

National Perspective from the Business Relations Group



Region 3

Discretionary Grants
Roundtable

May 2007

eta

EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Objectives



- Discuss the role of business and industry in a regional economy
- Provide an example of incorporating industry into a WIRED Framework
- Discuss ways you can leverage your own industry partnerships to connect to a broader economic vision

Business Relations Group (BRG)



- Supports the workforce investment system's transition to a demand-driven system at the federal, state, and regional levels
- The BRG seeks to do this through the High Growth Job Training Initiative and through our engagement with business & industry

Business Solutions in Action



Military Spouses

- Builds off an OWI- and ONR-based priority
- “Executive Forum” via Webinar
- Follow-up activities to include collecting promising practices and engaging employers in broad-reaching military spouse efforts
- Goal: create a win-win situation for both military spouses and employers

The President's High Growth Job Training Initiative



- Strategic effort to prepare workers to take advantage of new and increasing job opportunities in high growth, high demand, and economically vital sectors of the American economy.
- 150 investments/\$285,516,990

The President's High Growth Job Training Initiative



“High-Growth” includes:

- Industries with significant job growth
- Industries undergoing dramatic workforce transformation (Skills, Demographics)
- Industries that are critical to the nation's economic viability and development
- New and emerging industries

Six Elements of High-Growth Grants



1. New and innovative solutions
2. Strategic partnerships
3. Leveraged resources
4. Sustainability
5. Replication of successful models for broad distribution
6. Clear and specific outcomes

Community-Based Job Training Grants (CBJTGs)



- CBJTGs are designed to strengthen the capacity of community and technical colleges to train workers in the competencies and skills required by employers
- Builds on the High Growth Job Training Initiative

Community-Based Job Training Grants



- ETA announced 70 grant awards from the first CBJTG Solicitation in October 2005. They represent a \$125 million investment in 40 states.
- ETA announced 72 grant awards from the second CBJTG Solicitation in December 2006. They represent a \$125 million investment in 34 states.

Applying the WIRED Framework: Energy Summit



- Regional Economic Challenge: Significant increases in demand for skilled craftsmen and utility workers, and supplies of these workers will not keep pace with anticipated growth—this shortage is particularly acute in the Southeastern U.S.
- ETA, in partnership with the energy industry and construction firms and labor management organizations, conducted a SWOT Analysis of energy and construction-related economic and workforce development in the Southeast region

Applying the WIRED Framework: Energy Summit



- High-profile summit is scheduled in August 2007 with representatives from government and industry that focuses on the shortage of skilled trade workers in the Southeast region
- This event will begin to align federal, state, and local resources
- Pre-summit working meeting at Workforce Innovations (Tuesday, July 17 from 8:00 AM-Noon)

Discussion



- How do we stay connected and relevant to the needs of industry?
- How can we transition from focusing on immediate industry needs to developing longer-term strategies that prepare us for shifts in our region's economy?
- How can we better engage small and medium-sized businesses?

Contact Information



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