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Oakland County Michigan Works! Manager
21415 Civic Center Dr., Suite 116
Southfield, MI 48076

Dear Oakland County Michigan Works! Manager,

I am writing you to share my experience throughout applying for and receiving the Skilled Trades Training Fund Grant. My decision to apply for the grant came just before the application process began, leaving very little time to prepare and with much uncertainty to whether or not I could achieve completion of the application itself. From the time I came in contact with Lisa Straske and Jeffrey Granat, I felt immediate support and encouragement to apply for the STTF Grant.

The application process required a lot of time and effort on my part, and there were a few times I found myself asking if I was doing everything correctly. Having the opportunity to sit down in a face-to-face meeting with Lisa made the application process smoother, understandable and feel more achievable. Lisa helped me get in contact with Oakland Community College to provide training, and they proved to hold successful training sessions and were wonderful to work with.

Receiving Jeff's email that Avon Automotive had been awarded the STTF grant was not only exciting, but beneficial considering our company's growth over the past year. The training sessions were all incredibly valuable to our employees who attended. Although I ran in to some unexpected trouble with employees being sick or having urgent meetings and missing training, Lisa and Jeff were quick to assure me that I wasn't the only one in this position. I am truly thankful for their kindness and willingness to help me problem solve and get back on track with the training plan. The readiness to communicate via phone, email or an in-person meeting was above all expectations, and I am appreciative to have had contact with such a cooperative group of people. I look forward to our future communication.

Kind Regards,



Liz Johnson
Avon Automotive – MGI Coutier
Director's Assistant, HR & Sales