

Southwest Corner WIA August Update

- **State Budget**-A Stop Gap budget was passed by the Pennsylvania Legislature which allowed the payment of state employees and some vendors. In addition, this measure permitted the pass through of federal funds including the Workforce Investment Act funds and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds. We have been informed by the state that it will take a few weeks to actually get the funds. Washington Greene County Job Training Agency, Inc. , Southwest Training and Job Training for Beaver County all procured lines of credit to cover expenditures in the interim.
- **Industry Partnerships**-While the Stop Gap budget brought us good news regarding our formula funding, it "zeroed out" funding for the Industry Partnerships. Efforts will continue to have funding restored but the outlook is not good. We will keep you abreast of these efforts and any ways that WIB members may help show support. We are also continuing to work on ways of keep the partnerships going and welcome any ideas you may have.
- **Weatherization**-The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act provides for the expansion of the Department of Energy's weatherization program. Under these provisions, workers will be certified in the occupations they perform. In Pennsylvania, a curriculum, training and certification process has been developed which will involve the local workforce areas and PA Career-Links. I have been in contact with our local weatherization providers to determine the number of new hires they are projecting so that we can determine the number of training vouchers we will need. The state is looking at late September or early October to roll out the training. The Department of Energy still has to approve the state's plan for this to begin.

- **WIA Re-authorization**-Recently, Deputy Secretary Fred Dedrick presented testimony regarding the reauthorization of the Workforce Investment Act at the National Governors Association Conference. We will keep you up to date as the legislation moves forward this fall.
- **American Recovery and Reinvestment Act**-As the summer component nears completion, I am pleased to report that our youth providers met their enrollment and expenditure goals . To date 197 have been enrolled. The Title I providers have been busy enrolling Adults and Dislocated Workers as well. We are projecting that we will be fully obligated by the end of September. The ARRA funds also require contractors to make information regarding the program available to the public. We are in the process of posting this information to our website: <http://www.washingtongreene.org/scwib/index.htm>. We will be tracking Classroom enrollments as well. The following table will soon appear.

Vendor	Training Program	# Enrolled	# Completed	Cost/ Participant	#Entered Employment

- **Website Update**-We are working to redesign our website. The new design should be complete by the next meeting.
- **Regional Activities**-The Regional Innovation Grant meeting was held on August 11, 2009 at Waynesburg College Southpointe. Those in attendance represented workforce areas from PA, Ohio and West Virginia, community colleges and economic development representatives. The group focuses on energy industry issues and are planning to move forward on submitting a federal grant proposal to serve the energy sector.
- **Current Labor Market Data-**

Monthly (June) Not Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force, Employment and Unemployment data in Multiple County for 2009. To see the most recent profile data click on the area name.

Area Name	Unemployment Rate (%)
Beaver County	8.7
Greene County	8.2
Washington County	8.0

- **Upcoming Meetings-Public Meetings on ARRA and Public Hearing September 1st at 8 am.**
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