

ITEMS OF NOTE -- October 2009

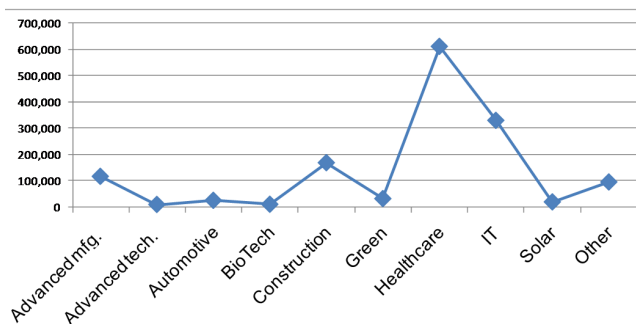
This publication is provided jointly from the WIA Local Workforce Investment Boards representing Maricopa County and the City of Phoenix.

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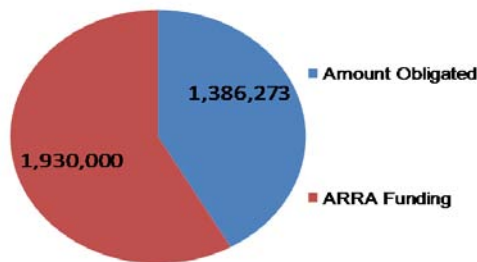
- **ARRA at work**
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FACTS & FIGURES

ARRA at work — Currently MWC, with support of WIA and ARRA funding, is assisting 534 job seekers retrain for future careers. Currently MWC has obligated \$1,386,273 for customer training. Below is a breakout by industry cluster, amount obligated and number of customers. Apprentices and truck drivers are included in the 'construction' category.



Job seeker demand for assistance in obtaining education/training is high. Only 2 months into the FY and MWC is nearing a 50% obligated point. Current strategy is to assist customers with transferable skills to best leverage current skills and to supplement other training dollars (grants and scholarships) to stretch WIA dollars further; assisting more individuals in obtaining skills to compete for new career opportunities.



Submitted by:

Greta Suda, Chair, MWC Advocacy Task Force
 Assistant General Manager, Jobing.com, and

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 PWC Board Governance Task Force

On behalf of: MWC Board Members

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Karen Poole, Ph.D., Associate Director
 Center for Workforce Development
 Maricopa Community Colleges

On Behalf of PWC Board Members

Fred Lockhart, Executive Director
 AZ Private School Assoc.

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 Community and Economic Development
 Department, City of Phoenix

Dee Wheeler-Cronin,
 Assistant to the City Manager
 Hope VI Project, City of Phoenix

Collaboratively providing workforce solutions to businesses and individuals throughout Maricopa County.

NEWS & MEDIA

New skills for jobless funded by stimulus — A September 29 article in *The Arizona Republic* featured training opportunities coordinated by Maricopa Community Colleges, Phoenix Workforce Connection and Maricopa Workforce Connections.

"Right now, we are 4 1/2 times as busy as before the recession started," Burkhardt said. [Patrick Burkhardt, Assistant Director, Maricopa County Human Services, Workforce Development Division]

Stan Flowers, a workforce development supervisor at Phoenix Workforce Connection, said the training programs are just the start for people staring out in new career fields. "We need people to be better prepared. We need people to be better educated," Flowers said. "We need people to understand that they need to be continually working on their skills - not just this job and that's it."

THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC

Read this article in its entirety online at

<http://www.azcentral.com/news/articles/2009/09/29/20090929stim-mccworkforce0928.html#comments>

(more)

PARTNER ITEMS

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Robotics summer internship at the Maricopa Skill Center — This summer 21 students between the ages of 16-25 spent their summer in a Career Exploration and Internship Program. Students received 240 hours of paid work experience where they interned at 13 local manufacturing businesses as well as earning two college level credits. For six weeks students attended classes in the Automation Technology Program lab and classroom three days a week. The goal of this program was not only career exploration, but to increase the number of skilled workers in the industry and provide opportunities for youth to continue their education. Students worked in teams where they competed in a "showdown" by battling robots that were designed and built in the program, while competing for scholarships to continue their education at local community colleges or universities. This event also included a graduation ceremony to celebrate their accomplishments. The three winning teams received \$7,258 in scholarships.

This program was made possible through a grant from the Phoenix Community Development and Investment Corporation. Additional funds were provided by the Arizona Tooling and Machining Association (ATMA), City of Phoenix Community and Economic Development Department, and the Phoenix Workforce Connection. Community partners in this program included Arizona Call-A-Teen Youth Resources, Jobing.com, Maricopa Skill Center, Phoenix College, and Westcor-Metrocenter.



Greater Phoenix Joins Forces to Compete for ARRA Grant Funds

Green Capacity Building Grant

The City of Phoenix Youth Program submitted a grant application for \$100,000 to assist with capacity building in the YouthBuild Program. The focus is green energy training.



Energy Training Partnership Grant

The Arizona State Building and Construction Trades Council applied for this \$5 million grant in a regional collaboration with Phoenix Workforce Connection and Maricopa Workforce Connections.



Pathways out of Poverty

Arizona Women's Education and Employment (AWEE) took the lead in applying for this \$4 million grant on behalf of a partnership of agencies including Phoenix's Community and Economic Development Department. This project will be referred to as GEM, Green Employment Mobilization.



Health Care Sector and Other High Growth and Emerging Industries

The City of Phoenix is lead for this \$5 million grant application to fund the HEAL project, Healthcare Employment and Advancement Leverage. <http://www.crawlforcancer.org/phoenix/index.html>

Statewide Energy Grant

Maricopa Workforce Connections is the regional lead for this \$6 million statewide proposal of which the Greater Phoenix region hopes to be awarded \$2.9 million. Funds would be used for training in the areas of solar and green technologies.





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Gilbert, AZ 85234
Tel: 480/497-0350
TTY: 480/632-1910

West Valley Career Center
1840 N. 95th Ave., Ste. 160
Phoenix, AZ 85037
Tel: 602/372-4200
TTY: 602/372-4261

EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

Collaborating to arm job seekers with necessary information and resources —

Maricopa Workforce Connections will again provide job searching workshops, intense resume review and a computer lab prior to Jobing.com's October 28, 2009 career Expo at the Phoenix Stadium. Five hundred seats will be made available for pre-expo workshops providing resume instruction and interviewing techniques. The morning will start at 10 a.m. with Resume Instruction. The close of this workshop will mark the commencement of in-depth resume review services for interested attendees. Because the workshops will be conducted prior to the opening of the Career Expo job seekers who bring their resume on a flash drive will be able to take advantage of the computer lab being made available to incorporate changes and updates to their resumes incorporating suggestions from the morning session.





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9801 N. Seventh St.
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3406 N. 51st Ave.
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Please visit the valley's Comprehensive WIA One-Stop Career Centers. We'd enjoy showing you what we do!