

Greetings!

Month-to-month and year-to-year statistics don't tell the whole story of workforce development in Cincinnati and Hamilton County, but they reflect what is going on in the economy at a certain point in time, and allow us to compare outcomes.

Below, we compare the month of January 2010 to January 2009 in these categories: Number of people who have registered at the SuperJobs Center; number of people enrolled in training; number of people placed in jobs; initial claims of unemployment in Hamilton County; continuing claims; and the region's unemployment rate.

ALL ABOUT EMPLOYERS: ENERGY ALLIANCE TAPS EXPERTS AS IT HIRES

For a year, **Andy Holzhauser**, executive director of the [Greater Cincinnati Energy Alliance](#), was a one-man band.

The Alliance, funded by the [Greater Cincinnati Foundation](#), is a non-profit that offers financing and project management services to retrofit buildings in Greater Cincinnati. When it began to operate in January 2009, Holzhauser was the only employee.

Additional funding secured later in the year allowed him to add staffers, and he decided to turn to [Business Services](#) experts at the SuperJobs Center to find the best qualified applicants.

LATEST NEWS & NOTES

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SHORT TAKES

SUPERJOBS GETS NEW DIRECTOR

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MARK YOUR CALENDARS

SWORWIB

All meetings held at SuperJobs Center, 1916 Central Parkway, unless otherwise noted.

April 8: Executive Committee, 8-10 a.m.

May 7: Emerging Workforce Development Council, 8:30-10 a.m.

SUPERJOBS

All meetings held at SuperJobs Center unless otherwise noted.

Orientation for new job seekers, 9-11 a.m. on Mondays

Orientation also held 1-2 p.m., Tuesdays, Jordan Crossing location, Community Action Agency, 1740 Langdon Farm Road

Resume Writing 101, 9-10:15 a.m. on Tuesdays

Resume Writing 102, 9-10:15 a.m. on Wednesdays

Computer Basics 101, 10:30 a.m.-noon Wednesdays

Surviving Job Loss, 9-10:15 a.m., March 18

Time Management, 9-10:15 a.m., March 19

Money matters, 10:30 a.m.-noon, March 19

Effective Job Search Techniques, 9-10:30 a.m., March

"For me it was a no-brainer," he says. "I knew that SuperJobs had expertise in the emerging energy sector, and I knew I could not do it on my own."

Holzhauser worked with **Krishna Chatpatwala**, a Business Services Representative at the SuperJobs Center who is a liaison with the energy industry and works with employers to recruit for green jobs.



"Andy had openings for three positions," Chatpatwala says. More than 200 people applied, and Chatpatwala handled the screening of the candidates, so that Holzhauser ended up with a pool of about 35. From that pool, he made his hires.

Holzhauser says as the Greater Cincinnati Energy Alliance grows, he plans to turn to SuperJobs Center when the time comes to hire new employees. "It's absolutely a great service for employers," he says. "SuperJobs made it a very streamlined, easy to manage process. I wouldn't have done it any other way."

EMPLOYERS FIRST AWARDED \$250,000 GRANT

Collaboration is the key to success in the workforce investment arena and the Workforce Investment Boards in the Tri-State -- the [SWORWIB](#); [Workforce One Investment Board of Southwest Ohio](#) (Butler, Warren and Clermont counties); the [Northern Kentucky Workforce Investment Board](#); the [Indiana Region 9 Workforce Board](#), and the [Northern Kentucky Chamber's Workforce](#) division -- have worked together since 2001.

This collaborative, known as the [Employers First Regional Workforce Consortium](#), was just awarded a [\\$250,000 Regional Innovation Grant](#) from the Department of Labor. This is significant for our region -- very few other areas in the country are working across two state lines, much less three.

The grant will allow Employers First to develop a plan to connect even more strongly with employers in the Tri-State via surveys and focus groups to get a better handle on their workforce needs, the potential growth areas they see in their industry, and more.

Stay tuned - you'll be hearing more on the Regional Innovation Grant from **Barbara Stewart**, Director of the Workforce Investment Board in Northern Kentucky, the lead agency in applying for this grant.

25

7 Phases of Interviewing and Mock Interviewing, 9 .m.-noon, March 26

WORKFORCE RESOURCES

[SuperJobs.com](#): Help for job seekers and employers at the SuperJobs Center

Hamilton County [Job and Family Services](#)

Ohio's [Workforce Information Center](#)

[Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber](#)

United Way [211](#): Information on health and human services

Latest on [Ohio's labor market](#)

Latest on [U.S. labor market](#)

SWORWIB'S MISSION

We will create, develop, and maintain a comprehensive workforce development system that engages the entire community towards ever-increasing levels of self-sufficiency.

The SWORWIB drives policy, direction and funding oversight for the public workforce investment system in the City of Cincinnati and Hamilton County.

The SWORWIB promotes employment through jobseeker and employer services, training and education, workforce readiness preparation and economic development.

For more information on the SWORWIB, click [here](#).

OUR YOUTH SUCCESS STORY: CONNECT2SUCCESS



Will White, left, a youth coordinator with Connect2Success, reviews a book on possible career paths with Terron Moton.

Terron Moton knew he wanted to change his life. A dropout at age 16, hanging out with the "wrong crowd," in trouble with the law, and without a job, Moton had hit a dead end. He knew it was up to him to take his life back.

So last October he walked into the [SuperJobs Center](#) hoping to find a job. He found more -- the stepping stones to a new life.

Moton, now 18, was referred to [Connect2Success](#), a collaborative led by [Cincinnati State](#) and [Jobs for Cincinnati Graduates](#), and funded by the SWORWIB and [Greater Cincinnati Foundation](#). It includes a number of social service agencies and aims to get young people who have dropped out of high school into a GED program or back into high school. The ultimate goal is to provide them with the tools necessary to become self-sufficient, says **Brandy Davis**, program manager of **C2S**. The collaborative began in August 2008, and has worked with more than 300 young people since that time, she adds. Read more [here](#).

SHORT TAKES: CERTIFICATES; TOURS; RECESSION; JOB TRACKER

GETTING CERTIFIED: John Nelson, Regional Manager of Workforce Development for ACT, touted the value of the [National Career Readiness Certificate](#) at the spring workforce community meeting hosted by the **Workforce Partners Council**.

Close to 100 people representing social service agencies, non-profits, local and state government workforce interests attended the staff development forum March 9 at [Great Oaks'](#) Scarlet Oaks campus.

After Nelson's talk, the group broke up into **smaller discussion groups**, where they tackled subjects including **job readiness to apprenticeship grants** to the **Mayor's Youth Summit**.

The Workforce Partners Council, comprised of the SWORWIB, GCWN and United Way leaders, sponsor two staff development forums for the Workforce Development community annually. The Fall Forum will be held in September or October 2010.



From left, State Sen. Bill Seitz, State Rep. Denise Driehaus, Sherry Kelley Marshall, State Rep. Connie Pillich, and Super Jobs Director Vivian Alexander Feb. 26 at the SuperJobs Center.

LEGISLATORS TOUR SUPERJOBS: The SWORWIB and SuperJobs hosted another tour of elected officials, this time with State Sen. **Bill Seitz** and State Reps. **Denise Driehaus** and **Connie Pillich**.

The trio visited SuperJobs on Feb. 26, and was escorted by Business Services Manager **Chuck Walters**, who described SuperJobs' services for job seekers and employers. SWORWIB President and CEO **Sherry Kelley Marshall** spoke to the legislators about the challenges the SWORWIB is facing in its 2010-11 budget.

RECESSION AND JOBS: **Sherry Kelley Marshall** spoke at a community gathering Feb. 25 at Christ Church Cathedral. The topic: How the recession is impacting job training programs in the region.

"The honest answer," she told the lunchtime group, "is that we are doing the best we can and we're adapting a lot."

Marshall said that the current recession is particularly painful for those who find themselves unemployed for the first time in their lives, especially those who worked for a long time at the same company and are unfamiliar with current job search techniques. She spoke about the different partnerships and programs available to help with basic computer and networking skills.

"New laws encourage people who are on unemployment to go back and get training in new skills," she said -- one of the few positives while the downturn continues.

JOB TRACKER: If you watch WCPO Channel 12's [Neighborhood Job Tracker](#) segments, you'll see frequent mention of the SuperJobs Center. **Sheila Roth**, Marketing Manager at SuperJobs, acquires job leads from the Business Services representatives at the beginning of each week. She selects three to promote, focusing on different industries or occupations. Roth e-mails her selections to **John Lomax**, Channel 12's morning news anchor, who plugs them Thursday mornings during the 6 a.m. newscast.

MEET SUPERJOBS' NEW DIRECTOR

The [SuperJobs Center](#) has a new director - **Vivian Alexander**, who previously was Director of Workforce Development in Lorain County for five years. Before that, she was Assistant Director of the Lorain Port Authority.

"We are proud to have Vivian at the helm of the SuperJobs Center and excited to have her fresh perspective overseeing the already strong performance of the Center," said **Al Thompson**, Arbor E&T's Regional Director. Arbor operates the SJC under contract with the SWORWIB.

Sherry Kelley Marshall says she is looking forward to working with Alexander. "She will be a great asset to the SuperJobs Center and the workforce community throughout the region," Marshall said.



A reception will be held to welcome Alexander to Cincinnati at 3 p.m. Friday, March 19, at SuperJobs, 1916 Central Parkway.

ALL ABOUT CONSTRUCTION: LOOKING FOR SUMMER VOLUNTEERS

The **Building Your Future** construction careers outreach program for middle school students helps students explore the wide variety of opportunities that will be available in construction careers in the years ahead. The program, funded by a grant from the [Spirit of Construction Foundation](#), reached over 700 sixth-, seventh-, and eighth-graders during its first year, and is gaining momentum.

For Summer 2010, Building Your Future will focus on **Cincinnati Public Schools'** summer session, called **Fifth Quarter**. The program will work with sixth- and seventh-graders at **Ethel Taylor Academy** in Millvale, **Hays Porter Elementary** in the West End, and **Hoffman Parhjam School** in Evanston during the four weeks of June to provide construction-related enrichment activities and career exploration.

Building Your Future is now recruiting volunteers to help with this valuable learning experience. Along with Anne Mitchell, the construction industry advocate, volunteers from the construction industry will demonstrate carpentry, plumbing, electrical wiring, safety equipment, and heavy equipment in order to give students a real hands-on look at what construction careers are all about, and the pride of working in the building industry.

If you know of any one who would like to volunteer in the outreach program this June, contact Anne at amitchell@gccc.com for more information.

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