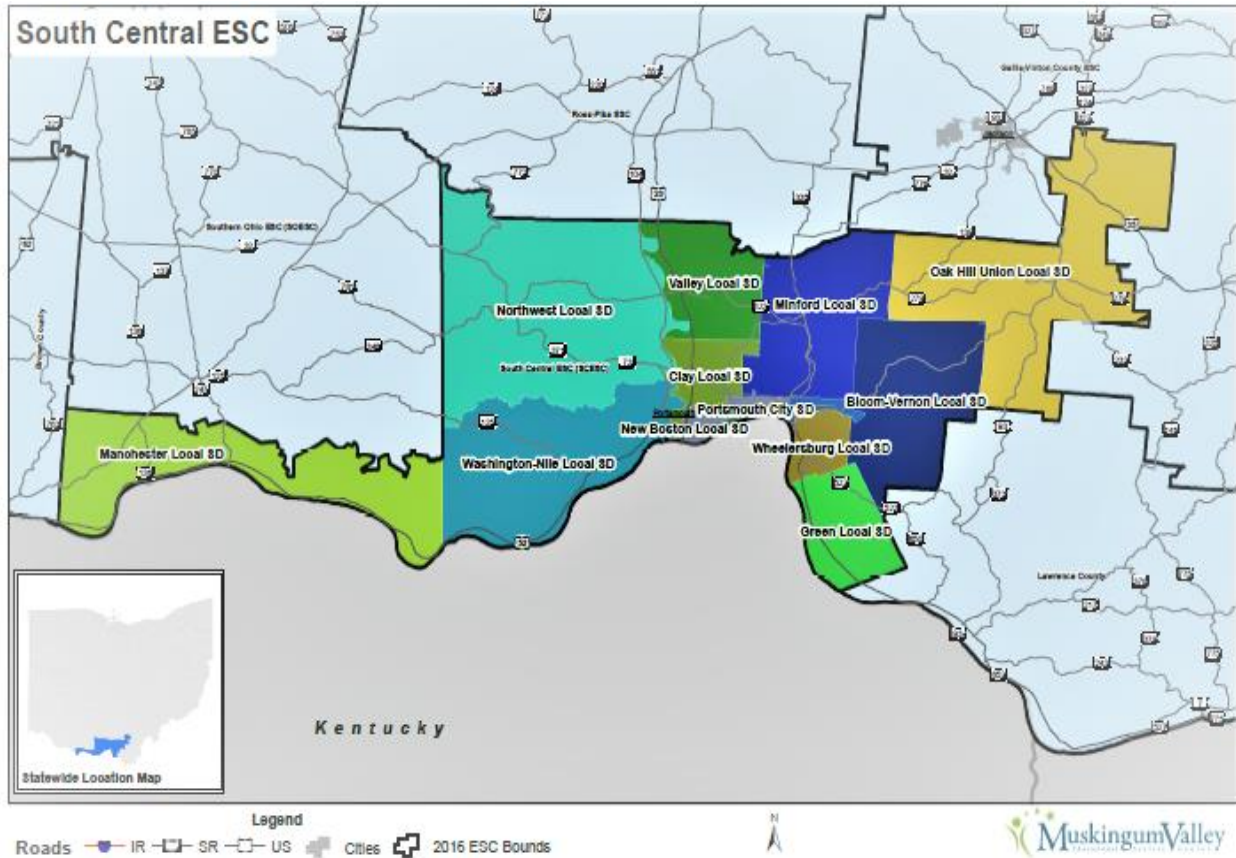


# SCOESC

## Business Advisory Council



## Serving the Member Districts of the South Central Ohio ESC

*Updated February 2019*

# Business Advisory Council Plan

## A. SCOESC Member Districts:

- Bloom Vernon Local
- Clay Local
- Green Local
- Manchester Local
- Minford Local
- New Boston Local
- Northwest Local
- Oak Hill Union Exempted
- Portsmouth City
- Sciotoville Community
- Valley Local
- Washington-Nile Local
- Wheelersburg Local

## B. Meeting Schedule –

The SCOESC Business Advisory Council meet quarterly following the SCOESC board meetings. Meeting schedule for the 2018-2019 school year are as follows:

### *Business Advisory Council Dates:*

- **March 8, 2018 @ 2:00**
- **June 28, 2018 @ 2:00**
- **September 13, 2018 @ 2:00**
- **December 13, 2018 @ 2:00**
- **March 14, 2019 @ 2:00**
- **June 27, 2019 @ 2:00**

## **C. Plan and Implementation–**

The SCOESC Business Advisory Council members will discuss during each meeting the role (found below) of our council, bringing their expertise to the council. The SCOESC superintendent will take minutes of each meeting and supply each school district with those minutes in order to implement ideas or strategies highlighted. The school districts will use the minutes to inform the district's school board of Business Advisory Council suggestions on the topics the council is mandated to cover:

- 1. To advise local school districts on changes in the economy and job market and the area in which future jobs are most likely to be available;*
- 2. To advocate for the employment skills most critical to business and industry and the development of curriculum to teach these skills;*
- 3. To aid and support local school districts by offering suggestions for developing a working relationship among businesses, labor organizations and educators.*

## **D. Council Members–**

The SCOESC Business Advisory Council consists of 11 members from different businesses and agencies serving the member districts of the SCOESC as well as a board representative from the SCOESC Board and the SCOESC Superintendent as chair. The members have agreed to serve on the council until their schedules do not permit, at which time, the member will assist in finding a replacement.

Those members are:

|                    |                               |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| Pat Ciraso         | Educational Representative    |
| Bryan Davis        | Scioto County Commissioner    |
| Lowell Howard      | SCOESC Board Member           |
| Dr. Paul Madden    | Shawnee State University      |
| Sandy Mers         | SCOESC Superintendent/Chair   |
| Gary Piatt         | Labor Representative          |
| Tammy Morton-Moore | Ohio Job and Family Services  |
| Kara Tieman        | Finance – DESCO               |
| LuAnne Valentine   | Community Action Organization |
| Junior Williams    | New Boston Mayor              |
| Treva Williams     | OSU Extension Office          |

## **D. Needs Assessment–**

The demographic profile for Scioto County that follows is based upon the information gathered from the 2015-2017 CAO Needs Assessment Report. Scioto County 2013 Total Population was 78,952. The population estimate as of July 1, 2014, according to the Census Bureau, is 77,258. The number of veterans living in the report area is 10.53% which is more than the national average of 8.99%. Scioto County's population continues to decrease due to several factors. One of the primary factors that contribute to the county's population decrease is the lack of sustainable, living wage, jobs. Scioto County has been hit hard by a twenty-year economic decline. The Detroit Steel Mill closed in the 1980's, the New Boston Coke Plant closed in 2002, and the Ohio River Valley Juvenile Correctional Facility in Franklin Furnace was closed in 2011. The Appalachian Regional Commission currently lists Scioto County as being a Distressed Area in the Appalachian Region. Scioto County was listed "at-risk," from 2005 through 2015. The Commission now classifies Scioto County as "distressed" for 2016.

The only age group of residents showing increased population is those over the age of 65. The senior population is estimated to increase from 15.5% to 23% by the year 2030. Population Profile: Population Change Population change within the report area from 2000-2013 is shown below. During the thirteen-year period, total population estimates for the report area declined by -0.31 percent, decreasing from 79,195 persons in 2000 to 78,952 persons in 2013.

Data from the U.S. Census Bureau shows Scioto County persons living in poverty, during the period from 2009-2013, were over 23%. This means that close to one in four persons was living in poverty. Local officials working with those in need do not dispute those numbers and can provide proof of the need in the community through the services they provide. The local Department of Job and Family Services (DJFS) Agency report in the month of September 2013, there were 1,585 people receiving a cash benefit from their office on a monthly basis. The amount of the benefit could be as low as \$115 a month for one person that would be awaiting disability approval. Cash assistance for families starts at \$253 a month. This gives a perspective as to how low these monthly dollar amounts are for someone living on cash assistance from DJFS. The median household income is \$36,682. There are

26,672 people in Scioto County receiving some type of Medicaid program or premium assistance. This represents nearly 34 percent of the county population. The number of people receiving the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits is 21,000, which represents twenty-seven percent of the county's population. Cuts to the SNAP program, which took effect November, 2013, saw a reduction in the number of meals a family can provide the household each month. According to an article in the Portsmouth Daily Times, a family of four will see their benefit shrink from \$668 a month to \$632, or \$432 over the course of a year. That amounts to 21 meals per month. A survey was conducted by the Social Service Department of the local food pantries in October of 2015. Each local pantry reported that food available for distribution was less than in previous years and requests for assistance was much higher. According to the Ohio Association of Foodbanks, there has been an increase in food pantry visits of 112%. The Senior Nutrition Program (SNP) reports they have a waiting list of 35-45 seniors for their Meals at Home program. The SNP program also reports a decline in the number of seniors attending their congregate site. In a survey conducted at the site, it was reported that transportation to the site was the main factor for the decline in numbers. The Summer Food Program for youth reported a steady increase in the number of meals delivered since its inception. They currently provide over 60,000 meals during the program year. The rising cost of families' basic needs continues to rise. A self-sufficient family of four in Ohio spends about \$3,386 a month on its basic needs, while a family of four in poverty lives on only about \$1,900 a month or less. In the last decade, costs of necessities rose by varying amounts, but Scioto County's median income did not keep pace. According to a report published in the Portsmouth Daily Times in July, 2015, \$17 million in monthly benefits in December, 2013 and \$204 million annually (2013) were paid in Social Security Benefits to residents of Scioto County. According to the article, social security benefits could be reduced by 19% late in 2016 unless steps are taken to shore up the retirement fund. Any cuts to the program would have a significant impact on seniors and disabled living in Scioto County.

The CAO offers a wide variety of job and career services free of charge. Their Resource Center has experienced staff and computers to conduct an internet job search, write a resume, review current job postings, get the latest information on the labor market, make copies of resumes and important employment documents, fax resumes to potential employers, use the telephone service for job prospecting, and

research available financial aid. Workshops are available for those searching for employment. Specialists are available to assist with special needs. The total workforce in Scioto County, according to the Dept. of Labor (8/31/15), was 29,300. The number unemployed (8/31/15) was 1,918. The unemployment rate (8/31/15) was 6.55%.

## **E. 2018-2019 Activities from the BAC–**

Our council members are actively involved in our public schools; therefore, many of the activities listed are common and are in conjunction with the SCOESC Business Advisory Council. Some of the activities are:

Job Fairs at local districts: A gathering of business representatives and employees in a location that allows students and families to learn about business activities and job opportunities in the school district or region. *We have several council members that work in this capacity (DESCO, OSU Extension, CAO, ODJFS, and SCOESC)*

Job Shadowing: Organized opportunities through which students can shadow employees of businesses to understand the nature of the business and job. *We have several council members that work in this capacity (Our Union Trades, OSU Extension, CAO, ODJFS, and SCOESC)*

Internships, cooperative training, work-based learning opportunities or employment for students: Organized opportunities through which students perform work over an extended time in a business setting to fully understand the nature of a job and how to do it. This can include unpaid as well as paid work; including full-time, part-time or summer employment. *We have several council members that work in this capacity (Our Trade Unions, OSU Extension, CAO, ODJFS, and SCOESC)*

Career Counseling and Exploration: This includes helping students learn to use the OhioMeansJobs suite of tools and services. It also includes other career exploration activities or training for district employees on career counseling strategies. *We have several council members that work in this capacity (OSU Extension, CAO, ODJFS, and SCOESC)*

Promoting student commitment to being drug free: This includes activities that raise awareness for students not only about the dangers of drug and alcohol use, but also how the use of drugs and alcohol negatively impacts workplace safety and productivity. *This is a priority topic for all of our council members and will be a focus throughout our existence.*

Mock Interviews: This was a pilot project held February 13, 2019 with Green High School Seniors and our various business partners and secondary education partners. All seniors from Green High School completed at least two interviews with a panel of interviewers. The students then received immediate feedback to help with interviewing skills. They were also required to present a complete resume and application that were examined and critiqued as well.