

Monday, May 5, 2014

## State of Michigan renews Lean Green Belt contract with the Macomb-OU INCubator for 2014

Sterling Heights, Mich. - The State of Michigan has renewed its Lean Diversification Green Belt certificate program contract with the **Macomb-OU INCubator** for the 2014 calendar year. Endorsed by the Michigan Lean Consortium, the program is intended for business managers looking to develop excellence, nurture innovation, efficiently allocate resources and eliminate waste.

As an initiative of the State of Michigan's Good Government Leadership Team, chaired by Lt. Governor Brian Calley, more than 50 State employees in 2013 were trained in Lean through the Macomb-OU INCubator's Green Belt program. The goal for the employees is to bring Lean principles to their respective departments for immediate implementation.

"In Michigan, we recognize that our most valuable resource is our people. The public and private sectors are working together in unprecedented ways to reinvent our government," Calley said. "Our vision is to establish the State of Michigan as a highly functioning organization that provides world-class service and enables prosperity for Michigan's citizens and businesses."

The Good Government initiative has a four-fold core focus of performance management, service/process optimization, employee engagement and change management. Through a competitive bid process, the State chose the Macomb-OU INCubator's **Lean Green Belt program** to support their Good Government mission. Three cohorts are planned for this year, with a goal to, once again, train more than 50 State employees.

"We believe partnering with Oakland University to provide Lean Green Belt certification training to our valued state employees will help accelerate our transformation," Calley added. "The partnership with Oakland U assists us in developing our employees and building capacity to lead service and process optimization efforts statewide. The training Oakland has provided our employees offers yet another opportunity for continuous improvement and real results – leading to better, faster, smarter and cheaper service delivery."

Julie Gustafson, executive director of the Macomb-OU INCubator, says her team is excited to continue helping state employees put Lean principles into action.

"We commend the State of Michigan for their Good Government Initiative and all that it aims to accomplish," Gustafson said. "We are proud to partner with the State by providing Lean training that focuses on continuous improvement in government processes and look forward to hearing about how staff attendees implement change."

For more information on the Macomb-OU INCubator's Lean Diversification Program, including Green Belt, Black Belt and Startup Lean, visit [oakland.edu/diversify](http://oakland.edu/diversify).

### About the Macomb-OU INCubator:

The Macomb-Oakland University INCubator supports economic development in Southeast Michigan by accelerating high-tech businesses, cultivating academic innovation and encouraging research & development. To help small businesses grow, the incubator creates customized success strategies for startup and emerging companies in the niche industries of defense, homeland security, advanced manufacturing and technology. For more information, visit the incubator website at [oakland.edu/macombouinc](http://oakland.edu/macombouinc)

***More than 50  
State of  
Michigan  
employees  
were trained in  
Lean through  
the Macomb-  
OU INCubator's  
Green Belt  
program in  
2013.***

### SUMMARY

Endorsed by the Michigan Lean Consortium, the program is intended for business managers looking to develop excellence, nurture innovation, efficiently allocate resources and eliminate waste.

Created by Colleen Campbell (cccampbell@oakland.edu) on Monday, May 5, 2014  
Modified by Brian Bierley (bierley@oakland.edu) on Monday, May 5, 2014  
Article Start Date: Monday, May 5, 2014

