



Regional Growth Partnership
BUILDING A HIGH-TECH, HIGH-PERFORMANCE ECONOMY

NEWS

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Regional Growth Partnership Hires Three To Manage and Administer New JobsOhio Program

TOLEDO, Ohio – As the lead agent for northwest Ohio under the state’s new JobsOhio program, the Regional Growth Partnership (RGP) has announced the hiring of three local professionals to help manage this innovative initiative.

Joining the RGP staff are Gary Thompson, Todd Dickerson and Lisa Wagner. All three are recognized and respected in their field, and each brings solid track records in business development and project management to the table.

“All three are truly proficient, trained and dedicated to helping grow northwest Ohio,” said Dean Monske, president and CEO of the RGP. “The RGP is excited to add these talented members to our team, and our entire region will benefit as we implement our economic development strategy for JobsOhio.

JobsOhio is a new private corporation created by the state to handle economic development efforts and drive job creation.

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The purpose of JobsOhio is to create a more proactive and competitive entity that meets the needs of businesses and rapidly responds to promising investment opportunities while avoiding the bureaucratic inefficiencies of government-led efforts. The agency split the state of Ohio into six regions, with one major economic development group in each region charged with managing the program – the RGP as the lead for northwest Ohio.

Thompson will serve as director of the Northwest Ohio region for JobsOhio, charged with coordinating activities between the State and the 19 counties representing this region as it relates to the retention, expansion and attraction of new business. Thompson previously served as executive director of the Oregon Economic Development Foundation, and before that, he worked with Gillette Associates in Farmington Hills, Mich., as director of business development.

As director of attraction services for JobsOhio, Dickerson will be responsible for developing a focused strategy to attract new business in the core economic clusters for northwest Ohio. Dickerson brings a wealth of experience to the organization with more than 20 years working in business development and talent acquisition.

Wagner comes to the RGP from the Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority, where she worked for 13 years, most recently as director of financing programs. In her new role, Wagner will serve as regional project manager for JobsOhio, helping manage project financing and state incentive programs for relevant projects throughout the northwest Ohio region.

“For optimal success with this new JobsOhio program, our region needs cooperation and communication among all economic development practitioners in northwest Ohio,” Monske said. “These three embody such characteristics, are acknowledged as leaders in their fields and will play major roles in developing and executing an aggressive strategic plan for this region.”

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The Regional Growth Partnership is a private nonprofit development corporation dedicated to fostering local, national and international economic growth opportunities for northwest Ohio.

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