****

 **2021 Workforce Development Council Strategic Partnership**

The Southeast Concrete Masonry Association (SCMA) represents the masonry industry across North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Georgia, and Virginia. The SCMA is a masonry educational resource for architects, engineers, designers, general contractors, and owners to ensure that a continuous masonry learning environment is promoted by using wall systems effectively, efficiently, and most importantly safely.

The SCMA and its members are committed to building a stronger strategic partnership with all masonry contractor associations in the five states. Through this partnership, the SCMA plans to create a **SCMA Workforce Development Council** that will help bring the Masonry One Voice Initiative front and center of having all masonry contractors working together to create a more sustainable labor pool.

What we hope to accomplish with the Workforce Development Council:

* Create an outline of best practices all states can implement.
* Create a networking atmosphere to remove the silo approach and work together.
* Develop a consistent synergy to help keep us moving forward in new programs.
* Create a quarterly council meeting to review our overall efforts.

The masonry-related topics we will address during the **Workforce Development Council:**

* Identify All Apprenticeship Programs
* Rank Programs on Engagement Level
* Masonry Contractors Engagement
* CTE Director Landscape
* Involvement at State Level
* Capturing State Grants for Tuition
* More Masonry Contractor Involvement
* Build off our Successes
* Checkoff Dollars -WFD Programs
* Think Outside the Masonry Box

The SCMA fully respects each masonry contractor association has its own workforce development programs in their state. Knowing there are established programs the SCMA sees the need to help with getting all states talking about best practices and creating synergy within the five states. We see this as mission critical to have sustainable workforce development programs so as our producer sales grow we have a future labor pool that can accommodate the growth.

**Interested in building a strategic partnership**? The first step is to review this opportunity with your board and get their approval. Second, reach out to James Cain with the SCMA to confirm you want to get involved. Third, be committed to the cause! We’ll be getting together later this year!

**Contact SCMA today 704-352-6831 or email** **jcain@scmaonline.org**