in the areas of quality, safety, production processes, and maintenance awareness. Equipped with MSSC certifications, graduates are highly qualified to meet production technician performance expectations for new hires. Additionally, the MSSC certification can help increase access to promotions, higher pay, and job security. CAA also helps CMC graduates secure job interviews with area companies.

The Best Practice Award recognized CMC’s success after its launch in 2009 with funds from the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act (ARRA). During the 17 months funded under ARRA (April 2009 – September 2010), 90 individuals graduated with 25 securing full-time employment through the program, earning an average of \$13.50/hour. CAA is proud to continue offering the CMC program.

CAA is a private, nonprofit organization that has served as a lifeline for low-income children and adults throughout Hamilton County for more than four decades. The agency provides assistance with employment, supportive services, home energy bills, home weatherization, early childhood education, housing, and youth programs. CAA is a member of the Ohio Association of Community Action Agencies, an organization representing the 50 Community Action Agencies around the state. The agencies administer nearly \$750 million in resources aimed at alleviating the problems of poverty in Ohio’s communities, employ more than 6,000 people, and provide service to nearly 800,000 Ohioans.

For more information on the services provided by CAA, call (513) 569-1840 or visit [www.cincy-caa.org](http://www.cincy-caa.org).

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