A Statewide Strategic Plan for Indiana's Health Science Industry

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Workforce/Education Committee
Summary – Meeting 1 – January 18, 2012

In the final report, recommendations will be presented with accompanying supportive text. Meeting notes suggest emphasizing the statewide nature of this effort, highlight the economic impact of the sector (jobs, wages, skills, institutions, etc.) and discuss its importance to building a strong and viable cluster across several subsectors of health science.

Draft Recommendation

Support and encourage collaboration between industry and education at all stages of the educational continuum.

a. IHIF should conduct/carry-out on-going, industry skills gap assessments to match programs with current needs.
    a. Potential to develop into workforce assessments
        i. Similar to IPIC sector reports from ca 2000 - 2001
    b. Need to also track jobs/wages/impacts
        i. BioCrossroads and IEDC already working in this area
    c. Opportunity to develop or redeploy additional programs based on identified needs
b. Develop/utilize "Career Ladders" for the health science sector(s)
    a. Many may already exist through PLTW
    b. Potential project for BioCrossroads
c. Look for opportunities for stakeholders to collaborate on initiatives to better align industry with education.
    a. Suggested benchmark: 2 events or programs/year
    b. Include support for educational stakeholders as part of IHIF legislative agenda, where compatible with organization objectives

Other committees have discussed topics relevant to the Workforce and Education Committee. Please feel free to share your thoughts:

1) Continual need for managerial training for life science entrepreneurs and faculty members
2) Need for training of angel investors
3) Creation of community based "Spousal Employment Networks" to help trailing spouses of industry professionals find suitable employment.