



SIWIB NEWS

NEWSLETTER FOR BOARD MEMBERS ■ VOL. 2: ISSUE 4: JUNE 2006

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Visit our web site at
www.siwib.org

SIWIB INITIATIVES UPDATE

One-Stop Center Open House

In honor of National One Stop Month, the One-Stop Business and Employment Center was pleased to host a day of celebration on May 30, 2006. The event was attended by State Senator Gary Forby, Chief Local Elected Officials Wayne Bigham and Robert Barnett, several SIWIB members, One-Stop partners and many others, including local media.

Man-Tra-Con Executive Director Kathy Lively began the opening ceremony. She welcomed guests to the One-Stop facility and commended the dedication shown by the One-Stop partners. Kathy told of the nearly 100,000 services that have been provided at the One-Stop over the past year and announced that the Marion One-Stop location will extend its hours to better serve job-seekers beginning on June 1, 2006. The facility will now be open 8:30 a.m.-7:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and 8:30 a.m. until noon on Saturdays.

Senator Forby thanked all of the One-Stop partners for providing such exceptional service to Southern Illinois. He said, "The region has truly felt the commitment to service provided by the One-Stop partners."

The day included a tour of the resource room as well as presentations about many programs available through the One-Stop Centers. Ronda Pryor, Outreach Specialist for the Department of Healthcare and Family Services (HFS), presented information on Governor Blagojevich's new All Kids health-care program. Cindy Webb from Man-Tra-Con

provided an in-depth look at all of the resources available through the Illinois workNet website.

Bob Barron from the Illinois Department of Employment Security gave a presentation on the Illinois Skills Match program, a no-cost Internet-based job matching system. The final presentation of the day was given by Ginger McBride and Lucinda Pearce of Man-Tra-Con about the Work Certified job readiness certification program. The event was filled with opportunities to learn about and celebrate the excellent services and resources available to businesses and job-seekers through the One-Stop Business and Employment Centers.

CSSI Healthcare Update

The CSSI Steering Committee met to evaluate the progression of the healthcare grant and to discuss the second year grant submission. The group agreed to apply for full funding for the second year of the program and suggested the same projects be funded. Letters of commitment will be sent to the community colleges, healthcare providers, WIA providers, and other organizations to secure the required matching funds.

A Healthcare Forum has been scheduled for July 12 and will be held at John A. Logan College. This forum will be part of the Connect SI Healthcare Community of Interest meeting and will provide an opportunity for healthcare providers, educational institutions, workforce development entities, and others

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Message from Our Chairman...



WILLIAM ARMSTRONG

June has been designated National One-Stop Center month. May was designated as National Workforce Development Professional month by the National Association of Workforce Development Professionals. The One-Stop Business and Employment Center in Marion hosted an Open House on May 30th. Thank you if you were able to attend.

With the announcement of Whirlpool's closing of their Herrin plant, nearly 1,000 jobs will be lost before the end of this calendar year. The state Rapid Response Team is working with the local union, Whirlpool and several One-Stop partners to formulate a plan for dealing with this devastating event. This comes on the heels of the announcement that Technicolor Universal Media Services was laying off 220 workers and that as many as 1,400 Weststaff employees who worked at TUMS for as little as one day and earned at least \$30 could also be eligible for TAA services. ■

SIWIB COMMITTEE PROJECT OVERVIEW

Business & Economic Development Committee

A Power Point presentation summarizing the Incumbent Work Training program offered by DCEO was explained by Ms. Rosie Robinson. The benefits of the program, maximum budget amounts and plan revision guidelines were highlighted. Mr. Dennis White from the Center for Business & Industry at John A. Logan College discussed the training dollars that were once available through Prairie State Grants and Workforce Training through the Delta Regional Authority. Mr. White still has several companies that would benefit by training their current workforce through the Centers for Business & Industry at the colleges. Mr. White mentioned several companies in the area that are updating their employee's skills using statistical process control and quality control methodologies. One company in particular calls the Center to inquire about supervisor and leadership training. Mr. White added a survey of businesses that recently located in our region states employee training opportunities available at the colleges was one of the key factors in their decision to locate here. The Committee recommends funds from the current allocations be diverted for this new program.

In other business, the Committee discussed a Business Retention Survey for LWIA #25. The survey would address business retention and expansion. Dr. Lenzi pointed out that only businesses associated with key industry clusters would be surveyed. For example, local retailers would not be surveyed. Ms. Bechtel stated Jefferson County's goal is to focus on retention of existing businesses because attraction is too costly. Oftentimes, she added, successful attraction of new businesses generally comes

from referrals from existing businesses. The Committee recommends an ad-hoc committee be formed to discuss the funding and administration of a Business Retention Survey. Director Lively will inquire if the State has any technical assistance grants to cover the cost. She also recommended the Business Services Team be involved.

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee meet to approve the modifications to the Local Workforce Plan for LWA #25. The Local Workforce Plan modifications will be ratified by the SIWIB at the June 15th Annual Meeting.

Vice Chairman Rendleman very kindly offered to draft a Travel Policy for the SIWIB. He stated the policy did not need to be an amendment of the bylaws and should stand alone as the SIWIB's Travel Policy. The draft Travel Policy will be considered at the Board meeting on June 15th.

The committee approved a motion to recommend to the SIWIB that an Incumbent Worker Training program be implemented in LWA #25. An Incumbent Worker Training program would assist employed individuals in our area to improve their financial situation and also assist employers retain workers.

In other business, the committee made a motion to recommend to the SIWIB that an ad-hoc committee be formed to discuss funding and the administration of a business retention survey provided a Technical Assistance grant is available.

The committee also recommended the Chairman write a letter of support for Frank Knott of Vital Economy in support of his efforts to assist in the improvement of the economy in southern Illinois.

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SIWIB COMMITTEE PROJECT OVERVIEW

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One-Stop Committee

One-Stop Committee members were provided an update by partner agencies on activities at all the Local Workforce Investment Area (LWIA) sites. There was a discussion about purchasing identical name badges for all resource room attendants. IDES elected to continue to wear their IDES badges, so the One-Stop attendant badges will not be designed. The issue was tabled until the next meeting. Volunteers for the planning committee for the 2006 Awards Banquet were sought. Members of the planning committee will be notified of the meeting date, place and time once details are finalized. Drafts of invitations and flyers for the Open House celebrating One-Stop Day planned for Tuesday, May 30, 2006, were distributed and approved by the committee. ■

CSSI Healthcare Update

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a chance to identify issues and voice concerns affecting the training needs for our local healthcare workforce.

CSSI Manufacturing Grant

The fourth Work Certified class began on May 8th at John A. Logan College with 12 WIA clients participating. During the three-week long class two students returned to work, however, they plan to return to complete the program at a later time. The class finished all coursework on May 26th and the remaining 10 students sat for the certification exam on June 1st. The students passed the certification exam

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Spotlight On...

BOARD MEMBER MARY ROE

Mary M. Roe, named Pinckneyville Chamber of Commerce 2005 "Outstanding Persons of the Year" with husband, Dr. Charles "Bill" Roe, is a retired Vice President of Student Services at Rend Lake College. She remains extremely active in retirement. She is president of Leisure Time Antiques and serves as a business representative on the Southern Illinois Workforce Investment Board. She also holds the office of Second Vice Chairperson on the SIWIB. She is a member of the Executive Committee and the Marketing Committee. Mary volunteered to work as Perry County Chairperson of the Beautify Southern Illinois Champaign. Ms. Roe also serves as a member of the Board of Directors for Man-Tra-Con Corporation and as a trustee for the St. Bruno's Church and a member of the church's finance committee.



Mary Roe

Ms. Roe is exceedingly busy with her educational pursuits. They include: Steering Committee Member, representing Morris Library, of the Opportunity Through Excellence Campaign for SIU-C, Member of the SIU-C Alumni Association Board of Directors, Member of the Friends of Morris Library Board of Visitors and their Development Committee, SIU College of Education and Human Services Advisory Council member, and a member of the Rend Lake College Murphy/Wall Pinckneyville Campus Advisory Board.

Mary has previously served as a member and past Chairperson of the Pinckneyville Community High School Board, a member of the Rend Lake College Foundation, a member and past Chairperson of Five Star Industries Board of Directors, member and past President of the Southern Illinois Case Coordination Services, a member of the Shagbark Girl Scout Council Board of Directors, and a member of the Delta Theta Tau Philanthropic Sorority.

Ms. Roe earned both of her degrees from Southern Illinois University – Carbondale. She attained a Bachelor of Science Degree in Mathematics and graduated magna cum laude. While an undergraduate she was awarded the prestigious Freshman Math Award at St. Louis University and the Phi Beta Kappa Commencement Award. While attending SIU-C, she was an active member of several honorary societies, including the Cap and Tassel as well as being a member of the Alpha Gamma Delta sorority. Mary earned her Master's Degree in Guidance and Counseling.

Mary and Bill are the parents of three children: David who is a pulmonologist in Charlotte, North Carolina; Sarah who is an attorney with Bryan Cave in St. Louis, Missouri; and Julie who is the Director of Enforcement with the NCAA and also an attorney. Mary says, "Besides spending time with my family (including six grand children), I enjoy being active in the community." ■



**SOUTHERN ILLINOIS
WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD**

3000 W. DeYoung Street, Suite 800B
Marion, IL 62959

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- **Spotlight On... Mary Roe**

★ **SIWIB Annual Board Meeting, Thursday, June 15th, Herrin Civic Center at 5:00 p.m. Networking at Herrin Bocce Courts at 6:00 p.m.** ★

Additional information about SIWIB Initiatives and board members can be found on our web site at www.siwib.org.

CSSI Manufacturing Grant

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with an average passing score of 89%. In addition, a two-day OSHA Safety Training was held for the Work Certified participants on May 30th & 31st at the college. Successful graduates of Work Certified and the OSHA Safety Training will receive certification cards for completing the WIA approved programs.

The Work Certified program, hosted by John A. Logan College and Rend Lake College, was funded under the Critical Skill Shortages Initiative as part of Governor Blagojevich's Opportunity Returns. CSSI has provided the funds to cover the instructional costs and classroom materials for two classes at each college. In support of the initiative, the colleges agreed to donate classroom and computer lab space to conduct the classes which meet for six hours per day on Monday through Friday. The additional Work Certified classes and OSHA Safety Training offered at the colleges are funded through the Workforce Investment Act.

Additional Work Certified and OSHA Certification classes will be scheduled in the coming weeks at John A. Logan College and Rend Lake College. Work Certified brochures targeted to job seekers and businesses are available for all partners at the Marion One-Stop or by contacting Lucinda Pearce at 618/998-0970, Ext. 226 or lucindapearce@mantracon.org. ■

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JUNE 9, 2006

Marketing Committee Meeting
11:30 a.m. at the
Marion One-Stop Business
& Employment Center

JUNE 12, 2006

Youth Council Meeting
8:00 a.m. at the
Marion One-Stop Business
& Employment Center

JUNE 13, 2006

One-Stop Committee Meeting
8:00 a.m. at the
Marion One-Stop Business
& Employment Center

JUNE 15, 2006

SIWIB Board Meeting
5:00 p.m. in the Walker Room
in the Herrin Civic Center at
101 S. 16th St. in Herrin