

**Workforce Success (\$3,450,000):** Investing in workforce success means investing in customized training and enhanced career and technical education resources with the goal of providing an even more relevant education that meets the needs of regional employers and our community at large.

In a rapidly changing global economy, innovation means the difference between success and failure. To remain competitive, businesses need a workforce with evolved skills. Throughout our region, we must look toward existing mainstays of our economy, such as agribusiness, food processing, technology, health services, and advanced manufacturing. In order to attract and retain a quality workforce in our region, we must provide innovative educational courses close to home so residents can continually grow their skills while working.

We understand that in order to succeed and remain competitive in today's dynamic business environment, employees must continue to grow and learn. Investment in WNCC's workforce initiatives will create a margin of excellence to meet the demands of tomorrow.

"Our partnership with WNCC has been a great one. By sharing expertise and resources, employers and employees gain a higher level of education."

Davin Rose,  
owner of Affiliated Risk Management

## Some Employers Hiring WNCC Graduates:

- Burlington Northern
- Cabela's
- Cessna
- City of Fort Collins
- Duncan Aviation
- High West Energy
- InterTECH
- League of Human Dignity
- Oglala Sioux Tribe
- Nebraska Department of Health & Human Services
- Orcom Solutions
- Physical Therapy West
- PREMA
- Pureology Serious Colour Care
- Regional West Medical Center
- Roswell Correctional Facility
- Scotts Bluff County Sheriff's Office
- St. Joseph's Children's Home
- Star Herald
- Summit Dental Group

## Centers of Excellence (\$2,500,00)

- **New/Expanding Program Fund \$750,000:** Regional employers and industries need WNCC to create a new or expanding programs fund in order to provide a "rapid response" model. This fund would enhance existing workforce training, support new or emerging industries in the panhandle, and develop expanded offerings in the areas of advanced manufacturing, applied technologies, trades/workforce, vocational studies, and agriculture. Your investment in the Center of Excellence New/Expanded Program Fund will provide the tools and technology necessary for a vibrant regional economy. Applied technology specializations such as welding, auto manufacturing, construction, and precision agriculture will be the initial focus of the rapid response fund.
- **Health Care \$750,000:** In 2010, the State of Nebraska conducted the Battelle study to learn more about the emerging economic needs of Nebraska. In the study, an emerging strength and opportunity for Nebraska was growth in health services. In the panhandle alone, there are nine hospitals along with numerous clinics and long-term care facilities. Sustaining and growing this industry sector is a priority for WNCC. Through on-campus innovation and mobile resources, WNCC will position itself to meet the current and future training needs of healthcare professionals. These would include:
  - Advanced technology and simulation lab to train skilled practitioners for high demand areas such as long-term care, surgical technology, emergency services, phlebotomy, and nursing
  - Mobile simulation training opportunities throughout the WNCC service area containing three segments: long-term care, medical laboratory technology, phlebotomy and emergency medical services
- **Powerline Program Expansion \$500,000:** Through WNCC, the panhandle is home to a widely recognized and respected Powerline Training Program. The demand for Power Line Installers/Repairers, Water Operators, Wastewater Operators, and General Repair and Maintenance Technicians is high and continues to grow. The



Bureau of Labor Statistics ([www.bls.gov](http://www.bls.gov)) estimates a 7% to 9% growth in such jobs with median incomes ranging from \$16.93 to \$27.99 per hour. Job opportunities, coupled with Baby Boomers retiring at an accelerated rate, will greatly increase, affording career opportunities to area residents. WNCC needs to create:

- An expanded Utilities Training Facility – the expansion would include the ability to set poles, excavate, locate lines, and set lines indoors, providing greater recruitment and training for this in-demand field to existing and new residents
- Mobile learning simulators, such as welding and pipefitting

### Center for Entrepreneurship (\$250,000):

WNCC's Center for Entrepreneurship will create unique offerings to supplement and partner with the traditional economic development models offered by outside organizations. A growing demand for small business support, recruitment, and training is a natural fit to complement the existing services provided throughout the Panhandle to grow the region. Gallup research has indicated 74% of youth in Nebraska have aspirations of owning their own business at some point in their life. An investment in the Center for Entrepreneurship will enable WNCC to:

- Expand entrepreneurship incubation, support, and one-on-one trainings for start-up or expanding businesses
- Provide scholarships for Associates Degree students with a Business major and Entrepreneurship track
- Partner with local high schools for Entrepreneurship career pathways
- Train area middle- and high-school youth to support the next generation of entrepreneurs

### Sidney Center for Free Enterprise and Aviation Program Expansion (1,200,000):

The community of Sidney and Cheyenne County continues to grow and develop thanks to local industry at a more rapid pace than the remainder of the panhandle. As a result, WNCC seeks to bring state-of-the-art technology and free enterprise opportunities to support local small businesses, corporations, and budding entrepreneurs. The proposed renovation of the Sidney Campus location will enable:

- Implementation of an Entrepreneurship curriculum for local businesses, potential small businesses, and contractors to help them with the necessary skills and opportunities to be successful
- Enhance the existing Cosmetology and Aviation Maintenance program classroom space in order to expand opportunities and promote existing industries
- Implement the latest in technology solutions for the existing Training Academies provided to local businesses such as Cabela's



WNCC's innovative aviation program on its Sidney campus continues to train the high-demand aviation maintenance and technology technicians of tomorrow. This existing program creates an opportunity to expand the training necessary for the cutting edge changes to the growth in radio and communication technology. Global positioning devices, interactive mapping, scanning devices, radar technologies, hand-held radios, and smart phones help keep track of shipments on a daily basis. Similar technology also assists in new emerging technologies, such as using drones for private business. Private applications of this training include land surveying and mapping, but also include uses in agriculture. The initiative will both expand radio and remote technologies specific to aviation, but also promote the development of new innovative products that can be used in the panhandle's transportation and agricultural industry as a whole, including:

- Research and development site for product development to aid wide-ranging industries, locally and nationally
- Consumer product testing and development related to transportation technology including aviation communications, controls, drone technology and simulation