

It Remains All About the People

T-A-L-E-N-T

Six letters; one critical factor in the economic future of Indiana.

I fully understand that I am not the first person to state this in recent years. But the skills gap – the mismatch between workers' abilities and what employers are requiring for today's jobs – is simply too important to ignore.



How big is the challenge? Check out the infographic on Page 6 (and see more at www.indianachamber.com/education) with results of the ninth annual employer workforce survey from the Chamber and its foundation. Spoiler alert: 45% say they left jobs unfilled last year due to under-qualified applicants.

What do we do about it? For the future workforce, bringing educators and business leaders together is crucial – it doesn't happen nearly as often as one might think. The Indiana Chamber Foundation did so recently at Honda (Page 7) and we have reported on other efforts in the March-April editions the last two years (view the archives at www.bizvoicemagazine.com).

When we brought four construction leaders together for this issue for a roundtable discussion (Page 36), it took only a few minutes before the topic turned to labor. With infrastructure needs so great, it is imperative for construction companies to be successful in growing and retaining the required talent.

The story is the same when we turn to the Madison area in our County Focus (Page 62). Jefferson County manufacturers are striving to cultivate their own employees with investments in young people. Find out about the early returns.

And, of course, as we've noted before, Outstanding Talent is the leading driver in the Chamber's *Indiana Vision 2025* plan. A statewide task force reviewed, refreshed and revised that broad-based economic development effort early this year. Read more (Page 18) and think about what you can do to ensure "Indiana will be a global leader in innovation and economic opportunity where enterprises and citizens prosper."

Thank you, as always, for reading *BizVoice*®.


Kevin M. Brinegar
President and CEO



Indiana Chamber Mission:

Cultivate a world-class environment which provides economic opportunity and prosperity for the people of Indiana and their enterprises.



BizVoice® is printed on FSC® certified paper

BIZVOICE

www.bizvoicemagazine.com
July/August 2016 | Volume 19, Number 4

BizVoice®

Publisher
Kevin Brinegar
kbrinegar@indianachamber.com

Editor
Tom Schuman
(317) 264-3792
tschuman@indianachamber.com

Art Director
Tony Spataro
tspataro@indianachamber.com

Managing Editor
Rebecca Patrick
rpatrick@indianachamber.com

Advertising
Tim Brewer
(317) 496-0704
tbrewer@indianachamber.com

Writers/Editors
Matt Ottinger
Symone C. Skrzycki
Charlee Beasor
Katie Coffin

Mission
To inform and influence

Contributor
John C. Steinmetz

Indiana Chamber Chair
Tom Hiron
Hiron & Co. Advertising + Public Relations, Indianapolis

Indiana Chamber Vice Chair
Ron Christian
Vectren, Evansville

President and CEO
Kevin Brinegar

BizVoice® (ISSN 1521-0146) is published bimonthly by the Indiana Chamber of Commerce, 115 W. Washington, Suite 850S, P.O. Box 44926, Indianapolis, IN 46244-0926. BizVoice® magazine is provided as a benefit of membership in the Indiana Chamber of Commerce. Non-member subscriptions: \$25.20 per year (includes sales tax). Periodicals postage paid at Indianapolis, IN and additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to BizVoice®, 115 W. Washington, Suite 850S, P.O. Box 44926, Indianapolis, IN 46244-0926.

Indiana Chamber of Commerce, 115 W. Washington, Suite 850S, Indianapolis, IN 46204
Phone: (317) 264-3110 | Fax: (317) 264-6855
www.indianachamber.com | bizvoice@indianachamber.com

©Copyright 2016, Indiana Chamber of Commerce