The Greater Dayton IT Alliance Strategic Plan

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The Greater Dayton IT Alliance Strategic Plan
By: Don Hopkins, Chair, Board of Trustees, Greater Dayton IT Alliance

The Greater Dayton IT Alliance 2008-11 Strategic Plan is the product of tactical collaboration by the Board of Trustees and members. This team developed the key elements of the plan which were then individually examined to create required actions, programs and metrics. Taking the changes in landscape since 2004 into consideration, when the current plan was implemented, the following recommendations have been developed:

* Though the foundation of the organization is based in member-based trade association services, the Board of Trustees made the strategic decision to move to more of an economic development focus. With this in mind, the new plan will strengthen its workforce development initiatives including forecasting and communicating needs.

* In an effort to accomplish the new goals of economic development an alignment decision was made to co-locate with Dayton Development Coalition and collaborate through activities with the Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce.

* As a result of the new relationship with the Dayton Development Coalition, GDITA along with daytaOhio crafted the development of the 15 year regional strategic plan for information technology. Through a closer relationship with daytaOhio, the targeted technologies of advanced data management and simulation and modeling will be a stronger focus.

* Since the development of the last plan, the community suffered from the realignment and loss of community corporate pillars but benefited from BRAC wins bringing new jobs in sensors and human performance directorates. Because of the momentum created by the BRAC wins and to ensure the success of the missions at WPAFB, more attention and outreach will be made to incorporate their needs into our existing programs.

* And finally, the gubernatorial race of 2006 brought a new administration and change in party leadership at highest state levels. Through state support the Dayton Development Coalition is leading a marketing and branding initiative for the region. We will work with the Coalition and Wright State University to collect and communicate the vital statistics of the IT industry and help communicate their importance to all stakeholders.

With the support of our members, volunteers and Board of Trustees, the Greater Dayton IT Alliance anticipates that the new strategic plan will increase technology adoption, develop IT competencies, and provide technical leadership. We remain committed to advocating a strong regional IT agenda for economic growth and will revisit the strategic plan in 2012.

Don Hopkins
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