



DWI/OSS/BOS-L2007-490030-JM

WORKFORCE SYSTEMS LETTER NO.: 07-12

DATE: May 23, 2007

EFFECT: ACTION INFO WITH ATTCHMENTS
 SWA's

SUBJECT: ETA Agricultural Services Forum

PURPOSE: To advise State Workforce Administrators (SWAs) of the Agricultural Services Forum to be held on June 20-21, 2007 in Louisville, Kentucky immediately following the Delta Association for Rural Initiatives' (DARI) Spirit of Success Conference.

MESSAGE: The Employment and Training Administration is holding an Agricultural Services Forum to provide professional development workshops for all National Farmworker Jobs Program (NFJP) Grantees, State Monitor Advocates, Assistant Monitor Advocates, NFJP Federal Project Officers and other staff who are involved with Migrant and Seasonal Farmworker (MSFW) issues. This is a working session, designed to implement the Workforce Innovation in Regional Economic Development (WIRED) framework in serving MSFWs and the agricultural community.

The objectives of this Forum are to: (1) immerse agricultural stakeholders in the WIRED principles, the role of agriculture in regional economic development, and MSFW talent development strategies; (2) better integrate the services to MSFWs and agricultural employers in the Workforce System; (3) facilitate the exchange of information among farmworker service providers; and (4) develop and produce actual tools that will be used to improve services for the agricultural community.

ARRANGEMENTS: The Agricultural Services Forum will begin at 1:00 p.m. on June 20, 2007 and continue until 5:00 p.m. on June 21, 2007 in Louisville, Kentucky. The Forum will be held at the Galt House Hotel and Suites, 140 North Fourth Street, Louisville, Kentucky 40402. The special rate for the Galt House Hotel during this meeting will be \$85.00 per night. For reservations, participants should call the hotel directly by phone at (800) 843-4258. Hotel reservations should be made and confirmed by May 25, 2007 to receive this special conference rate. Please identify yourselves as part of the DARI group when making your reservations.

ACTION REQUIRED: State Administrators are requested to encourage state staff and WIA 167/NFJP grantees involved with farmworkers, agricultural employers and one-stop services to attend this Agricultural Services Forum.

ORIGINATING OFFICE/CONTACT: Questions concerning the Agricultural Services Forum should be directed to Region I RMA, George Kincannon at (617) 788-0135, kincannon.george.j@dol.gov or Jesus Morales at (972) 850-4616, morales.jesus@dol.gov or Felecia Blair at (972) 850-4643, blair.felecia@dol.gov.

Grace A. Kilbane
Regional Administrator

Attachment

Agricultural Services Forum

Louisville, Kentucky

June 20-21, 2007

Draft Agenda

DAY ONE

1:00 - 1:15 Welcome and Purpose: Joseph Juarez, Christine Ollis and Alina Walker

1:15 – 2:00 WIRED in Regional Agricultural Economies
The Road to WIRED – How do agricultural regional economies undergo economic transformation

Speaker: Gay Gilbert, Administrator, Office of Workforce Investment, Employment & Training Administration, U.S. Department of Labor

2:00 – 3:15 WIRED Panel Session #1 – Agricultural Regional Economies in Action

Speakers: Montana WIRED Representative
Montana WIRED Lead
Finger Lakes WIRED Representative
Finger Lakes WIRED Lead

3:15 – 3:30 Break

3:30 - 4:45 Forming Core Leadership Groups in Agricultural Economies
How do partners come together? How does the transformation begin?
Continuation of the earlier discussion, looking at partnerships and collaboration

Facilitator:

Speakers:

DAY TWO

8:00 - 8:30 Continental Breakfast

8:30 – 10:30 Driving Regional Economic Development – Innovation, Entrepreneurship, and Micro-Enterprise
Presentation followed by facilitated discussion

Presenter: Jonathan Simonetta, Manpower Analyst, Employment and Training Administration, U.S. Department of Labor

Facilitators: Alina Walker, Christine Ollis, Jonathan Simonetta

10:30 – 10:45 Break

10:45 – 11:45	Report Out on Group Activities
11:45 – 1:15	Lunch
1:15 – 3:15	WIRED and Agricultural Services – Next Steps Facilitator:
3:15 – 3:30	Break
3:30 – 5:00	Individual Technical Assistance and Training (Schedule individually with regional FPO or Monitor Advocate)