

Montgomery County launches Mobile Workforce Unit for community outreach

by Tiffany L. Denen, Dayton 24/7 Now | Tuesday, September 22nd 2020



Photo by Dayton 24/7 Now

DAYTON, Ohio (WKEF/WRGT) -- A new Mobile Workforce Unit is coming to Montgomery County.

The unit has been a project that the Montgomery County Workforce Development Department has been considering for some time, and the 38-foot Freightliner coach was finally brought to the county as part of a community outreach effort.

The project was spurred into action after the 2019 tornadoes, when Montgomery County leadership realized the need to increase outreach efforts. "This vehicle will allow our workforce development professionals to go outside the walls of The Job Center and take our services directly to those who need them," said Montgomery County Commissioner Judy Dodge. "We are doing this because we are committed to investing in our residents. This vehicle represents that investment. We want everyone in Montgomery County to have the opportunity for a fulfilling career."

The ribbon cutting for the Mobile Workforce Unit took place on Tuesday. At the event, Garth McClain, Interim Director of Workforce Development with Montgomery County, expressed his excitement for the project. "This tool will allow workforce professionals to go into the community to meet people where they're at and provide career services and training opportunities," he said.

The mobile unit will provide resume building classes, interview skills, help with job searches, and federal Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act orientation. “We’re really going to have everything that we provide at the job center here in the mobile unit, and they’ll be able to move out into the community as needed,” said McClain.

The Mobile Workforce Unit was funded through a grant of \$386,298 from the State of Ohio’s Rapid Response funding, which helps workers get back to work quickly. Montgomery County’s Workforce Development Department is also working on plans to use the unit to reach underserved populations in the county and hopes it will help build a strong base for future economic success.

“I would love to see them get on a solid career pathway and really have this unit a part of that solution,” said McClain.

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