

PRESS RELEASE

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Links:

[Impact Awards Program](#)

Linked Muskegon – linkedmuskegon.org

Photo of Michael Minton working as a CNC Operator at Muskegon Tool Industries

Former dropout shares turnaround story at state award event

Lansing, MI: “I had no plan for my future, and now I have a diploma and a job that I really like,” said Michael Minton who spoke at the Michigan Works! Impact Awards Ceremony hosted earlier today at the state’s capitol. State Senator Goeff Hansen and Representative Terry Sabo recognized Minton for his inspiring 18-week turnaround made possible through the “Linked Muskegon” program.

Minton was an unemployed high school dropout when he was referred to the adult education and training program developed to meet the need for skilled workers. Through Linked Muskegon, Minton obtained his high school diploma, received training in CNC (Computer Numerical Control) machining at the Muskegon Area Career Tech Center and developed employability skills. At the end of the program, he met with local employers to discuss his experience and skills.

Muskegon Tool Industries was interested in hiring Minton, but he did not have all of the skills they were looking for. Because he was new to the industry, West Michigan Works! was able to provide on-the-job training funds to help offset the cost of training. Soon Minton will begin working toward his certificate in CNC Programming at Muskegon Community College.

The Impact Award was presented to the strategic partners who worked collaboratively to support local students with graduation, training, and employability skills. They include local employers, adult education programs, the Muskegon Area Career Tech Center, the Muskegon Area Intermediate School District, and West Michigan Works! Minton’s employer, Muskegon Tool Industries, was also named in today’s award.

Linked Muskegon enrolls adult students who reside in Muskegon and Oceana counties in September and January each year through the adult education programs of Fruitport, Orchard View, and the White Lake Area. Call 231-760-1997 to learn more.

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