

## **Collaborative Partnerships: Cuyahoga Community College**

The WBF 2.0 initiative has received support from all of the partners within the original program scope of the grant. Ohio Means Jobs – Cleveland-Cuyahoga County (formerly Employment Connection) has been an active partner in identifying employers to place middle-skill workers in in-demand jobs that require 21st century skills that the initiative is focusing on providing to our target population. Urban League of Greater Cleveland and Towards Employment work with the college to identify low-income, low-skill workers who are benefiting from the technical training and academic credentials provided by the initiative. They are also assisting workers in accessing supportive services needed to accomplish career transition objectives to enter middle-skill occupations. We are working with these partners, yet there are not much in-kind resources shown on our financial report.

The project has also leveraged the college's Benefits Access for College Completion (BACC) program. BACC improves completion rates by helping students gain access to public benefits in order to close the gap in unmet financial need beyond financial aid. Training is being provided to 100 college staff members who will connect individuals with these and other public benefits. Due to this partnership, Walmart Brighter Futures 2.0 participants are connected with numerous area service providers and provided referral services based on individual needs.