

## *18 kids participate in 2013 Spirit Summer Camp*

Camp held at Roberts Academy in Price Hill

Eighteen middle school students enjoyed exploring construction careers during June's **Spirit of Construction Summer Camp** at **Roberts Academy** in Price Hill.

The 12 boys and 6 girls from nine area schools had the opportunity to learn welding, carpentry, roofing, concrete work, electrical wiring, caulking and painting during the three-week camp. This year, for the first time, the campers earned Commitment Credits for attendance and work habits. The credits were converted to gift cards on the camp's final day.

"We hoped the campers would make the connection between hard work and well-earned rewards," said **Anne Mitchell**, Middle School Construction Industry Advocate. "They did, and they had a great time, too."

"I think this project was fun," said seventh grader **Logan Thomas** of Midway Elementary. "I made a lot of new friends, and when I did not know something about building the shed, they told me."



*Campers with Anne Mitchell, bottom right. And the finished shed!*

Roberts Academy will use the shed that the campers built to support their community garden initiative. Roberts' Resource Coordinator **Tracy Power** said, "I am totally in awe -- in love -- with the shed. It is exactly what our school and our community needed." Community Learning Institute President **Darlene Kamine** described this summer's camp as "a spectacular experience for our community."

**Dan Freese**, chairman of **Ohio Valley Associated Builders and Contractors**, has been a supporter of the camp since it began in 2011. He urged the SWORWIB to be proud of this effort, calling this "another successful year."

Freese continued, "Thanks for all you do for these kids. It has to be making a difference. It is awesome!"

Funding for the camp was provided by the **Spirit of Construction Foundation** and **Greater Cincinnati Foundation's SummerKids**. Companies that provided labor and material support and other donations included **Allied Construction Industries, Ben Parks Electric, cHc Fabrication, Cincinnati Building and Contracting, Denier Electric, Elite Welding Academy, Forge Lumber, G/C Contraction, Gallagher SKS, James Hunt Construction, Lehn Painting, Messer Construction, Moellering Roofing, Ohio Valley Associated Builders and Contractors, Ohio Valley Electric, RE Middleton Construction, and United Group Services**.

## *2 new laws to impact workforce development for Ohio*

**Gov. John Kasich** signed two important bills into law recently that will have an impact on those who are unemployed as well as One Stops throughout Ohio. [House Bill 1](#) requires all Ohio One Stops to use "**Ohio Means Jobs**" as their name, with the relevant city and county name put at the end. HB1 also requires the use of [www.ohiomeansjobs.com](http://www.ohiomeansjobs.com) for job placement activities through One Stops. [House Bill 2](#) requires individuals receiving unemployment compensation to use OhioMeansJobs and its tools to help their job search. They must register with [ohiomeansjobs.com](http://ohiomeansjobs.com) as a condition for receiving benefits. They will be required to post a resume and will receive a weekly listing of available and relevant jobs.

Some highlights in Ohio's new biennial budget, signed by Gov. Kasich on June 30:

- Prioritizes work support services for the poorest Ohioans by increasing funding for TANF work support services by \$42 million annually and providing \$33 million annually in performance-based grants to workforce investment boards that help TANF recipients find and keep jobs.
- Continues funding for ODJFS partnership with the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption and Connecting the Dots from Foster Care to Employment and Independent Living pilot program.
- Maintains the state share of the Adoption Assistance and State Adoption Maintenance Subsidy and the Kinship Permanency Incentive program. Maintains current benefit amounts, eligibility requirements and administrative funding for food and cash assistance, publicly funded child care and disability financial assistance.
- Creates a separate, stand-alone Ohio Department of Medicaid.

## *Hamilton County gets emergency funding for dislocated workers*

Area 13 -- Cincinnati and Hamilton County -- is getting an infusion of funding for dislocated worker training, thanks to a **Department of Labor National Emergency Grant** that the State of Ohio was awarded.

Ohio will get \$3.4 million of a \$58 million grant the DOL disbursed to 30 states to help more dislocated workers earn industry-recognized credentials. "The grants to states will support on-the-job training ... and other approaches that connect individuals with employers, with a focus on providing these services to those in long spells of unemployment," according to the DOL.

Area 13 expects to receive \$200,000, which will help to offset a bit of the 26% cut in funding that sequestration has caused, said **Sherry Kelley Marshall**, President/CEO of the SWORWIB.

## *Success snapshot: Element Materials Technology*



**Employer:** **Element Materials Technology Cincinnati**, which tests composite materials for aerospace, energy and biomedical devices.

**Need:** Test and calibration technicians, engineering/maintenance, data analysts. **Matt Webb**, General Manager, attributed the company's growth to the greater use of composites in aerospace.

**Strategy:** Business Services team at SuperJobs helped to organize and staff a Hiring Event on June 26. Communications team got the word out to media, workforce and training partners throughout the region, with a particular emphasis on programs serving veterans.

**Response:** Forty-two candidates attended the Hiring Event. Thirty have gone through Work Keys assessments to earn the National Career Readiness Certificate. Eighteen have been called back for second interviews.

"I am quite pleased with the candidates," said Webb. "It's a good mix, and several qualify for more than one position. I am very happy with the help I got from the team at SuperJobs."

## *Fifth Third partners on Job Seeker's Toolkit*

**Fifth Third Bank** and **NextJob**, a nationwide reemployment solutions company, have created a **Job Seeker's Toolkit** for the bank's online customers.

According to Fifth Third, the Job Seeker's Toolkit is a web-based, multi-media program that facilitates interactive learning through nine job search modules. It includes video interviews with job search experts, job seekers and hiring managers to give job seekers a sense of real life experiences. Other tools include creating an effective resume, compelling cover letters and a detailed marketing plan; best job board aggregators and leads; and networking and the hidden job market.

This is the second initiative Fifth Third and NextJob have partnered on. Earlier this year, they launched the homeowner reemployment initiative. **Teresa Tanner**, Executive Vice President and Chief Human Resources Officer at Fifth Third, is on the SWORWIB board. Details [here](#).

## *JCG holds successful E-Camp*



*Twenty-one graduating high school seniors attended Entrepreneurship Camp during June. Sponsored by the Greater Cincinnati Microenterprise Initiative and CYC/Jobs for Cincinnati Graduates, and funded through the Workforce Investment Act, the camp offered a structured business development program, supplemented with Internet research, entrepreneurship training, financial management education, guest speakers, and interactive workshops.*

## *Short takes*

### SuperJobs holds 15 hiring events in July

The **SuperJobs Center** has been on a roll this month with 15 hiring events scheduled for July! Employers include **Two Hawk**, **SMX**, **For Your Wellness**, **DHL**, **Building Value** and **Total Quality Logistics**. In fact, SuperJobs just concluded its Program Year (July 2012-June 2013) with 106 hiring events held -- more than double the number of the previous year. Congratulations to the Business Services Team for such successful outreach to local employers.

### Training pays off, ROI report shows

Training for dislocated workers paid off in multiple ways for both the worker and the taxpayer, a new report conducted by the Ohio **Office of Workforce Development** concluded.

The project focused on the costs and benefits associated with WIA-funded training of displaced workers, and it examined 3,606 workers who received training completed between July 2010-June 2011.

Return on investment (ROI) measures the total amount of money earned for each dollar invested. The study used real wages for Year 1, then projected wages until Year 10. For the taxpayer ROI, the cost of WIA-funded training and public assistance programs was figured in, while the benefits included income taxes generated by the now employed worker, and reduced public assistance.

The study showed that for participants, the ROI began in Year 1, with \$1.14 earned for each dollar invested, and that was projected to be \$5.03 by Year 10. Taxpayers began to earn their investment back by Year 3 with \$1.38 earned for every dollar invested, projected to \$4.75 by Year 10. Details [here](#).

## National Skills report includes SWORWIB data

The **National Skills Coalition's** new [report](#) -- "Undoing Success: The Real Cost of Federal Workforce Development Cuts to Jobseekers and Employers" -- details the impact that federal funding cuts have had to workforce programs across the nation. Congress has cut funding to employment and job training programs by \$1 billion over the last 3 years, the study reports, while going on to take a closer look at the impact of sequestration. The report included a case study of Area 13, the SWORWIB and the SuperJobs Center.

## Easter Seals, CAA awarded YouthBuild grants

Congratulations to **Easter Seals TriState**, one of our youth service providers, which was awarded a \$1.09 million three-year **YouthBuild grant** from the Department of Labor. Easter Seals will help 72 youth obtain job training and credentials in construction and advanced manufacturing, earn a GED or diploma and provide community impact through the rehab of local, low-cost housing. Recruitment efforts and construction work will target the Lower Price Hill and East Price Hill neighborhoods of Cincinnati. **Cincinnati-Hamilton County Community Action Agency**, a required partner of the SWORWIB, received a \$1.1 million YouthBuild grant from the Department of Labor in 2012, also for three years. Both organizations had been previously awarded YouthBuild grants in 2009. CAA's grant allows it to serve young people from low-income communities with GED preparation, and occupational training leading to industry-recognized credentials in fields including health care, construction and IT.

## In the news

Chairman Powell's [op-ed](#) on impact of sequestration cuts

[The long, lonely search for a job](#) (Cincinnati Enquirer)

Sherry Kelley Marshall's [letter](#) to the editor

Chamber's newsletter [features](#) Spirit Construction Camp

Sen. Brown [reintroduces](#) SECTORS Act

Element Materials [holds](#) Job Fair

President of SWORWIB [attends](#) Clinton Global Initiative

Contact: **Kathleen Williams, Youth/Public Information Coordinator**  
kwilliams@gccc.com

