



MY TURN, Hitchiner, and Nashua Community College staff stand alongside the first cohort of participants to complete the MY TURN Manufacturing Program at Hitchiner.

Collaboration Yields Success in Manufacturing Training Program

After an intensive four week training course, seven young men recently accepted job offers from Hitchiner Manufacturing Co., Inc., one of New Hampshire's largest and most innovative employers. Two additional participants have accepted job offers from other local employers. The training program is an on-going collaborative effort between MY TURN, Inc. – a youth workforce development agency, Nashua Community College, and Hitchiner.

MY TURN recruited the program participants – unemployed or under-employed high school graduates age 18 to 24 – from around the state including one participant who commuted an hour and a half from Washington each day. The participants received academic and employment training provided by MY TURN, technical training provided by Nashua Community College, and hands-on training provided by Hitchiner. Participants earned credentials in Lean Manufacturing Process and will put their training to work in Hitchiner's Metal Cell, Metal Grind, and Machining Departments.

The program receives funding through the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act by way of the NH Department of Resources and Economic Development – Office of Workforce Opportunity and the NH Department of Education. Allison Joseph, Executive Director of MY TURN, said the Hitchiner Program is part of a larger Sector Partnerships Initiative (SPI) in manufacturing and that she hopes the successful program can be replicated throughout New Hampshire among employers looking for new workers with acquired soft skills and

manufacturing experience. MY TURN is currently accepting applicants for the next training cohort at Hitchiner – please visit www.my-turn.org for more information.

About MY TURN: MY TURN is a largely federally funded non-profit agency that provides youth workforce development & dropout prevention and recovery services across NH and into MA. MY TURN helps youth develop their skills, goals, and self-confidence through alternative education, post-secondary planning, career exploration, and employment training. MY TURN's programs work in concert with local partners including high-schools, employers, colleges, and social service agencies to provide a holistic approach to serving youth.