

# Newsletter



## KOKOMO AREA VET REP RECEIVES INCENTIVE AWARD



Left to right: Commissioner Mark Everson; Lisa Chiavola, Deputy Commissioner, Greg Vollmer

"Lisa Chiavola is a counselor, friend, and advocate for veterans, and a valued resource for veteran policy within Region 4" [Rene Reshkus]. Rene Reshkus, WorkOne Kokomo Office Manager, and RWB Regional Operator, Roger Feldhaus recently had the honor of witnessing Lisa receive Indiana's Jobs for Veterans State Grant Incentive Award during a dinner and ceremony at the Abe Lincoln Lodge in Nashville, Indiana. Lisa, one of 6 recipients of a

\$3,300 grant, was presented the award for her outstanding work on behalf of disabled veterans.

Lisa is one of 57 veterans' representatives providing training and employment services at Indiana's WorkOne centers across Indiana. The IN DWD website boasts: "Indiana is committed to providing quality employment services to veterans at our WorkOne Centers."

<http://www.in.gov/dwd/2413.htm> Lisa and her peers, also veterans, go above and beyond their job duties every day to ensure that the employment and training needs of disabled veterans are met. Lisa's passion and concern for the veteran population is exhibited daily and is a shining example for other vet reps across Indiana. Lisa cheerfully assists with Center activities

outside of her role as DVOP. For 6 months Lisa performed the dual role of LVER when that position was vacant, she assists with job fairs, and works closely with the Business & Employer Services Team.

A Stand Down, <http://www.nchv.org/page.cfm?id=122> Low-Income, Near-Homeless Veterans Event is planned for September 17th thanks to Lisa's recognition of the need, her vision for the event, and her initiative and leadership in collaborating with area service organizations to make her vision a reality. To learn more about "Stand Down" click the link above.

*(Disabled Veterans Outreach Program: DVOP; Local Veterans Employment Representative LVER)*



Rene Reshkus, WorkOne Kokomo Office Manager; Lisa Chiavola, DVOP-Kokomo; Roger Feldhaus, Executive Director, TAP, Inc.

### PY '10 RWB Meeting Schedule

- 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

## LEO Regional Forum - A Region On the Grow - September 10th

Local Economic Development Officials (LEDOs) of Region 4 are collaborating with Tecumseh Area Partnership, Inc., and the Region 4 Workforce Board (RWB) to convene government officials of Region 4 at a Forum & Breakfast on September 10th in Delphi. The September Forum will provide information about programs and

initiatives that economic and workforce development professionals have been implementing. Expert analysis of the topics: Economic Growth & Human Capital, and Tax Revenues for Local Communities and Schools will be provided by guest speakers: Dr. Michael Hicks, Director, Center for Business and Economic Research at Ball State Uni-

versity and Dr. Larry DeBoer, Purdue University, expert on government finance and agricultural economics, respectively.

New initiatives & programs scheduled for discussion include: on-the-job training, economic gardening, regional efforts and grant opportunities.

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# Newsletter



On-the-Job Training Fact Sheet

Are you an Employer who is thinking of hiring a new Team Member? ...

Consider On-the-Job Training

Participating employers:

- employ full-time workers,
- have been in business for at least 120 days,
- have no employees currently laid-off from the same job opening being filled,
- job opening is identified as a [Demand and Growth Occupation](#),
- pay is at least \$10.00 per hour.

## Employers Sign-up for On-The-Job Training Assistance

Thanks to a variety of WIA funding streams tagged for on-the-job training the Region's *On-the-Job Training* has begun. The Business and Employer services team and REACH have executed on-the-job training agreements with Kuri-Tech, Tru-Flex, Tyson Foods, TMF Center and A-cell. According to Lead Business Consultant (LBC), Sherry McLauchlan there are more agreements in the works that will provide training to qualifying individuals. Additional on-the-job training

opportunities within the green and energy efficient manufacturing & energy efficient construction and retrofit sectors are funded by the Sustainable Energy Sector Partnership (SESP) grant. Compliments of the SESP grant, some (40) individuals will earn green energy certifications by utilizing an individual training account, but most (200) will benefit from hands-on, on-the-job training.

Deborah Waymire, Regional Operator's Chief Operations Officer, has primary respon-

sibility for managing the projects quality outcomes. "Weekly meetings with LBC, Sherry McLauchlan ensure that job development activity, and the status of individual contracts are both in force and in development and that employers are satisfied with their trainees as well as the contracting process.

For more information about this program employers may call REACH. In Kokomo: (765) 854-1401; in Lafayette: (765) 477-1906.

## WorkOne Programs are Changing Lives

"I RECEIVED HELP IN PREPARING MYSELF FOR SCHOOL, (WITH) FINANCES, BUDGETING, INTERVIEW AND RESUME TIPS AND ALSO EMOTIONAL SUPPORT." MICHELLE GEORGE, AS RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGY

Personal stories of positive life transformations are credited to WorkOne Center services and programs across our Region. The stories of two strong, determined women are presented in this 2nd issue of Alliance 4 Advancement. These ladies serve as examples of countless others that have benefited from services offered by the staff of our WorkOne Centers.

Michelle, of White County, a sole supporting single parent, living pay check to pay check found that WorkOne was her path to a rewarding career when the factory she was working at closed it's doors. To read Michelle's full story click this link.

<http://www.workonewestcentral.org/userfiles/file/MGeorgePres1009.pdf>

Thanks to WorkOne, Jessica, of Montgomery County, is out of the WIC program and is employed as a Registered Nurse at The Lane House, a premier skilled nursing facility. To read Jessica's full story click this link.

<http://www.workonewestcentral.org/userfiles/file/Jessica%20Story1009.pdf>

## WorkOne Serves Over 31,000 Customers

WORKONE STAFF ARE ON THEIR GAME EVERY DAY TO SKILL UP THE REGION'S WORKFORCE.

WorkOne staff at Region 4's two full service centers and seven Express sites served an additional 13,645 individuals when compared to program year 2008. Increases in the numbers of individuals served are attributable to several factors: the economic downturn creating losses in the total number of available

jobs, increased funding for training, and the realization by the displaced and under-employed that increasing and improving their skills is the best way to improve their employability once the economy rebounds. [Deborah Waymire, Chief Operations Officer, at TAP, Inc.] In all, WorkOne staff provided

over 174,000 services to the over 31,000 customers of WorkOne. Seeking to improve their employability, 11,000 individuals participated in occupational training or short-term workshops.

WorkOne staff are on their game every day to skill up the region's workforce.

Enrolled customers nearly doubled during program year (PY) 2009 when compared with PY 2008.

PY '09 = 31,728 PY '08 = 18,083

## PAST RWB CHAIR RECOGNIZED FOR LEADERSHIP

On July 22nd, the RWB Directors presented past Chair, Larry West, with an engraved crystal vase to recognize his outstanding leadership of the Board. West served two terms during the Board's formative years and led the Board in the creation of standing committees, the openings of REACH Kokomo and WorkOne Lafayette, and began the, *Report to the Commissioners*, presentations. Larry has set the stage for continued success in the regionalization of workforce development initiatives. RWB Chair, Jim Hardison,

said, "No one can fill Larry's shoes [as Chair], in my opinion, we had the best Chair in the state of Indiana. We followed Larry, and Larry pushed us [Board] to excel." Larry West thanked the Board, Tecumseh Area Partnership, Inc., Indiana Department of Workforce Development and the Commissioners that serve as Regional Elected Officials saying, "It is teamwork that has made the Board successful, not just what I have done...It's what everyone has done." West is currently the RWB Vice Chair.

Larry was also presented an autographed baseball signed by baseball greats: Dale Murphy (Atlanta Braves), Lee Smith (Chicago Cubs), and Ron Guidry (New York Yankees). Special guests attending the meeting included Larry's wife, Sheryl West; Tippecanoe County Commissioner, Tom Murtaugh; Miami County Commissioner, Greg Deeds; past White County RWB Director, Mike Godlove and Director of Northern Operations for IDWD, Mike Barnes.



Larry West, accepts an engraved lead crystal vase as a token of appreciation from RWB Directors, presented by James C. Hardison, RWB Chair.

## NAWB FORUM 2011: DIALOGUE FOR WORKFORCE EXCELLENCE

RWB Directors will want to reserve February 5-8, 2011 to attend the NAWB Forum in Washington D.C.

The 2011 Forum will mark the 3rd year that the Region 4 Workforce Board will send a contingent of 4 or 5 Directors to Washington DC to attend the NAWB Forum and meet with their senators and congressman about topics

important to the Region's workforce development issues. Last year's attendees all recommend that Directors attend the Forum, at least once, to gain a better understanding of the national issues and pending legislation that impact the workforce development system. Each year the Forum features a wide variety of workshop topics

that present best practices from across the U.S., sprinkled with General Sessions that feature high level, high profile, dignitaries as guest speakers, and in panel discussions that present both sides of issues we face in workforce development.

Watch the NAWB for new information on the 2011 Forum.



EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION  
BEGINS IN SEPTEMBER FOR  
THE 2011 NAWB FORUM.  
[WWW.NAWB.ORG](http://WWW.NAWB.ORG)

## ALLIANCE 4 ADVANCEMENT ANNUAL MEETING- NOVEMBER 17TH

The Annual Meeting of Alliance 4 Advancement, returns to Kokomo's PASTArrific Casa Bella room on November 17th for this year's dinner & program. The Board and their Regional Operator, Tecumseh Area Partnership, Inc. will present the results of WorkOne West Central programs and services for pro-

gram year 2009 (July 1, 2009—June 30, 2010).

The event was last conducted in Kokomo in 2008 and rotates between Lafayette and Kokomo. This year's theme: *Change . Evolution . Growth*, will report how the workforce development system is changing individual lives, evolving

regional collaborations and growing a competitive, flexible and diversified regional workforce that attracts economic development and financial prosperity.



PASTArrific—3001 S Webster  
St. Kokomo, IN.