

CSL Behring Awarded the 2020 Business Leadership Award



Photo (L to R):

Dr. Michael Boyd, KCC President & Workforce Board member; Jose Gonzalez, CSL Behring Senior Vice President and General Manager; Ladonna Russell, Workforce Board Executive Director

The Grundy Livingston Kankakee Workforce Board would like to recognize CSL Behring with the 2020 Business Leadership Award. This award recognizes a private sector company that has demonstrated leadership in the areas of workforce services and economic development and collaborated with Workforce Services/Workforce Board during the 2020 year.

CSL Behring is being recognized in this category due to their countless and continued efforts in workforce development initiatives. CSL Behring is a true leader in recognizing the need to create a pipeline of future workforce through numerous speaking engagements at local high schools, participating in the 8th grade career fair expo sponsored by the Kankakee Area Career Center, providing company tours for the Graduate & Get Paid high school program for graduating seniors, and many others. They are continually a leader in educating students and the community on the careers opportunities in the manufacturing industry. Tim Nugent, President of Economic Alliance praised CSL Behring for their efforts “CSL Behring, time and again, stands out as a true leader in our business community. We are fortunate to have them in the community and appreciate all they do to support workforce and economic development programs”.

In addition, CSL Behring is committed to recognizing the workforce needs of its current workforce. They continually assess the training needs of its workforce and provide opportunities for

development and career advancement. One great example of this is the creation of the Registered Apprenticeship Industrial Maintenance Program. The apprentice program sprang out of a need for skilled maintenance technicians. CSL Behring partnered with Kankakee Community College to develop the program, certified by the U.S. Department of Labor, which provides a roadmap for filling those skilled jobs. The first group of apprentices graduated and achieved 1st Class Maintenance Mechanics. The apprenticeship program will help ensure a pipeline of talent is ready for those positions. Dr. Michael Boyd, President of Kankakee Community College and Workforce Board member stated, “The leadership team at CSL understands the value of a highly-trained, skilled workforce. They also understand the unique challenges facing business and industry leaders in the current environment as they compete for the very best talent. What sets CSL apart from others, though, is the entrepreneurial spirit with which they have set about solving this problem. By investing in their best employees, supporting them as they complete an apprenticeship program at Kankakee Community College, they are able to retain the very best employees with the skills and technical knowledge necessary in today’s workforce.”

Maureen Powell, CSL Behring Site Head of Communications, is a valuable member of the Workforce Board which oversees and sets policy for workforce development and training programs for Grundy, Livingston and Kankakee Counties. Ladonna Russell, Workforce Board Executive Director stated, “CSL Behring is a community partner in workforce development and continues to focus on creating the talent pipeline of the future as well as their current workforce. Not to mention, the Board is honored to have CSL Behring as a valuable workforce board member and appreciate all the time devoted to this initiative.”

The Workforce Board is comprised of a variety of private and public sector members representing industries from across the three-county area, as well as public sector and social service agencies involved in workforce development. For more information on the Workforce Board and the programs we offer including upskilling current employees, please contact Ladonna Russell, Workforce Board Executive director, at 815-935-0074.