

March 29, 2024

Jennifer Messer  
Executive Director  
Central Indiana Regional Development Authority (CIRDA)  
1 Municipal Drive  
Fishers IN 46038

Ms. Messer,

As Marion County's nonprofit workforce intermediary, EmployIndy is prepared to serve as your primary partner in workforce development as you implement projects that expand the need for trained workers in the green sector, should CIRDA receive a Climate Pollution Reduction Implementation grant from the EPA.

EmployIndy will set up a new **Clean Energy Infrastructure Academy (CEIA)** to recruit up to 1,800 LIDAC residents and prepare up to 1,265 trainees for the predicted 1,012 jobs this project will create. As part of this process, EmployIndy will engage employers and recruits, and encourage employers and municipal leadership to subscribe to our **Choice Employer program**, which focuses on four pillars for job quality: Good Wages, Culture and Equity, Career Pathways, and Employee Supports. We will also educate municipal leadership on **Good Jobs Principles**, which include: discrimination-free recruitment and hiring of underserved populations in particular; quality benefits; DEIA practices in the workplace; freedom to join a union; safe working conditions; an employee-centered organizational culture; and skill-building.

The new CEIA will train 759 students for clean energy careers in energy efficiency, such as HVAC technician roles and energy auditing. Another 506 will be trained in renewable energy-related jobs, such as solar photovoltaic installers. Provided will be classroom instruction, hands-on training, curriculum, supplies, and supportive services, including career coaching, wraparound services, training stipends, and job placement assistance.

Throughout this process, EmployIndy will work with CIRDA and the City of Indianapolis to leverage long-term relationships with stakeholder groups (the Fortune 500 companies, nonprofits, state agencies, and universities who participated in PCAP working groups). EmployIndy will also play a convening role in coordinating the actions of an ecosystem of partners and services providers, all of whom have applied for, and in some cases received, significant federal funds for aligned workforce development initiatives in the Central Indiana region.

In sum, EmployIndy stands ready to help CIRDA member communities plan to attract, train and retain workers for the new wave of green jobs this project will leverage through equitable workforce development pathways.

Sincerely,



Marie L. Mackintosh, President & CEO  
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