**Newsletter Template**

*Subject line: Find Your Future Workforce with Make Yourself GP*

Are you struggling to find talent? How, and where, does your company look? What if we told you that your future workforce hasn’t yet graduated high school? We here at the Greater Peoria Economic Development Council want to help you find talent, while helping our students find success and connect with prospective careers. Here’s how you can help us create the future of workforce development in Greater Peoria:

**Create Opportunity for Students**

With Career Cruising Greater Peoria (GP), you can connect with students that have interest’s specific to your industry and talent needs. On the front end, students take career and ability inventories that match them to over 600 careers, and on the back end, they’re able to see companies in our region that employ that career and connect with internships, job shadows, and more! By creating a company profile in Career Cruising GP you can highlight your company and industry, and offer opportunities for students to get close to a possible future career. Through Career Cruising GP you can also become a Career Coach and moderate a career-specific interest board that students can post questions on, allowing you to share your passion with curious students!

**Secure Software Coding Pipeline**

How safe is your software? Well, we are on the cutting edge here in Greater Peoria with the only two-year secure software coding program in the entire country. The Central Illinois Center for Excellence in Secure Software (CICESS) is an apprenticeship program that was developed by local employers in partnership with Illinois Central College. If your software needs some shoring up, connecting with a CICESS apprentice is a cost-effective solution, while also providing valuable economic opportunity for a regional student! Find out more and download the CICESS packet on [Make Yourself GP](http://www.makeyourselfgp.org/employers/).

**Take Your Career into the Classroom**

If you want to connect with your future workforce, while also giving back to the community, there’s no better way than to become a Junior Achievement (JA) volunteers. Every year hundreds of professional volunteers thousands of hours in classrooms through Greater Peoria through JA, sharing career insights while teaching students the basics of financial literacy, business management, and entrepreneurship. Don’t worry, there’s no teaching experience necessary, JA has all the curriculum and training you’ll need! Raise the profile of your career and your business while arming students with the skills and knowledge necessary for success in the 21st century.

There’s no shortage of ways to connect with students here in Greater Peoria. To get started visit [Make Yourself GP](http://www.makeyourselfgp.org/employers/) today, or contact [Brent Baker](mailto:bbaker@greaterpeoriaedc.org?subject=Connecting%20with%20Make%20Yourself%20GP) for more information!