



Grant Program:	Pathways Out of Poverty
Grantee Name:	Alternative Opportunities, Inc.
Grantee City/State:	Springfield, MO
Grant Award Amount:	\$2,308,200
Initial Period of Performance:	January 2010 - January 2012
Project Name:	Solar St. Louis
Project Description:	The grantee will work closely with the St. Louis Workforce Investment Board, trade associations, state agencies, other community-based organizations, and St. Louis employers to provide training and placement services as pathways out of poverty and into employment. The training is intended to give each participant entry-level skills needed to obtain employment in energy efficiency and emerging renewable energy industries. The program provides supportive services to help participants overcome barriers to training and employment. The intensive five-module training program includes energy efficiency and renewable energy generation training opportunities (building performance, weatherization/retrofitting, HVAC basics, solar thermal installation, and solar photovoltaic installation).
Areas Served by Grant:	Metropolitan St. Louis, MO
PUMAs Served:	01801, 01802, 01803
Auto-Impacted Counties Served:	The City of St. Louis has been negatively impacted by layoffs due to Ford and Chrysler plant closures.
National or Local Grant:	Local
Targeted Industries:	Energy-Efficient Building, Construction, and Retrofit; Renewable Energy Generation
Targeted Credentials:	Eligible certifications – Building Performance Institute (BPI), North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners (NABCEP)
Targeted Occupations:	Building Energy Analyst (Energy auditor), Weatherization/Retrofitting Technician, Solar Thermal Installer, Solar Photovoltaic Installer
Targeted Populations:	High school drop-outs, unemployed individuals, ex-offenders, and veterans
All Project partners:	Missouri Alliance for Children and Families, International Institute, American Trade School, Rescom Energy Consultants, Missouri Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, Department of Veterans Affairs St. Louis Regional Office, HVAC Renewable Inc., Pro1IAQ, Inc., McEagle Properties, Inc., Missouri Solar Energy Industry Association, Missouri Valley Renewable Energy, Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, and Taylor Engineering Company





Projected outcomes:	
Total number of participants served:	200
Total number of participants beginning education/training activities:	200
Total number of participants who receive basic education services:	INA
Total number of participants who receive supportive services funded by the grant:	INA
Total number of participants completing education/training activities:	200
Total number of participants who complete education/training activities that receive a degree/certificate:	69
Total number of participants who complete education/training activities that are placed into unsubsidized employment:	80% of graduates
Total number of participants who complete education/training activities that are placed into training-related unsubsidized employment:	80%
Total number of participants placed in unsubsidized employment who retain an employed status in the first and second quarters following initial placement:	90% of graduates
Other Key Project Deliverables:	Curriculum modifications
Contact Information:	<p>General grant information: Ms. Marilyn Nolan, CEO Alternative Opportunities, Inc. mnolan@aoinc.org (417) 869-8911 www.aoinc.org</p> <p>Referrals: Mr. Bryan Braning, Program Manager Alternative Opportunities, Inc. bbraning@aoinc.org (314) 603-4175</p>

