

News Release

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Great Lakes Children’s Museum Launches Registered Apprenticeship Programs

TRAVERSE CITY, MI— The Great Lakes Children’s Museum in Traverse City is providing specialized training for three of its employees through an apprenticeship partnership with Northwest Michigan Works!. The museum recently launched U.S. Department of Labor registered apprenticeships for Marketing Coordinator, Retail Store Manager, and Customer Service Representative.

Registered under the Northwest Michigan Works! U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL) Standards of Apprenticeship, the Great Lakes Children’s Museum is providing apprentices with a minimum of 12 months of on-the-job learning along with a minimum of 144 hours of related educational instruction. The related coursework is provided through several educational partners including Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy, Leadership Grand Traverse, and Northwestern Michigan College Extended Education Services. The Great Lakes Children’s Museum is also teaching curriculum at the job site. The courses complement the hands-on learning while providing an innovative, robust curriculum to expand the career pathways for the apprentices. Upon completion of the programs, apprentices will earn stackable credentials including the U.S. Department of Labor National Journeyworker Certification.

"We are excited to launch three apprenticeship programs with the help of Northwest Michigan Works!," said Michael Long, Great Lakes Children's Museum Executive Director. "These structured training programs allow us to further invest in specialized training for our employees. The apprenticeship team at Northwest Michigan Works! simplified the process of developing these U.S. Department of Labor registered apprenticeships and will continue to work with us to assure their success."

Northwest Michigan Works! is a registered USDOL apprenticeship intermediary and sponsor. Northwest Michigan Works! helps employers develop, implement, and manage registered apprenticeships specific to

their industry. Registered Apprenticeship is a proven training method for businesses to build a talent pipeline of highly skilled, educated workers. .

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NOTE to Media: Images are oftentimes available upon request by emailing Dan Boss at dan.boss@networksnorthwest.org and stating preferences for resolution, file format, and file size. Or phone (231) 929-5047. Check our online Media Room at: networksnorthwest.org/media.

Founded in 1974, Networks Northwest facilitates and manages various programs and services for the 10-county region. These programs include Northwest Michigan Works!, APEX Accelerator (formerly PTAC), various business services, and many different regional planning initiatives in response to our communities' requests and needs. You will see the broad spectrum of workforce, business, and community services Networks Northwest offers if you visit our website, networksnorthwest.org. Networks Northwest's member counties are Antrim, Benzie, Charlevoix, Emmet, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Leelanau, Manistee, Missaukee, and Wexford.