



COSI is pleased to announce that they have joined The Central Ohio Compact to work collaboratively for greater impact in the area of regional workforce readiness.

*A pressing need for an educated, well-trained workforce*

According to Complete College America, 59 percent of Ohio's jobs will require a postsecondary credential by 2020. Thirty-six percent of Ohio's adults currently hold this qualification. The Lumina Foundation has proposed a national goal of having 60 percent of Americans holding a postsecondary degree or certificate by 2025.

*About The Central Ohio Compact*

The Central Ohio Compact is a regional strategy to achieve this goal through deep and planned collaboration between and among K-12 districts, higher education institutions, employers, and other stakeholders. The Compact represents a national model of collaboration aimed at realizing a dramatic increase in college success for Central Ohio students and positioning the region as a leader in economic growth, per capita income, and quality of life.

*A partnership with great potential for impact*

COSI brings unique strengths and opportunities to The Columbus Compact with career exploration programs designed to reach students, educators, teens and adults, such as the Interactive Videoconferencing program, where audiences can interact with medical teams during procedures for greater exposure to the diversity of medical careers. COSI also has a strong youth volunteer program that allows students, as young as age 12, to learn critical soft skills that prepare them for roles with increased responsibility within COSI and beyond.

Combining the strength of COSI's proven program infrastructure with the strength of being the #1 Science Center, there is a great opportunity to provide exposure for STEM careers through permanent and temporary exhibitions, programs and special events such as regular science days.

"COSI is unique among Compact partners," suggests Columbus State president David Harrison. "It's a science education powerhouse in the region, admired by young people, credible among parents, and capable of helping families see the connection between what students love to do and what they might one day pursue as a career. The work of the Compact will benefit tremendously from COSI's involvement."

In the coming months, officials from both organizations will be meeting to develop a work plan for collaboration. Early conversations are promising as the two organizations' missions are so well aligned.