



Tecumseh Area Partnership, Inc.

A Workforce Intermediary
TAPping Mature Worker Strengths

The **Aging Worker Initiative** (AWI) is a unique program recently developed with funding from the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration. A \$1M grant awarded to Tecumseh Area Partnership, Inc. is one of only 10 national awards.

The goal of West Central Indiana Region 4's three-year project is to serve job seekers 55 years and older through training and related support services that result in employment and advancement opportunities in the region's high-growth, high demand occupations. Staff members specifically trained in serving mature and older workers provide specialized services through Career Transition Hubs within the region's two WorkOne Centers. These aging workers and job seekers will find peer support and networking groups to meet, learn, and share their career transition experiences. Skilled trainers and assessment staff provide opportunities for older workers to know and, as appropriate, increase their skill levels, as well as understand the career pathways that best utilize their skills. Applied learning opportunities are another distinctive feature of this exciting project aimed at the mature and aging workforce.

Working with Tecumseh Area Partnership, Inc. in developing and implementing the project is a 23-member team of strategic partners. The strategic partners represent business, education, government, community service organizations and customers/consumers interested in the 12-county region's mature and aging workforce.

Ultimately, the AWI project will:

- 1) Match qualified older workers with good paying jobs and
- 2) Increase the value employers place on experienced older workers.