



Mason County, Michigan

Monthly Update: January 2018



ProAct Invests \$18.6 Million in Mason County, Adds 30 Jobs

ProAct Services Corporation is expanding in Pere Marquette Charter Township with support from the Michigan Strategic Fund (MSF). The expansion is expected to generate \$18.6 million in investment and create 30 jobs.

"ProAct Services' expansion here rather than another state means good jobs for Michigan residents and underscores the strength of the state's manufacturing talent," said Jeff Mason, CEO of the MEDC, the state's chief marketing and business attraction arm that administers programs and performs due diligence on behalf of the MSF. "This investment in Michigan offers further evidence our commitment to helping companies grow and generate new jobs for our residents."

ProAct Services Corporation specializes in providing innovative air and water treatment solutions customized to meet specific environmental issues. The company has authorized West Michigan contractor A.J. Veneklasen, Inc. to begin construction of its new national headquarters in Pere Marquette Charter Township, investing a total of approximately \$18.6

million and creating 30 jobs over the next three years.

For the complete story, [click here](#).

MICHIGAN

COLLEGE ACCESS NETWORK

Mason County College Access Network Hires Coordinator

In December, the Mason County College Access Network hired Nick Palmer to take the position of Network Coordinator. The goal of the College Access Network is to increase the number of Mason County graduates who go on to achieve some sort of post-secondary education, training, or certificate. Nick comes to Mason County from the Michigan House of Representatives where he served as a Legislative Aide for State Representative John Kivela for the last four years. Born and raised in Marquette, he received his Bachelors Degree from Siena Heights University in 2016 and is currently a graduate student at Michigan State where he is studying Higher, Adult, and Lifelong Education. Nick looks forward to meeting business, community, and education leaders in the area to increase the number of Mason County residents who are enrolled in post-secondary education and training programs.





Skills4Success

Skills 4 Success: Personal Accountability

What are the employability skills that students need in order to graduate from high school college- and career-ready? That is the question that the Growth Alliance, in partnership with a collaborative of local leadership from business and education, has been wrestling with for the past several months. As a result, this collective is investigating a model framework coming out of the Ottawa Area Intermediate School District called the *Skills 4 Success*. Over the next several months, MCGA will highlight the seven components of the *Skills 4 Success* framework. This month's highlight: Personal Accountability.

7 Personal Accountability

The ability to productively work toward a goal with a positive attitude. Included within this is being reliable and dependable (e.g. – being present and punctual) and having the confidence to take risks and hold oneself and others accountable for their work.

Not showing up to work on time. Not showing up to work at all. And not showing up to work prepared. These are some of the top reasons employees get fired, and some of the most challenging issues employers face when it comes to their workforce. And even when employees show up on time ready for work, even a few unreliable and undependable employees can present a challenge to the smooth flow of operations - both on the shop floor and in the office. Thus, it's critical to reinforce the significance of personal accountability as a foundational aspect of success for young people so that they will understand and hold themselves accountable later on in life, in the workplace as well as in society.

The *Skills 4 Success* framework is a mechanism for employing common terminology around these broadly accepted ideals in business and education in the hopes of clearly defining expectations for the next generation as they prepare to enter the workforce. For a more in-depth look at Flexibility & Adaptability and the other *Skills 4 Success*, [click here](#).

Work Ready Community Progress Tracker

MASON COUNTY



Workforce	Goals	Actual NCRC
Emerging ✓	128	210
Current ✓	45	89
Transitioning	282	273
Totals	455	572
Workforce category not identified		0
Total NCRC		572

	Goals	Actual
Employers Supporting ⓘ	38	42 ⓘ

About the Mason County Growth Alliance:

The Mason County Growth Alliance was created in 2006 to support economic growth and community development in Mason County. Its mission is to nurture a more dynamic economy to support a vibrant quality of life in the community. The Growth Alliance believes its efforts must be devoted to building on its business base, encouraging entrepreneurship, and capitalizing on the local community assets.



Mason County Growth Alliance

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