

November 2014

## *From the SWORWIB Staff!*



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HAPPY THANKSGIVING to the friends of the Southwest Ohio Region Workforce Investment Board!! Have a wonderful holiday weekend with your family and friends. Travel safely and stay tuned for more updates on the SWORWIB and OhioMeansJobs.

## Spotlight on Employers *On-the-Job (OJT)* *Industries Served*



OhioMeansJobs Cincinnati-Hamilton County provided On-the-Job Training (OJT) for 71 employees and 23 employers throughout Program Year 2012-2014. Of the workers receiving OJT, 79% were male and 21% female. Average wages for OJT trainees is \$15.43/hour.

The industries with the most OJT participants were manufacturing (62%); professional/technical services (15%); and healthcare/social assistance (10%). Additional industries served include customer service, financial services and construction.

Some of the companies receiving OJT funds include: General Mills, Tri-State Medical, Pomeroy, Newman Brothers, Colvin Consulting, United Envelope, Samuel Adams, Tri-City Staffing Services and Richards Industries.

Spotlight on Governor's Office  
of Workforce Transformation  
*Marshall Provides Testimony  
at Unified State Plan Meeting*

On November 12, 2014 Sherry Kelley Marshall, SWORWIB President/CEO, joined others to provide testimony at the Governor's Unified State Plan hearing held at Great Oaks Career and Technology Center.

President Marshall thanked Governor Kasich's administration for his leadership in developing a plan that will align funding streams for WIA, ABLA and Perkins. She shared her concerns that local alignment will only be possible if it is fully integrated at the State level. In addition, with the passage of WIOA, it is the SWORWIB's hope that alignment of funding for Wagner-Peyser and Disability Services will also be addressed in the State's plan.

Marshall also testified that the requirements for a coordinated case management system and common performance metrics will take a great amount of time and effort on the part of the required partners. However, tracking progress and success outcomes uniformly across the state is the best route to a unified workforce system that will provide an informed customer choice for Ohioans.

President Marshall praised the OhioMeansJobs website for providing access to the National Career Readiness Certificate assessment highly valued in the southwest Ohio region. The OMJ portal also provides job seekers the ability to measure their job readiness skills and participate in career exploration, resume building and job search/application. These practices support the SWORWIB's dedication to ITA funding for individuals to transition to in-demand industries and occupations - a goal local Area 13 has had since 2007.



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Spotlight on SWORWIB  
*Marshall Presents Annual Update  
to Board of County Commissioners*



(Left to Right) Todd Portune, Hamilton County Commissioner; Sherry Kelley Marshall, SWORWIB President/CEO; Greg Hartmann, Hamilton County Commissioner; (Present but not Pictured) Chris Monzel, Hamilton County Commissioner

On October 27, 2014 President Marshall presented the SWORWIB's outcomes for Program Year 2013-2014 to the Hamilton County Board of Commissioners, Greg Hartmann, Chris Monzel and Todd Portune. The presentation provided highlights of services to employers, adult workers, dislocated workers and opportunity youth in Cincinnati-Hamilton County.

The OhioMeansJobs Center served more than 300 employers and 5,198 job seekers, of which 1,355 individuals received job training. To support transition to Area 13 in-demand careers, a new career pathway for Transportation, Distribution and Logistics will be added for a total of six, including Healthcare; Construction; Advanced Manufacturing; Energy and Information Technology.

717 opportunity youth (including foster care youth and youth with disabilities) received support services. Current youth services providers include the Cincinnati Youth Council (CYC) Jobs for Cincinnati Graduates (JCG); Easter Seals Tri-State; Lighthouse Youth Services; Santa Maria/Literacy Center West; and Cincinnati State.

There are nine common performance measures under WIA, all of which were met or exceeded during Program Year 2013-2014. Under the new WIOA legislation, there are 15 common performance measures and one for employers yet to be determined for a total of 16.

President Marshall addressed new and continuing opportunities due to the shift from the current Workforce Investment Act (WIA) legislation to the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) effective July 1, 2015. Commissioner Portune complimented the SWORWIB on the prior program year accomplishments and the detailed presentation by President Marshall.

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## Rapid Response *Update on Honeywell*

The Honeywell transition center closed on October 31, 2014 having served more than 55 Honeywell employees seeking transition services provided by LIFT. Honeywell employees participated in resume building, job searches and hiring events through OhioMeansJobs.

Displaced individuals also received pre re-employment training and coaching services. Workers are now finding positions in related industries with similar pay scales.

Shortly after closing the Honeywell transition center, the SWORWIB was informed that RockTenn in Oakley is also in need of rapid response services. A transition center for RockTenn employees opened today.

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# Update on Youth *SIF Opportunity Youth*

President Marshal joined LIFT and three SIF Opportunity Youth to purchase winter outerwear and tools prior to starting their new positions working on the Banks project.

Merris Kelly, Brandon Creech and David Oliver participated in a pre-apprenticeship program and completed their National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC). All three young men began their jobs in construction on November 19 earning \$32.50/hour.

Pictured Left to Right: David Oliver, Brandon Creech and Merris Kelly; (front row) Cathy Metcalf of LIFT.



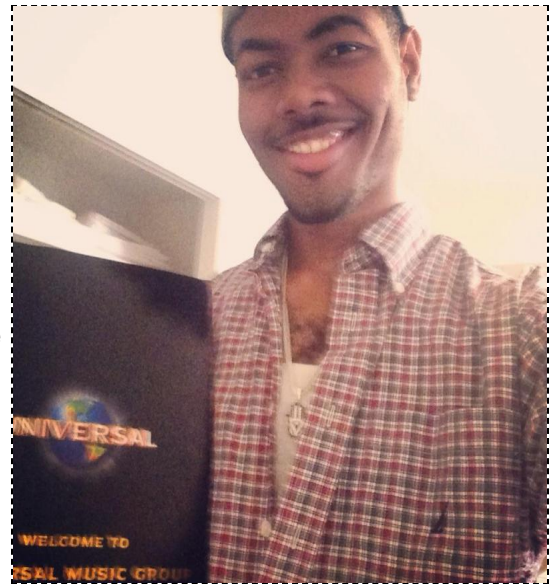
## Where are They Now

### *Devonte Roach* *JCG Graduate*

Devonte Roach is a former Jobs for Cincinnati Graduates student. His determination and passion led him to a career in music.

After experiencing homelessness and economic hardship in addition to lacking the essentials needed to function effectively in high school and living in neighborhoods consumed with poverty, Devonte left home. He worked with the local youth homeless coalition, Lighthouse Youth Services, to create a plan of action toward his goals for the future. Devonte's greatest aspiration was to attend college. He learned to balance high school with a part-time job, extracurricular activities and took the proper steps to ensure that he would be able to fund college. At any cost, he made it up in his mind that he would not only go to college, he would attend his dream school, Berklee College of Music.

Devonte participated in WIA's JCG program with support services and Incentives that got him closer to his dream.



Devonte Roach

After struggling through part-time jobs and a bad economy, Devonte is now a full-time student at Berlee College of Music in Boston, MA. He is a music composition major and is employed at Mix 104.2 radio station as a marketing and promotions representative in the Boston area. He received the Michael Bany Music Scholarship.

Devonte's career plan includes graduating from Berklee and becoming a professional songwriter and production executive. He plans to give back to the community to show his appreciation for all of the wonderful people who have invested in his life and passion for music.

Listen to the music of Devonte Roach (professional name: Devonte Singer) at <http://www.reverbnation.com/DEVONTE>.

## Spotlight on SWORWIB *Youth Services and* *OMJ Center Operator RFPs*

On November 18, 2014, the Request for Proposal (RFP) for procurement of SWORWIB and OMJ/One-Stop Youth Services was released to the public. The RFP and corresponding documentation is located on the Hamilton County Job and Family Services website, [www.hcjfs.hamilton-co.org](http://www.hcjfs.hamilton-co.org) (select *About* and then *Request for Proposals*).



The contract period for services is July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2018, with an option for a one-year renewal. Services are requested for both in-school and out-of-school youth. Eligible providers may apply to serve one or both of the youth populations. The RFP Conference will be held on December 2, 2014 at 2:00pm.

The deadline for registering for the RFP process is January 7, 2015 at noon. The deadline for proposals to be received by RFP Contact Person is January 14, 2015 at 11am. Questions may be submitted to the RFP contact, Sandra Carson, Contract Services, Hamilton County Department of Job & family Services, at [carsos01@jfs.hamilton-co.org](mailto:carsos01@jfs.hamilton-co.org).

An RFP for the OhioMeansJobs Center Operator is in development. Further information will be provided in the December NewsWIB.

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## Short Takes:

### **SuperAwards 2015 Nominations**

We invite you to nominate a person or organization or business that has demonstrated a commitment to the public workforce system, either by using the services of the system; or by hiring those who are unemployed; or by partnering on or developing initiatives that further the goals of the public workforce system, or other activities that help the SWORWIB meet its mission. Submit your nomination to Sherry Kelley Marshall at [smarshall@sworwib.org](mailto:smarshall@sworwib.org).

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## *Follow us on Facebook and Twitter!*

The SWORWIB has a [Facebook](#) page where we post news, pictures, events and up-to-date information. Also, follow us on [Twitter](#) @CincyWorkforce and we'll keep you informed throughout the month!

Donations can be made to the SWORWIB to support Southwest Ohio workforce initiatives by contacting Sherry Kelley Marshall, President/CEO of the SWORWIB at [smarshall@sworwib.org](mailto:smarshall@sworwib.org) for more information.

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