

## Greetings!

Below, we compare the month of March 2010 to February 2010 and March 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. Even though the unemployment rate continues at over 10 percent for the region, the trend line in initial and continuing claims for unemployment compared to a year ago is encouraging.

At the SWORWIB's May 13 quarterly board meeting, **Janet Harrah**, Director of the [Center for Economic Analysis and Development](#) at Northern Kentucky University, said the accelerating decline in initial claims for unemployment is one of the few bright spots in the local economy. The region's three-month moving average of weekly hours in manufacturing is also climbing, she said, an indication companies may be approaching the point where they need to hire up.

	MAR 2010	FEB 2010	MAR 2009
<b>New registrants</b>	1,065	1,010	2,414
<b>Training enrollments</b>	80	37	18
<b>Employments</b>	212	119	255
<b>*Initial claims/Unem</b>	3,646	3,389	4,859
<b>*Continuing claims</b>	41,993	41,303	58,239
<b>**Unemployment rate</b>	10.6%	10.8%	9%

\*Hamilton County  
\*\*Region

## ALL ABOUT EMPLOYERS: HUCK GROUP TURNS TO SJC FOR QUICK ACTION

**Michelle Carter**, Vice President of [The Huck Group](#), a retail fixtures manufacturing company with a **plant in Harrison, Ohio**, needed to do some quick staffing up.

Thanks to new sales, new customers and increased work orders, Huck was looking to add more than **30 people** in Harrison, from entry level positions to machine operators to supervisors and managers, says Carter, who works out of Huck's manufacturing headquarters in Quincy, Ill. The plant in Harrison produces metal

## LATEST NEWS & NOTES

**QUICK SERVICE FOR HUCK GROUP**

**YOUTH SUCCESS STORY: JCG**

**WORKFORCE PROFESSIONAL: STEPHEN TUCKER**

**COLUMBUS WIB VISITS SJC**

**SHORT TAKES**

**CONSTRUCTION CORNER**

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

### SWORWIB

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

**Aug. 12: Quarterly Board Meeting, 8-10 a.m.**

**Aug. 12: Required Partners, 10 a.m.-noon.**

**Sept 3: 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. Mondays. Closed May 31.**

**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. Tuesdays**

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

**Job Club, 3:30 p.m. Wednesdays**

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

**Employment Solutions and Alternatives, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Thursdays**

store fixtures and displays, and now employs more than 117 people.

Through the one-stop referrals from the Ohio Means Jobs [website](#), Carter contacted **Chuck Walters** and **Gigi Hart** of the [Business Services](#) team at the SuperJobs Center on March 10, 2010, for help in setting up a hiring event. The turnaround time would be tight -- the event would be held March 16-17 -- so Hart had to quickly get out word that Huck would be hiring.

"The promotion of an event like this is very important," says Hart. "We want to get a good turnout and we typically like to have two weeks to ensure that we get qualified candidates."

Hart sent out flyers on the event to various SuperJobs partners. Other Business Services reps sent out e-mail blasts to their customers. The event also was posted on the Ohio Means Jobs and SuperJobs websites as well.

"The Business Services Team identified and forwarded resumes and cover letters of qualified applicants," says Carter.

Over the two-day event, held at the Harrison plant, about 60 people attended. Members of the Business Services team helped Carter with pre-screening of candidates. They handed out applications and took care of various kinds of administrative details, allowing Carter to focus on interviewing candidates.

From that pool, **Carter hired 39 people**. And SuperJobs made a convert out of Carter, who says she will use its services in the future.

"The professionalism of the Business Services Team was exceptional," says Carter. "They geared up in a short time to meet our needs and ensure that The Huck Group could make qualified hires for our plant in Harrison."

7 Phases of Interviewing and Mock Interviewing, 9 a.m.-noon, May 21

Who moved My Cheese, 9-10:15 a.m., May 28

Skills ID Workshop, 9-10:15 a.m., June 4

I Got the Job! Now What?, 9-10:15 a.m., June 11

## 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: JCG



[Queshonda Bolling](#), left, [LaStarr Rivers](#) and [Dominique Springs](#) at their JCG classroom at Aiken.

*Believe in yourself. Don't stop. You control your destiny.*

Those are the powerful messages two seniors at Aiken College and Career High School convey as they tell their stories.

**Queshonda Bolling**, 17, and **Dominique Springs**, 18, are enrolled in the [Jobs for Cincinnati Graduates](#)' (JCG) program at Aiken. JCG assists students with barriers to success, and keeps them

focused on completing high school and moving toward the "3 E's": enrollment in post-secondary school; enlistment, or employment.

JCG, which has a graduation rate of 93 percent, is one of five agencies currently funded by the Southwest Ohio Region Workforce Investment Board (SWORWIB) to provide services to youth who have dropped out of school or are at risk of dropping out. During the two-year contract that extends from July 1, 2009-June 30, 2011, approximately 1,000 youth in Cincinnati and Hamilton County will be served by the five agencies at a cost of approximately \$3.9 million.

Bolling and Springs are college-bound students with multiple scholarships: Bolling to Bluffton University in northwest Ohio, where she plans to major in math, and Springs to Mount St. Joseph in Cincinnati, where she will study journalism.

To read more on these young ladies, click [here](#).

### WORKFORCE PROFESSIONAL: STEPHEN TUCKER PAYS IT FORWARD

**Stephen Tucker** has a simple message for the men and women he works with:

"If I can do it, so can you."

Tucker, Director of Workforce Development at the [Urban League of Greater Cincinnati](#), served time in prison in 2002. He could have gone back to his old life, but instead chose a new path of self-examination and hard work. At every step of the way, he took advantage of the services offered by an array of non-profits in Greater Cincinnati to help ex-offenders get a job.

Now he works with men and women in similar situations. "It gives them hope," he says. "They believe their offender status can't be overcome. I show that it can."

He's been successful, too: **More than 600 job placements in the past three years** through the Urban League, many of them ex-offenders.

Tucker believes strongly in the leveraging power of all the Greater Cincinnati agencies involved in workforce development. He tapped into many of them himself when he was released from prison. "These agencies offer specialized services that, taken together, provide a wraparound approach to job seekers who face many obstacles to finding a job," he says.

To read more on Stephen Tucker and his work, click [here](#).



From left, Gov. Ted Strickland, Stephen Tucker, and the Rev. Joel L. King, Jr., Vice Chair of the Ohio Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission. Tucker was awarded an MLK award in 2009 from the State of Ohio.

### COLUMBUS WIB VISITS SUPERJOBS TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT G\*STARS

Managers from the [Central Ohio Workforce Investment Corporation](#), which operates in Columbus and Franklin County, visited the SuperJobs Center May 10 to learn more about the **G\*Stars** client-tracking system. G\*Stars has

been used for several years by the SWORWIB to track performance outcomes. [Workforce One of Southwest Ohio](#), which operates in Butler, Warren and Clermont County, as well as [The Greater Cincinnati Workforce Network](#) and the [United Way](#) have joined the SWORWIB in using G\*Stars, which will allow Southwest Ohio to have a regional dashboard measuring workforce results beginning in 2011.



Suzanne Coleman-Tolbert, second from left, and her management team from COWIC visit the SuperJobs Center to get a first-hand look at G\*Stars. Second from right is Sherry Kelley Marshall of the SWORWIB.

The management team from Columbus included Suzanne Coleman-Tolbert, President and CEO; Gailmarie Harris, Director of Youth Services; Frankie Nowlin, Director of Adult and Dislocated Workers; David Booker, Director of Talent, Recruitment and Technology; Winford Dearing, Contract Manager; Roy Landreth, Director of Policy, Planning and Performance; and Shirley Costantino, Chief Financial Officer.

#### SHORT TAKES: EMPLOYERS FIRST MEETS; YOUTHS JOIN EWDC; TANF SUMMER YOUTH

**EMPLOYERS FIRST MEET:** The Employers First Regional Workforce Consortium met May 5 at [Tier 1 Performance Solutions](#) in Covington, Ky. Tier 1 is a knowledge solutions company that currently employs about 40 people, said CEO Greg Harmeyer. Employers First is comprised of the executives of the workforce Investment Boards in Southwest Ohio, Northern Kentucky and Southeast Indiana and meets quarterly at regional employers to assess their hiring needs.

**YOUTH MEMBERS JOIN EWDC:** Two young people have joined the Emerging Workforce Development Council so that the council has a better understanding of youth perspectives. Yuri Edwards, 18, a senior at Aiken College and Career High School, is in [Jobs for Cincinnati Graduates](#) and will be attending Mount St. Joseph College. Lakeeya Wilson, 18, has been working with [Literacy Center West](#) since August 2009 to get her GED, which she expects to have soon, and she also is in [Connect2Success](#). Wilson completed the Homemaker/Home Health Aide Training program at the [Council on Aging in Southwestern Ohio](#) in February 2010, where she now works. The youth members will hold peer focus groups, says EWDC Coordinator Nicole Ware, and report their results to the council.



Yuri Edwards is one of two youth representatives on the EWDC.

**IMPACT CINCINNATI FOCUSES ON C2S:** Nicole Ware of the EWDC; Brandi Davis, Program Manager of [Connect2Success](#); and Racquel Grant, a C2S participant, were interviewed by Marianne Zeleznick on WVXU's Impact Cincinnati May 20. The show covered aspects of C2S dropout recovery program. To listen to the program, click [here](#).

**NEW WEBSITE FOR THE BANKS:** The Banks, Cincinnati's mixed-use riverfront development, has a new [website](#) and includes a page on [inclusion](#) in hiring. Developers of The Banks, a public-private partnership, pledged to meet goals of 22 percent in combined minority/women hiring and 30 percent in Small Business Enterprise participation, and have exceeded both goals. The SWORWIB and SuperJobs Center worked with Pat Bready, the Banks inclusion consultant, to direct job seekers who were interested in construction careers, to union and non-union apprenticeship programs, once they met basic qualification standards.

**SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT FUNDS:** At the May NEWSWIB's publishing deadline, Congress had not appropriated any federal funds for the Workforce Investment Act's Summer Youth Employment Program, said Sherry Kelley Marshall, President/CEO of the SWORWIB, but TANF funds are

available for youth who qualify. To find out more about TANF summer youth funds, contact **Maggie Barnett**, Contract Services, Hamilton County Job and Family Services, 222 East Central Parkway, 3rd Floor, Cincinnati 45202. Email: [HCJFS\\_RFP\\_Communications@jfs.hamilton-co.org](mailto:HCJFS_RFP_Communications@jfs.hamilton-co.org). Also, the Community Action Agency is managing the City of Cincinnati's Summer Youth funds and completed applications were due to CAA May 6.

### CONSTRUCTION CORNER : BUILDING YOUR FUTURES RAMPS UP

It's been a busy spring for **Anne Mitchell**, the SWORWIB'S **Building Your Future Advocate** who works with middle school students to expose them to the possibilities of a career in construction.

In early May, Mitchell spoke to approximately 200 students in 7th and 8th grades at Roselawn and Bond Hill academies. Her Cincinnati Public Schools outreach continues the second half of May with visits to Hartwell, Bridgetown, AMIS, Winton Hills schools, and Career Fairs at Hoffman Parham, Roberts Padeia and Sayler Park.

Mitchell is preparing for CPS's [Fifth Quarter](#) summer program, and is still looking for construction industry volunteers to work with students. Email her at [amitchell@gccc.com](mailto:amitchell@gccc.com) or call her at 513-562-8443 if you can help.

Email Marketing by

