

BRING ON THE BIOBELT

NORTHEAST OHIO WORKS WITH AKRON, YOUNGSTOWN AND PITTSBURGH TO GENERATE HIGHER PAYING JOBS AND REGIONAL INVESTMENTS

Northeast Ohio—a hotspot for bioscience? It's not as far fetched as it sounds. Actually medical and science-related companies are popping up all over the region creating high-paying, high tech jobs. And the area's research institutions are attracting necessary investments.

Behind all this success is

BioEnterprise, an organizational partner of the Greater Cleveland Partnership (GCP) focused on growing health care companies and commercialize bioscience technologies. Since 2002, they've helped raise more than \$400 million in venture capital for Northeast Ohio companies.

To add to their momentum,

BioEnterprise partnered with a similar organization in Pittsburgh, adding them to the list of cities referred to as the "BioBelt."

"We have for the last year and a half recognized that just across the state border is an enormous set of assets that are at the same scale and same quality as what we've got," said Baiju Shah, president of

"BIOTECHNOLOGY IS A GOOD BET FOR OUR REGION."

—JOE ROMAN, PRESIDENT AND CEO OF THE GREATER CLEVELAND PARTNERSHIP.

BioEnterprise who adds that their community has made a similar commitment to expanding biosciences there.

Helping fill the rising high tech job gap is another GCP partner, NorTech. They've designed a job portal that serves the health care, science, biotechnology, as well as information technology and advanced manufacturing industries (www.neotechjobs.com). Currently it lists more than 5,000 job openings.

"Based on the recent data, finding talent may be a growth-limiting factor in Northeast Ohio's high tech economy," said Dorothy Baunach, president of NorTech who intends to market the site broadly to attract high tech talent to the region.

"Biotechnology is a good bet for our region," said Joe Roman, president and CEO of the Greater Cleveland Partnership. "Northeast Ohio has attracted funds from venture capitalists, state and federal grants and private investments. It only makes sense that we continue to create jobs and grow companies associated with one our greatest strengths—health care." <<



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