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GOVERNOR



Con P. Paulos
Chair

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Vice Chair

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

317 West Main Street, Boise, Idaho 83735-0510

TRANSMITTAL # 6

MEMORANDUM

November 5, 2009

TO: Workforce Development Council

FROM: Con P. Paulos, Chair

SUBJECT: WIRED – Status Report

ACTION REQUESTED: None. Information Only

BACKGROUND:

The South-Central Idaho WIRED project has made significant progress since our last meeting. While the project experienced some early delays, the project is moving forward on many fronts to address workforce development in the region. Candy McElfresh, Regional Project Manager, Region IV Development Association, has provided an excellent update on progress to date. We are sharing this with the council because the council is a partner and shares responsibility for oversight of the project.

Attachment

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Update

South-central Idaho WIRED Initiative

Prepared by Candy McElfresh

October 2009

There are two **Overall Goals** for the SCI WIRED Initiative:

One – Building Capacity for Meeting Workforce Demands

Two – Advancing Regional Transformation

In addressing these two goals, the accomplishments, to date -with 1 year 2 ½ months of implementation activity - are:

I. Building Capacity --

A. **Establishment of 2 Manufacturing Labs** – in Twin Falls and in Burley. They are located in high schools but used for training by CSI as well:

1. High schools -- Cassia Regional Tech Center and Canyon Ridge in Twin Falls – offering 3 levels of training and dual credit with CSI
2. CSI – offering:
 - a. New field of training - Manufacturing Technology
 - b. Industrial Maintenance Apprenticeship Program
 - c. Modular training aimed at short-term training needs of the industry and national industry certification

B. **Development of NEW training for the region**

1. CSI
 - a. Manufacturing Technology
 - b. Modular (short-term) training for:
 1. The manufacturing industry
 2. The construction/building trades industry
 - c. Industry credentialed training for:
 1. Manufacturing
 - a. Certified Production Technician
 - b. Certified Logistics Technician
 2. Construction
 - a. Certified Green Building Professional
 - d. Trade & Industry Preparation (TIP) for educationally disadvantaged adults (targeting the Adult Basic Education (ABE) and Limited English Speaking (LEP) populations)
 1. Learning the basics through industry application in reading, writing, and math
 - e. Wind Technician
 - f. Environmental Technology
 - g. Culinary Arts in Blaine County

2. Twin Falls school district
 - a. Culinary Arts at Magic Valley Alternative High School

C. Enhanced training capabilities

1. Year 2 and 3 of the Industrial Maintenance Apprenticeship Program
2. CSI Culinary Arts training expansion with the addition of bakery/pastries courses at CSI main campus
3. Professional-technical computer labs at Twin Falls and Canyon Ridge high schools

D. Planned new training

1. CSI -- Precision Ag -- training with new GPS technology used in the ag industry

E. Began Development of an Entrepreneurial web-based Portal

II. Advancing Regional Transformation

- A. Organized the Workforce Development Alliance for South-central Idaho

B. Started a Regional Industry Assessment

- C. Conducted regional training on Asset Mapping

- D. Partnered to sponsor a regional 'Strategic Doing' workshop in the region

E. Started pilots to 'imbed the principles of the Fundamental Skills Certificate' in secondary education

1. 7 schools piloting
 - a. A mixture of large & small, traditional & alternative, city & rural
2. 150 business working with the schools

F. Developed & implemented several strategies to dispel myths around manufacturing & construction industry careers (and other blue collar careers).

1. Created a 'Turning Point' campaign to inform the region/community on local 21st century job and career opportunities in manufacturing, construction, alternative/renewable energy and other emerging regional industries
2. Developed a 'Heavy Metal/Ca\$hing In' hands-on career awareness event
 - a. Involved 450 students from 26 regional schools and 36 businesses from the construction/building trades industry
 - b. Planning the second annual event
 - c. Planning similar opportunity for the manufacturing industry

G. Began the infrastructure development at the One Stop Career Centers (OSCC) that will:

1. Foster greater opportunity for business to access the public resources available, and
2. Build the OSCC skills to assist with helping business solve needs and connect to other resources

H. Began making videos of businesses for regional on-line & educational efforts to Change Perceptions of the manufacturing industry in South-central Idaho.