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STIMULUS-FUNDED MANUFACTURING PROGRAM RECOGNIZED FOR ITS SUCCESS! CAA receives “Best Practice Award” for job training program

The Cincinnati-Hamilton County Community Action Agency received a “Best Practice Award” for the successful implementation of its Cincinnati Manufacturing Certificates Program. 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 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



From left: Clinton Johnson, CAA Director of Community Services, Shirley Maul, CAA Manager of Workforce Development and Steve Schumacher, CAA Manufacturing Program Coordinator.

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. During the 17 months funded by 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. Applications for the next class are available

online at www.cincy-caa.org or at CAA's Jordan Crossing facility at 1740 Langdon Farm Road, 45237.

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. Delivering a seamless system of services, the agency provides assistance with employment, supportive services, home energy bills, home weatherization, early childhood education, housing, and youth programs. For more information on the services provided by CAA, call (513) 569-1840 or visit www.cincy-caa.org.