



## REGIONAL INNOVATION GRANT -- MANUFACTURING IN THE MERRIMACK VALLEY

### *OUTREACH TO TRAINING PARTNERS & EMPLOYERS*

Through a Regional Innovation Grant awarded by the US Department of Labor, the Merrimack Valley Workforce Investment Board, in collaboration with our partners, the Greater Lowell Workforce Investment Board, and Southern New Hampshire Workforce Opportunity Council, is working on an initiative to support the sustainability of our regional manufacturing industry.

Despite declines in manufacturing nationwide and across the Commonwealth, the manufacturing sector remains of critical importance to our regional economy. Our goal is to identify the needs of local manufacturers to help ensure a well-trained workforce capable of meeting current and future workplace challenges.

As part of the assessment process to identify workforce development needs and create a strategic plan to address those needs moving forward, we are implementing a series of events and activities including:

- conducting surveys and in-person interviews with local manufacturing companies;
- developing a skill gap analysis based on input from manufacturing employers and educational and training providers in the region;
- creation of a strategic plan to help the Merrimack Valley transition from traditional manufacturing to more advanced manufacturing concepts and technologies.

If you are a local manufacturing company, a company considering relocating to the Merrimack Valley, a training provider or any other stakeholder, we'd like to hear from you. Please contact Betty Kirk, Adult Workforce Development Manager, at 978-682-7099 or email [Ekirk@mvwib.org](mailto:Ekirk@mvwib.org)