

COPC Meeting
Friday, March 3, 2006

In Attendance: David Taylor, Deborah Curtis, Michael Jeswald, Cali Gilbert, Julianne Galie, Fran Boltz, David Blackburn, Judy Tederous, Clara Dunn

Al Oddo – Tax Free Assistance Program – Outreach
Vince Agnello – Family Small Owned Business Center

Points Discussed Focused Mainly on Training with some discussion of business services available to Local businesses:

- Brokering- help develop relationships
- Next Thurs – 4 Candidates for COPC Director- all welcome to participate- contact Dave Taylor for times/locations
- 25% cut Niagara County Employment & Training Funding- need to focus on those applicants that can receive approval for NCE&T or find other revenue sources -Native American- Mike Martin has resources
- Educational Training – Focus on Hospitality, but promote all training opportunities available in the region. Utilize previous graduates for part of instruction -trainers – ie Sodexo Reggie. Seneca – Tuition reimbursement
- Empire Zone- **Action- Clare – please forward list of newer (24mos or newer) companies to target.**
- Al Oddo offers free tax help
- Vince Agnello’s Family Business Center can make an impact on start up organizations
- Home ownership – Financial Literacy Training and Business Development
- Employers may be eligible for a Wage Tax \$3000 – credit with a group, \$1500
- Needs Assessment – First 18 months (strengths, struggles)
- Maid of the Mist – Business model-Orientation, Training

Places to send contact information: (POSTER)

Action- please send contact information to Debbie Curtis dcurtis@niagara.edu

- Churches
- Block clubs
- Niagara Arts
- Social Services
- Carolyn’s House
- EWO
- City Hall
- Tony Rostino
- Pamela Gatto
- Seniors NFHS, Carmen Gratto
- Travelodge, Niagara Inn, Best Western, Ramada

****Next Meeting: Friday April 7th 9am- location TBA**