

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



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## STATE AND LOCAL CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE LEADING THE WAY IN WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION



### The Clermont Chamber of Commerce (OH) is Committed to Students Obtaining a High School Diploma

Matthew Van Sant, the CEO of the [Clermont Chamber of Commerce](http://www.clermontchamber.com) believes that "completion of high school builds character and is a large step towards achieving success." That is why the chamber is a big supporter of [The Gateway to Success Program](#), a joint venture between Great Oaks Institute of Technology and Career Development and UC Clermont College in Ohio.

The two post-secondary institutions, along with strong support from the business community, have partnered to provide students (ages 18-21) who have been out of high school for at least one year and whose class has already graduated, the opportunity to register within the college system and take the necessary requirements to obtain a high school diploma. Gateway to Success has been of particular interest to the Clermont Chamber of Commerce because it provides a comfortable and professional environment for older students to earn their real diploma, required by many regional businesses for employment, rather than a GED.

Furthermore, students enrolled in the Gateway to Success program are able to work side-by-side with a personal advisor to help them transition from their high school diploma into a post secondary education program right on campus. According to Robin White, the President/CEO of Great Oaks Institute of Technology and Career Development, "everyone benefits from the relationships that we have with the Clermont Chamber and the other chambers in our region. We depend on the chambers to provide insight into economic development trends and they in turn rely on us to develop programs that support these economic development efforts. The businesses in our region benefit because of our track record of working together to address issues and finding creative solutions to challenging situations."

*Founded in 1969, the Clermont Chamber of Commerce promotes local and regional business through business attraction, retention & expansion, educational and networking opportunities, business consulting assistance and business advocacy for the over 1100 Clermont Chamber Members. Find us at [www.clermontchamber.com](http://www.clermontchamber.com). The current President of the Clermont Chamber of Commerce is Matthew D. Van Sant, and the Chair of the Board is Sue McHugh of Community Press Newspapers.*