

Milwaukee Area Workforce Investment Board  
MID-YEAR REPORT  
12/10/2007

SYSTEMS REFORM

**Objective: Transform the local workforce development system to a demand-driven & customer responsive system**

- Established and convened the **new Board of Directors** and Committee structures
- Convened the **Mayor's Transition Team** to develop recommendations for the WIB
- Initiated the **Youth Programs Transformation** through planning with internal staff and listening / planning sessions with community based organizations
- Established two **Career Opportunity Centers** at YWCA & UMOS
- **Integrated W2 & WIA Case Management** systems through collaboration between WIB, YWCA, UMOS, and Maximus Inc.
- Created a **Central Business Services Unit** to conduct Job Development activity and serve as single point of contact for business in partnership with MATC, WI Job Service, DVR, TANF/FSET, & MAWIB
- Established **strategic partnership with MATC** to coordinate FSET/WIA training and to connect Adult Learning Centers to the Career Opportunity Centers
- **Collaborating with CDGA** to braid funding and program strategies
- Planning to convene **Donors Forum** in spring to engage philanthropic community to planning and investing in workforce development strategies
- **Partnership with Regional Workforce Alliance and M7** to streamline local and regional workforce development strategy

NEW INITIATIVES

**Objective: Establish the Workforce Investment Board as the coordinating, planning, and development organization for workforce development in Milwaukee**

- Announced \$4.8 million dollar grant from US Dept. of Labor in partnership with Milwaukee Public Schools to serve at 500 at-risk youth at Bradley Tech, Madison, North Multiplex, and South Division as a part of the **Future First Initiative**
- Developing a **partnership and pilot initiative with DWD and DOC** to serve ex-offenders - an RFP will be issued in January 2008
- Planning a comprehensive strategy to coordinate economic development and workforce development efforts in the **30<sup>th</sup> Street Industrial Corridor**
- The HIRE Center is responding to a massive **lay-off at Delphi** impacting nearly 1,000 individuals. MAWIB is expecting a National Emergency Grant in the amount of \$1,000,000
- MAWIB will receive \$50,000 from the DWD to administer work experience & mentorship program with MPS and **Project Lead the Way**.

- **Arandell Inc. recruitment for Bindery Workers, starting Wage \$11.26 - \$12.16** - hired 56 individuals through the WIB Business Services Unit.
- Created joint agreement and strategy to integrate **City of Milwaukee and MAWIB Summer Youth Employment program.**
- 54 Individuals received training and placement services through **WRTP / BigSTEP Construction & Manufacturing Initiatives** training programs average wage at placement \$14.03
- **Roundy's Partnership for Youth:** Partnered with Roundy's Food to recruited and place 26 youth from summer work experience to employment during the school year
- Creating a local coordination plan with MATC to meet the **SuperSteel** announcement of 100 Welders needed
- Successful implementation of the **NEG BRAC 440<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing** project – thus far, we have served 175 individuals
- Working with **Potawatomi Casino** to develop a workforce strategy to meet their demand for 500 new employees
- **Customized Recruitment for McAllen Partnership, C & D Technologies, & FedEx**

#### ON-GOING

**Objective: Ensure seamless and effective operation of current local WIA funding as well as other critical programs operated by the WIB during the transition period**

\*\* State DWD performance data for the first quarter indicate the WIB has exceeded 4 performance measures, met 12 measures, and failed 1 measure.

- Completed second **ReachBuild** home with Howard Fuller Education Association; Broke ground on third ReachBuild home with Northcott Neighborhood House – 20 youth active on the project
- **Jobs for Americas Graduates** program currently has 75 student's enrolled students at Washington, Spectrum, and Hamilton. 15 students participated in the Prison Toy Project for the Salvation Army November.
- The career and education resource rooms at the **Milwaukee Career Center** has 2,375 visitors; 285 individuals received Job Readiness Training; and 265 students have participated ACT Prep programs have been completed
- **WIA Adult Program** currently has 377 individuals in active Case Management systems with 80 currently enrolled in training and 33 in intensive Services. 32 individuals have been placed in employment (7/1-9/30) at an average wage of \$12.75 per hour. Contracts with YWCA, UMOS, Maximus, WCS, and Interfaith
- The **Milwaukee HIRE Consortium** currently has 1560 individuals in Case Management. 75 individuals have been placed in employment (7/1 – 9/30) at an average wage of \$17.06 per hour. HIRE has conducted about (20) Rapid Response Worker Orientations, held (2) Employer Roundtables (45 employers attended the combined) and launched the first HIRE Center Job Fair.
- **WIA Youth Program** completed **summer employment program for over 700 youth** including partnerships with over 40 community organizations, the UW system, and the Milwaukee Conservation Leadership Corp.