

Greetings!

Welcome to NEWSWIB, the first newsletter of the Southwest Ohio Region Workforce Investment Board. In these monthly updates, you'll find the latest news about our workforce investment initiatives in Cincinnati-Hamilton County.



Under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) - better known as the stimulus - President Obama and Congress pledged accountability and transparency.

This newsletter and our expanded website (www.superjobs.com) are two ways of informing our community about ARRA results. We have also presented open houses at the SuperJobs Center this summer for elected officials. With an additional \$5 million in stimulus funding added to its workforce training budget, the SWORWIB made sure that elected officials representing Cincinnati and Hamilton County were up to date on the plans and expected outcomes for that funding. Our distinguished visitors included Lt. Gov. Lee Fisher, U.S. Rep. Steve Driehaus, Cincinnati Mayor Mark Mallory, City Councilwoman Laketa Cole, State Sen. Eric Kearney, State Rep. Dale Mallory, Hamilton County Commissioner David Pepper, and representatives from the offices of U.S. Sens. George Voinovich and Sherrod Brown, U.S. Rep. Jean Schmidt, and City Council Vice Mayor David Crowley. We thank them all for their commitment to workforce development.

Sincerely,

Sherry Kelley Marshall/President/CEO

LT. GOV. FISHER VISITS SUPERJOBS CENTER

Ohio Lt. Gov. Lee Fisher  Lt. Gov, mayor, Laketa Cole, Sherry [visited the SuperJobs Center](#) Aug. 11 for an Elected Officials Open House. Other visitors included Cincinnati Mayor Mark Mallory, Hamilton County Commissioner David Pepper, State Rep. Dale Mallory and City Councilwoman Laketa Cole as well as representatives from the district offices of U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown and U.S. Rep. Jean Schmidt. Above, from left, are Lt. Gov. Fisher, Mayor Mallory, Councilwoman Cole and Sherry Kelley Marshall, President/CEO of the SWORWIB.

SUPERJOBS HAS STRONG YEAR

Despite one of the most challenging economies in decades, the SuperJobs Center and its operator, [Arbor E&T](#), demonstrated their dedication and commitment to our community by exceeding all of their goals for Fiscal Year 2009 (July 1, 2008-June 30, 2009). In June 2009, unemployment in Hamilton County stood at 9.7 percent, compared to 5.9 percent in June 2008.

"I want to commend the staff of our one-stop operator for their stellar performance," said Sherry Kelley Marshall, President/CEO of the SWORWIB, which contracts with Arbor to operate the SJC. The SJC serves adults and dislocated workers.

LATEST NEWS & NOTES

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MEET SUMMER YOUTH PROVIDERS

Five youth service providers were selected by the SWORWIB to provide summer job-training programs for more than 600 young people from Cincinnati and Hamilton County. These programs were funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and included 14-24 year olds as defined by ARRA. They are:

- [Arbor \(E&T\)](#), 319 youths, through its [Career Works](#) program. (513) 731-9800
- [Easter Seals Work Resource Center](#), 120 youths. (513) 386-6851
- [Great Oaks](#), 45 youths in [Freshman Challenge](#). (513) 771-8840
- [Job for Cincinnati Graduates](#), 45 youths in [Summer Career Exploration](#). (513) 631-4400
- [Urban League of Greater Cincinnati](#), 80 youths. (513) 281-4450

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Sept. 3: One-Stop partners General Assembly, 2:30-4:30 p.m., SuperJobs Center, 1916 Central Parkway

Sept. 14: PNC Bank Job Fair, 8:45 a.m., SuperJobs Center, 1916 Central Parkway; no walk-ins

Sept. 17: Workforce Partners Council fall staff development meeting, noon-3:30 p.m.; SuperJobs Center, 1916 Central Parkway

Nov. 12: Quarterly SWORWIB board meeting, 8-10 a.m., SuperJobs Center, 1916 Central Parkway

WORKFORCE RESOURCES

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

Hamilton County [Jobs 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 and develop a comprehensive workforce development system that engages the entire community

By the numbers:

- Arbor contracted to register 10,000 people at the One Stop; more than 24,000 registered (directly related to the worsening unemployment) - 247 percent of goal.
- Arbor contracted to register 300 in training; 411 enrolled -- 137 percent of goal
- Arbor contracted to place 2,082 in jobs; 2,185 were placed - 105 percent of goal
- Arbor contracted to serve 192 employers; 221 were served - 115 percent of goal

towards ever-increasing levels of self-sufficiency.

The SWORWIB drives policy, direction and funding oversight for the public workforce investment system in the 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 LEARN ON THE JOB

Under the terms of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, 70 percent of all the funds devoted to summer youth services - which focused on work readiness training -- must be spent by Sept. 30, 2009. For the SWORWIB and its Summer Youth Employment



Providers ([Jobs for Cincinnati](#)

[Graduates](#), [Great Oaks](#), [Urban League](#), [Easter Seals Work Resource Center](#) and [Career Works](#)), that meant a very busy spring and summer setting up the programs, recruiting and enrolling eligible youths, partnering with a variety of employers, and ensuring that classroom and work experience met expectations. (Above, Easter Seals WRC participants Mushay Davis, left, and Terry Washington work in the computer lab.)

Total funding for the summer stimulus youth programs was approximately \$2.2 million and as we came to the end of the summer, we served more than 600 young people. "The stimulus funds allowed us to have twice as many youths as before," said JCG program manager Judith Moore. JCG's program expanded from 20 to 45 students.

For a look at some of the youths who worked in green jobs through Easter Seals WRC, click [here](#).

To find out how some students got an early look at careers through JCG, click [here](#).

44 AWARDED CERTIFICATION

The SWORWIB recently graduated 44 individuals from 27 organizations in our first Regional Workforce Development Certification Training. The training focused on meeting the needs of former offenders and other job seekers, and covered ethical and legal issues, labor market information and other resources, diversity, employability assessment, and career development. Participants invested 14 full days in their professional development as well as homework assignment time.

As a result of the training, which was jointly funded by the [Greater Cincinnati Foundation](#) in conjunction with the [Haile Foundation](#), the graduates now hold Offender Workforce Development Specialist and Global Career Development Facilitator (GCDF) certifications. Several graduates are applying to take the next level of training to become certified GCDF trainers.

"Having so many workforce specialists in the region who are able to train other staff is highly beneficial for Hamilton County and the City of Cincinnati, as well as our whole region," said Sherry Kelley Marshall, President/CEO of SWORWIB. "We are extremely grateful for the support of these training efforts, and applaud the hard work of these 44 individuals who completed the certification process, and the organizations that supported their professional development."

For a list of graduates and participating organizations, click [here](#).

WHAT'S THE LATEST ON WIA?

On July 17, 2009, the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Subcommittee on Employment and Workplace Safety, chaired by Washington Sen. Patty Murray, hosted its [first hearing](#) on the reauthorization of the [Workforce Investment Act](#), which provides for one-stop centers and services low-income adults, dislocated workers and youth.

Among those who testified were Jane Oates, Assistant Secretary for Employment and Training at the U.S. Department of Labor, and Martha Kanter, Undersecretary of Education at the U.S. Department of Education. Both reiterated the Obama Administration's support for WIA reauthorization. The committee heard from a number of experts, including Workforce Investment Board presidents from several metro areas across the country.

"It's important that the Congress act on WIA reauthorization to assure Americans of our national commitment to serving and retraining our citizens for work in the future," said Sherry Kelley Marshall, President/CEO of SWORWIB. "The fact that Congress is soliciting input from so many stakeholders in WIA is encouraging."

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