

# Newsletter

## Program Year (PY) 2010 Strategic Plan



Left to right: Deb Waymire, John Hipkind, Mike Smith, Ricki Kozumplik and Debra Cook during RWB Strategic Planning Retreat.

The Region 4 Workforce Board Directors attended a two-day strategic planning retreat during May that was facilitated by AHA Consulting owner Ricki Kozumplik.

The strategic planning retreat is an annual event for the Directors whose goal is to provide a winning strategy that supports employer needs, and complements the efforts of economic develop-

ment within Indiana Region 4 by developing a skilled, flexible and diverse workforce. Counties comprising Indiana Region 4 are: Benton, Carroll, Cass, Clinton, Fountain, Howard, Miami, Montgomery, Tippecanoe, Tipton, Warren, and White.

The final plan established 5 goals that will guide the Regional Operator and the service providers' tactics to provided a skilled workforce and convene partners in accomplishing the strategy.

PY '10 Goals are:

- 1) Ensure the skills of the workforce match the needs of businesses.
- 2) Increase customer awareness and connectivity to the workforce

investment system.

- 3) Promote and model thinking and acting like a region.
- 4) Enhance the knowledge and capability of the RWB to maximize its effectiveness.
- 5) Obtain sufficient funds and seek the flexibility to use those funds to meet the expanding workforce development needs of the region.

## Officers Elected to RWB Directorship

Officers of the Directorship were elected during their May 16th business meeting. The May business meeting was conducted in tandem with the Boards strategic planning retreat.

New officers will serve a one year term that begins July 1, 2010 and ends June 30,

2011. There is no limit to the number of terms that a Director may be elected to an office. However the Chair must be a business representative and may not serve consecutive terms.

The elected officers are:

Chair: James Hardison

Vice Chair: Larry West

Secretary: Patricia Overpeck

Treasurer: John Hipkind

## PY '10 RWB Meeting Schedule

- JULY 22, 2010
- SEPTEMBER 23, 2010
- NOVEMBER 17, 2010\*
- JANUARY 20, 2011
- MARCH 17, 2011
- MAY 15 & 16, 2011\*\*

THE RWB MEETS IN DELPHI AT THE WABASH AND ERIE CANAL INTERPRETIVE CENTER FROM 8:00—10:00 AM UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE.

\*LOCATION: KOKOMO

\*\*LOCATION: INDIANAPOLIS

## Inside this issue:

REACH TALENT	2
WORKONE PROGRAMS ARE CHANGING LIVES	2
TOP 60 CRITICAL OCCUPATIONS 2010 EDITION	2
JAG STUDENT RECEIVES SCHOLARSHIP GRANT	3
JAG GOALS MIRROR INDIANA GOALS	3
REGIONAL ELECTED OFFICIALS MEET IN LAFAYETTE	3

# Newsletter



WorkOne West Central serves the counties of: Benton, Carroll, Cass, Clinton, Fountain, Howard, Miami, Montgomery, Tippecanoe, Tipton Warren, and White.



Regional Employers Assessment Centers for Hiring located in Lafayette and Kokomo.

“WITH THE HELP OF WORKONE, CAP, TAA, SOME VERY NICE PEOPLE AND MY OWN HARD WORK AT SCHOOL I WAS ABLE TO GET A JOB THAT DOUBLED MY SALARY.”  
SHAWN COTHRAN



Top 60 Critical Occupations in West Central Indiana 2010 Edition Career Guide is soon to be released.

## REACH Talent - Connecting Employers to a Skilled Workforce

The skills data base for Region 4 is live and on-line! REACH Talent is Region 4's searchable skills data base where employers and economic developers can identify the skill levels and career readiness certificates of workers of Region 4. Chris Waymire, WorkKeys Service Center Coordinator, says, accurately matching workers skills with job requirements has a significant impact on productivity and revenue in all business and industries.

The RWB and TAP, Inc. are pleased to provide this information for use in hiring decisions and the economic development of our Region!

The skills data base is compiled from individuals who have completed the WorkKeys ACT workplace assessment. WorkKeys is a job skills assessment system that measures real-world skills that employers believe are critical to job success.

Employers that would like to

have a job profile completed to analyze the skills needed for a specific job may contact Chris Waymire, ACT Certified Profiler at 765-807-0883. To learn more about REACH Talent visit [www.REACHTalent.org](http://www.REACHTalent.org)

## WorkOne Programs are Changing Lives

Countless individuals have taken the initiative to visit a WorkOne Center and participate in programs that improve their skills. Many of these individuals have found their lives elevated from barely getting by... to lives of self-sufficiency. Individual WorkOne success stories are found across the 12 counties that make up Region 4. In this issue we are proud to share two of those stories. Future issues will include more individual successes from WorkOne.

Jeffery of Fountain County is enrolled at Danville Community College following the closing of Heidtman Steel in Crawfordsville, IN. To read Jeffery's full story click this link: <http://www.workonewestcentral.org/userfiles/file/Jeffery%20Martin%20Success%20Story.pdf>

Thanks to WorkOne and Trade Act Adjustment Shawn Cothran of Benton County is employed and doubled his former salary. To read Shawn's full story click his link. <http://www.workonewestcentral.org/userfiles/file/Shawn%20Cothran.pdf>

## Top 60 Critical Occupations 2010 Edition

Similar to Indiana's Top 50 Jobs List, the Top 60 Critical Occupations in West Central Indiana identifies high demand jobs within Region 4. The 2010 Edition of the Top 60 Career Guide has been updated and will be released during the first quarter of Program Year 2010. High School Counselors

throughout the Region use the career guide as a tool in guiding students toward a curriculum that prepares their students for one of the high demand careers of their choice. The occupation pages of the guide contain a job description, tasks and duties associated with the job, skill requirements, personal char-

acteristics, education, salaries and wages, as well as employment trends and more. Tecumseh Area Partnership, Inc. is proud to provide this as a regional resource to be used in selecting a first career or career transitioning.

## JAG Student Awarded 1st Place for Employment Skills

Jobs for America's Graduates' (JAG) student, Andrew Fleming of Lafayette Jeff High School attended the JAG Career Development Conference in Indianapolis where his outstanding job interviewing skills and resume were acknowledged as the best in the competition.

Andrew competed in the Employability Skills category. Competitors first competed for a simulated job opening by developing a letter of

application and resume. Once selected, the successful applicants completed a job application and participated in an employment interview.

Andrew's first place got him a \$5,000.00 scholarship to attend any public postsecondary educational institution in Indiana. Funding from CAP, Inc. has also paid for Andrew to attend a culinary arts course in Louisville, KY this summer.

The ultimate goal of the JAG program, is for students to receive a diploma or GED, secure a quality job, pursue a postsecondary education and/or seek career advancement opportunities.

Andrew is off to a great start!



Andrew Fleming, awarded 1st place in Employment Skills and a \$5,000 Scholarship.



Career Development Conference attendees were Logan Chaffin, Andrew Fleming, Leroy Howard, Jesse Ellis, and Dana Chamberlain.

## JAG Graduation Goals Mirror Indiana Graduation Goals

81.5% is Indiana's '08-09 high school graduation rate (GR). According to the Indiana Department of Education website Indiana's target GR is 90%. The JAG model can assist Indiana in attaining its goal! Nationally, JAG program participants have a 94% graduation rate, nearly 41% postsecondary enrollment rate, and some 5,000

employers are providing JAG graduates with career advancement opportunities. Region 4 hopes to increase graduation rates among youth with the greatest number of barriers, especially from low income backgrounds, and JAG makes a dramatic difference in employment for the very high-risk and economically disad-

vantaged youth. JAG's goal is for 90% of the program participants to complete requirements for a high school diploma. The goal mirrors Indiana's GR goal. For more information about JAG visit: [www.jag.org](http://www.jag.org) or <http://www.in.gov/dwd/2401.htm>

"INDIANA'S UNWAVERING FOCUS ON THE HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE IS PART OF OUR GOAL TO CREATE AND PROMOTE A STATEWIDE CULTURE OF ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE." IDOE

## Regional Elected Officials Meet in Lafayette

Regional Elected Officials (REO) of the Region 4 Workforce System met Friday, June 25th in Lafayette. Nine of the region's 12 counties were represented at the executive council meeting conducted by Lafayette Mayor, Tony Roswarski who serves as the Regional Workforce System Chief Elected Official.

TAP, Inc.'s Roger Feldhaus, & Deb Waymire, presented the year's workforce system accomplishments, and the goals for the year that begins July 1st.

Some notable achievements include, the RWB commissioned Regional State of the Workforce Report and its

spin-off the Regional Employment and Diversification project. The spin-off project continues to engage regional local economic development officials in a variety of ways. Currently, regional LEDO's are working on a business retention and expansion model, referred to as economic gardening. The project

will assist medium to small businesses develop new markets for their products and services.

For a list of RWB Workforce System goals for Program Year 2010 contact: [mconn@tap.lafayette.in.us](mailto:mconn@tap.lafayette.in.us)