



WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD

ANNUAL REPORT 2005

Working to build a quality and diverse workforce that meets the employment and training needs of employers and individuals in a compassionate, timely and efficient manner through a committed Lake County network

MESSAGE FROM BOARD CHAIRMAN TIM DEMPSEY

The Workforce Investment Board is committed to developing innovative workforce solutions to the global economic issues and challenges that face Lake County today and tomorrow. Through our vision to advance the economic well-being of the region, we were successful in developing a stronger relationship with Lake County employers to ensure a robust local economy with economic opportunity. We are prepared to further develop these relationships in the upcoming year. I invite you to review this Annual Report that highlights the Board's success and the impact we have made in the past year through the dedication and commitment of our partners.

STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN'S MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Executive Committee:

- Review of the Board's vision and mission statements lead to reassignment of the responsibilities of the Performance and Continuous Improvement Committee to the Executive Committee.
- Ten new private sector representatives were appointed to the Board, six of which ensure representation from Critical Skills Shortage Initiatives (CSSI) target industries.
- Participation in the activities of the regional Workforce Boards of Metropolitan Chicago/WBMC prompted the piloting of the College of Lake County CSSI-Intro to Manufacturing class.
- Policy discussion on the global workforce challenge led to a recommendation to collaborate with the College of Lake County on a math and science initiative.
- Conducted a quarterly review of committees' work plan.

Marketing/Employer Linkages Committee:

- A marketing plan to promote the Job Center to Lake County employers was completed.
- A workforce finance template for employer training was developed.
- Four employer success stories were documented.
- A Lake County Partners liaison was assigned to the Job Center and shared data regarding skill sets required by employers.
- The labor availability reporting capability of Illinois Skills Match (ISM) was identified.

One-Stop System Committee:

- The Business Services Team (BST) diagnostic instrument was modified to incorporate feedback from employers in regards to worker skill set needs and recruitment challenges. Employer feedback was collected for analysis and will be used to determine the need for an adjustment to Job Center workshops for improving job seeker referrals.
- BST exceeded performance plan goals by connecting with new and repeat employers to promote the utilization of the Job Center Services. Employer satisfaction of services rated the Job Center 4.3 on a 5.0 scale. Planned goal was 4.0.

- The Job Seeker Team (JST) established and exceeded their performance plan. The JST joined forces with the BST and Lake County Partners to attract and/or retain three employers (LTD Commodities, Classic Computers, and Dovenmuehle).
- Conducted quarterly oversight of Job Center activities.
- Facilitated internal communication among Job Center staff via WIB news report and two appreciation events.

Youth Council:

- A task force was established to develop a plan for addressing the Lake County high school drop out rate. At the LAN 35 Truancy Symposium, the task force facilitated a break out session analyzing the root causes for high school dropouts and nationwide recommended solutions, and prioritized methods to reduce the dropout rate in Lake County.
- Served on regional WBMC steering committee updating the Youthfutures website.
- A new [Youth Services](#) section was added to the Job Center website.

OTHER WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD INITIATIVES

Local

- Served on "[Getting to Work in Lake County](#)" advisory committee to develop transit solutions to improve access to area jobs and job-related services.
- Communication plan included updating the [Job Center website](#) with [Workforce Board](#), and [Youth Services](#), sections. New website links were added along with updated Job Center brochures.
- Recommended funding for in school and out of school [WIA Youth Programs](#). In school contractors: Nicasa-\$149,589.00, North Chicago High School-\$139,177.32, North Shore Academy-\$19,935.00, SER/Jobs for Progress, Inc.-\$113,078.49. Out of school contractors: Daisy's Resource Center-\$118,829.29, Youth Build Lake County-\$134,280.63, First Institute-\$149,678.90, North Chicago Community High/Bridges-\$85,679.50.
- The WIB worked with the Lake County Board to secure funds for the [Summer Youth Employment Program](#). Received an earmark grant of \$198,820.00 from the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) and \$200,000.00 from the Lake County Board. 228 students were served.

Regional

The Workforce Boards of Metropolitan Chicago collaborated with Lake County and other local, state and national partners to sponsor industry summits and to propose practical solutions that address the regional workforce challenges. The results: A variety of reports and educational curricula that were distributed to Lake County educators, employers and government officials.

- [Healthcare Workforce](#) – [Turning Crisis into Opportunity CSSI Report](#).

- [Manufacturing Workforce](#) – Not Disappearing-Just Changing CSSI Report.
- [Transportation, Warehousing and Logistics Workforce](#) – A Job Market in Motion CSSI Report.
- 73 Lake County schools (5,152 students) participated in “[The Other Side of the Stethoscope](#)”, a program linking Language Arts, Science and Math State Learning Goals to healthcare career awareness.
- Database update plan established for youth resources website “[Youthfutures](#)”.
- Youth career awareness video distributed, courtesy of the Council of Supply Chain Management.
- Worked with [Chicago Women In Trades](#) as part of high growth job training initiative targeted at increasing women’s awareness of the career opportunities in construction and access to training.
- 24 Lake County workers were trained in medical billing and coding under the Healthcare CSSI industry sector initiative.

- 9,832 job seekers registered in Illinois Skills Match, of which 1,352 found employment after receiving Job Center services.
- 411 Lake County businesses listed 3,210 jobs in Illinois Skills Match.
- 1,068 job seekers received vocational training for skills in demand by Lake County employers and/or job search assistance, of which 94 were veterans.
- 584 at-risk youth received services.
- 100 employers and 2,000 job seekers attended the Job Market Place employment fair. 100 employers and 200 job seekers participated in the job fair workshops.
- 30 employers, training and resource providers and 700 job seekers attended Youth Safari.

SUCCESS STORIES

Employer Success Stories

- “We commend the Job Center for identifying our need, implementing a program to meet those needs, and providing space...” *LTD Commodities*
- “The Job Center is a trusted source for advice on human resource issues.” *Northpointe Resources*
- “One of the greatest recruitment benefits is the speed at which the process moves.” *Smurfit-Stone*
- “What a great help the staff has been in providing information about the services...” *Deringer-Ney Inc.*

Job Seeker Success Stories

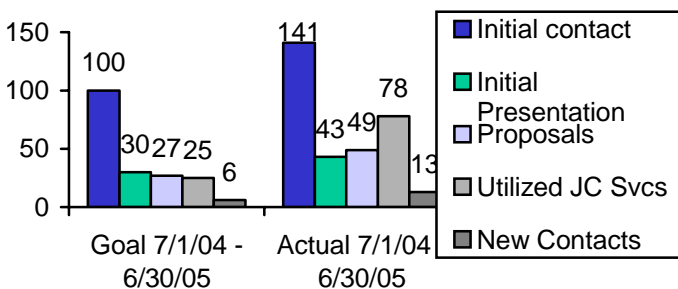
- Medical office training gave Kathy W. a new career.
- JS was hired as a CFO (Chief Financial Officer) after receiving additional training.
- Michael C. participated in a program for ex-offenders that referred him to a full time job.

Award Winner

Yolanda Jackson of Waukegan was recognized with an Individual Achievement Award at the Illinois Governor’s Workforce Development Conference.

SERVICES

Business Services Team



Utilization of Job Center Services

- 25,998 job seekers were served through the resource center.
- 1,658 laid-off workers received information about re-employment assistance in Lake County.

Workforce Services Provided to Community

- Through SER/Jobs for Progress, Inc., as a part of the Senior Community Service Employment Program, 71 individuals, 55 years and older, received subsidized training and placement in social service positions with the goal of becoming independently employed. Eight of those individuals were placed in unsubsidized employment.
- The Lake County Area Planning Council for Adult Education including College of Lake County, Mundelein High School, District 113, and SER/Jobs for Progress, Inc. together served 5,885 people seeking English as a Second Language, Adult Basic Education, GED, and High School Completion.

WIA Title 1 Performance Measures

Received an incentive grant of \$52,383.00 that was awarded for exceeding performance outcomes. Of the 17 performance outcomes, 11 were exceeded and 6 were met. *Job seeker services exceeded and employer services met customer satisfaction standards.*

Financial Statement

WIA Total Expenditures

Allocated funds: \$3,900,764

- Adult: \$1,315,387 (506 participants)
- Dislocated Worker: \$1,206,782 (481 participants)
- Youth: \$1,378,595 (326 participants)

Other funding:

- Critical Skills Shortage Initiatives: \$92,000 (24 participants)
- Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA): \$154,973 (81 participants)
- U.S. Department of Labor (DOL): \$198,820 (228 participants)
- Lake County Board Summer Youth Employment Program earmark: \$200,000 (228 participants)
- Jobs for Illinois Graduates: \$57,656.50 (30 participants)
- WIA Performance Measures Incentive: \$52,383
- Technical Assistance: \$14,000 (Job Center website enhancements)
- Board Staffing: \$71,404.00

For more information and links visit

www.lakecountyjobcenter.com/wfb/wfb_report.html

LAKE COUNTY WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD

Membership as of March 2006

CHAIRMAN

BOARD AND EXECUTIVE

Timothy Dempsey • The Dempsey Financial Group

YOUTH COUNCIL

Tony Figueroa • P3 Strategic

ONE STOP SYSTEM

Richard Haney • College of Lake County

MARKETING/EMPLOYER LINKAGES

Nathaniel Pritchett • Abbott Labs

Oscar Alder • Silent Selling

Greg Battle • Illinois Department of Human Services/Division of Rehabilitation Services

Kurt Beier • First Institute

John Budyak • State Bank and Trust

Sam Cade • Siemens Building Technologies, Inc.

Denise Charts • Charts & Associates

Mary Charuhas • College of Lake County

Joseph D. Chmura • Baxter Healthcare Corp.

Marshall Claassen • Express Personnel Services

Ann Fettinger • Illinois Department of Employment Security

Dr. Richard Fonte • College of Lake County

James A. Franz • Six Flags Great America

Emily Garrity • Great Lakes Records Management

John A. Gescheidle • Food Safety Solutions

Katherine Harris • SER/Jobs for Progress, Inc.

Victoria Kanellis • Illinois Department of Human Services/Family Community Resource Center

Larry Kelley • Carpenters Local 250

Richard A. Kelman • Smurfit-Stone Container

Dennis Kessler • Kessler Management Consulting

Noelle Kischer • City of Waukegan

Halina Krajcer • H. K. Consulting
Kristi Long • United Way of Lake County

Edward Melton • First Midwest Bank

Douglas Nickels • Abbott Labs

Audrey Nixon • Lake County Board Liaison

Ahmed Sanders • Waukegan Housing Authority

Lee Schillinger • Northeastern Illinois Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO

Bonnie Schirato • Allscripts Healthcare Solutions

Christine Stevens • Lake County Workforce Department

Gary R. Thompson • Ferris, Thompson, & Zweig, LTD.

Mary Lockhart White • Community Action Partnership of Lake County

Roycealee Wood • Regional Superintendent of Schools

David Young • Lake County Partners

Chief Elected Official

Suzi Schmidt • Chairman, Lake County Board



WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD

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Waukegan, IL 60085

www.lakecountyjobcenter.com/wfb

Contact Victoria Gordon 847-377-2225

JOB CENTER OF LAKE COUNTY

www.lakecountyjobcenter.com

Visit us at:

One North Genesee Street
Waukegan, IL 60085
847-377-3450

800 Lancer Lane
Grayslake, IL 60030
847-543-7400

An equal opportunity program/employer. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to persons with disabilities.