

## **Success Stories: Sinclair Community College**

Many have heard the saying “can’t see the forest for the trees.” When you do, you notice there is a whole forest you couldn’t see before because you were too close and focusing on the trees. Being part of the Walmart Brighter Futures 2.0 grant presented Sinclair with the opportunity to step back and create a better solution.

Sinclair’s Workforce Development Division has been named the Dayton Region’s #1 Workforce Development Program for three consecutive years (2012-2013-2014). Sinclair’s Center for Student Success has had a measurable impact on the success of students with its comprehensive wraparound services to address the challenges that often accompany students as they seek to expand their educational portfolio. Prior to the Walmart Brighter Futures 2.0 grant, these impactful internal organizations had not collaborated. As a result of this new level of collaboration, the breadth of conversation has been expanded between students and the Center for Student Success. The enrollment funnel into the Call Center program increased enrollment by 50 percent. Additionally, other students who were funneled into non-credit programs have returned to a credit pathway to continue their educational goals with the confidence they have gained through the increased competencies delivered through non-credit programs.

Sinclair has continued to collaborate with the Job Center (OhioMeansJobs), which was initiated as a result of the first funding round of Walmart Brighter Futures 1.0. In addition to cultivating the relationship and promoting programs associated with the WBF 2.0 Project, recent efforts related to reverse job fairs have been implemented. A reverse job fair positions candidates at tables where they sell themselves as employers move table to table to learn more about the skills of these program completers. As a result of this initiative, OhioMeansJobs has brought additional employers to the reverse job fair that were not part of the Contact Center Alliance, increasing employment opportunities available to program completers.