

Date	May 2011
Title	WDC Staff Report

State Energy Sector Partnership (“SESP”) Grant

Summary of Grant Activities: For the Quarter ending March 31, 2011, the Workforce Development Council (“WDC”) executed three contracts for a total of 12 contracts for the grant period thus far, obligating a total of \$5,262,638 of the \$5,531,000 allocated for contractual services and including a \$1.1 million contract with the University of Hawaii. WDC staff provides continuous training and technical assistance to providers as we proceed with implementation. Currently, there are 284 registered training participants funded by the grant. It is expected this number will increase considerably as we continue to implement the SESP program.

Collaboration: This quarter, the WDC increased employer and industry partner engagement considerably. WDC staff, in collaboration with the City and County of Honolulu project team, have met and presented SESP OJT opportunities to the Hawaii Solar Association and the Building Industries Association of Hawaii. Other employer/agency partner outreach include, Pacific Biodiesel, Johnson Controls, Hawaii Clean Energy Initiative focus group, Ma’o farms, Masons Union, Plumbers Union, Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard Apprenticeship program, and Hawaii Job Corps.

Overview of provider grant activities:

- **Goodwill Industries of HI:** Program staff is currently screening potential candidates for green industry trainings, educating potential candidates on what green jobs are, and identifying training and job opportunities within their geographic area.
- **Catholic Charities of Hawaii:** Contacted two potential clients to review program, personal goals and available training options and identified additional vendors (Team Clean, Inc.) and community partners (LDS Employment Center and Solar Energy Association) for collaboration on project.
- **Associated Builders and Contractors of HI:** Continue to train individuals participating in the first four modules of the one-year LEED training.
- **Building Industry Association of HI:** Recruited and trained a total of 60 participants in Certified Green Professional and Advanced Building Science.
- **International Union of Painters and Allied Trades:** Held seven Green Construction/HazLead classes and began series of neighbor island classes on March 12, 2011. To date, 143 painters, 11 tapers, and 2 floor layers (a total of 156 District Council 50 members) have successfully completed the training. In addition to Honolulu, classes in Kahului, Maui on April 9th and Hilo, Hawaii on April 30th have been scheduled.
- **General Contractors Association of Hawaii:** Trained a total of 88 participants, 60 for Green Associate and 28 for LEED AP. Kauai Island Utility Cooperative: 2 participants completed the LEED Green Associate Prep Course sponsored by General Contractors Association. Currently KIUC is registering participants for preparatory courses for CRM, PMP, and UPLAN certification exams.
- **The four County LWIBs:** Continue to convene meetings with the state workforce agencies and Community College staff to discuss class prerequisites, course offerings, and scheduling. Developed service provider contract and followed up with industry to notify businesses of upcoming training. City and County of Honolulu worked with IBEW to intake newly indentured participants into their apprenticeship program.
- **UHCC:** The contract between the State of Hawaii Department of Labor and Industrial Relations has been fully executed. All financial accounts have been established as of the date of this report, and all colleges have been advised to initiate requisite purchases for capacity building and training.

Healthcare Workforce Planning Grant (“HWPG”)

WDC held industry-specific skill panel meetings in the latter part of 2010 and early months of 2011, in an effort to address potential acute healthcare workforce shortages in the coming years. Planning has begun on the health careers website, which will be a resource for secondary and post-secondary students interested in health careers. The website will provide pertinent information on health occupations, educational and skill requirements, educational and training opportunities, financial aid, and potential future employers. The site has a July launch date. Data collection and analysis is ongoing for the final report and subsequent submission of the Implementation Grant.

MOU between WDC and the Hawaii/Pacific Basin Area Health Education Center

The Planning Grant team is currently working on a Memorandum of Agreement with the Hawaii/Pacific Basin Area Health Education Center (“AHEC”) in order to gather information for the Comprehensive Healthcare Workforce Development Plan for Hawaii 2010-2020. Through funding from the Planning Grant of \$26,000, the MOA’s focus is to gain data from healthcare stakeholders to outreach and gain information from healthcare stakeholders. Activities of the Partnership will also include analyzing Labor Market Information to ensure that information and trends are reflective of employer realities, and identifying skill requirements such as through the use of Skill Panels launched in 2010.

On the road at the Hawaii State Rural Health Association Conference

On April 5, The Planning Grant team attended the annual Hawaii State Rural Health Association Conference, held this year in Kahului, Maui... The conference included discussion of current trends in rural healthcare, shared success stories throughout the state, and updates on current government programs and funding issues. This year, WDC staff both attended the conference seminars and hosted a booth, promoting the various training programs in the State Dept. of Labor Workforce Development divisions.

Healthcare Skills Panel

- Following the skill panel meetings, WDC published its initial report, *Hawaii’s Healthcare Industry Skill Panels Initial Report and Addendum to the Comprehensive State Workforce Development Plan*, in February 2011. The skill panel report can be viewed in electronic format at: http://hawaii.gov/labor/wdc/FINAL%20Printed%20HC%20Report_031011.pdf. Skill panels have been kept up-to-date and have provided further input through email correspondence on industry-specific issues and questions. At the request of several members, WDC is planning a final skill panel meeting in the coming months.
- As noted as a “Quick Win” in the Initial Report on the Healthcare Skills Panel, Hawaii’s major hospitals are collaborating to launch the first statewide nurse residency program this summer in an effort to keep more registered nurses in the profession. The participating employers include Hawaii Pacific Health (“HPH”), the Queen’s Medical Center, Kaiser Permanente Hawaii, Castle Medical Center and the quasi-public Hawaii Health Systems Corp. HPH and Kaiser were two of the employers that participated in the Healthcare Skills Panel in 2010. More information on the program can be read in the May 2nd, Honolulu Star-Advertiser article “Program Nurses a Need” in the business section.

Software Industry Skill Panels

The WDC, along with the University of Hawaii Community Colleges, Career and Technical Education-UH and the Hawaii Technology Development Corporation (“HTDC”) held a skills panel focused on the computer software workforce. The panels, modeled after the successful healthcare industry skill panels, attracted over 100 software experts and industry leaders from throughout the state on March 31, 2011. Software industry leaders in Hawaii, such as Henk Rodgers, CEO of Blue Planet Foundation and developer of the game “Tetris” and Peter Kay, President of Cyber Com Inc., met with both upstart and established companies to decipher the workforce needs and develop a concrete plan to fulfill workforce needs in the software industry. Currently, the WDC and HTDC are compiling notes to produce an initial findings report similar to what was done for the Healthcare Industry.

Meanwhile, talks continue between industry leaders and the WDC regarding the formation of other skill panels related to agriculture and the film/media industries.

WIA Performance for Older Youth

Since several Older Youth measures have not been met for three consecutive years, the U.S. Department of Labor (“USDOL”) required the WDC in its last performance report to investigate the issues and identify possible solutions to increase Older Youth positive outcomes. After conferring with LWIBs on the outcomes of the examination, a report on older youth will be formally presented at the Workforce Development Council Meeting on May 12, 2011. Soon after presentation, the report will be sent to the USDOL, demonstrating action performed on this performance issue.

WDC 2011 Annual Report to the Governor

This Annual Report is also Year 3 of the State Comprehensive Workforce Development Plan 2009-2014. In addition to updating recommendations, this year’s report identifies programs in which the WDC is active, especially when members and/or staff represent the WDC as members or attendees. This “reach” ensures that WDC members and staff are in touch with stakeholders in areas such as Career and Technical Education, Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, tourism workforce efforts, and with agencies that work to increase employment and training opportunities for persons with disabilities. The report has been printed and will be formally presented to the public at the May 12th WDC Meeting. Following the presentation, the report will be made available on the WDC website, www.hawaii.gov/labor/wdc.

College and Career Access Grant Award

With the awarding of the CACG web portal to ConnectEDU earlier this year, work is currently underway to have the web portal, required by the grant, to be up and running by no later than July 31, 2011. ConnectEDU will collaborate with the State of Hawaii to develop the first statewide college- and career-planning web portal that utilizes student academic performance data. Portal users will gain access to innovative tools that support student performance and make the college application process more efficient, such as longitudinal data reporting and analytics, as well as an electronic student transcript and application exchange system. Meanwhile, two members of the CACG committee, Karen Lee and Susan Jackson flew to Washington DC in March to attend a meeting of all CACG project directors from all US states and territories, They discussed best practices in programming and obtained updates on the grant program from the USDOL.

New grant opportunities

Since the beginning of the year, the WDC has filed for a number of new grant opportunities presented by the USDOL and U.S. Department of Education.

- Green Jobs Innovation Fund: This grant is designed to increase the number of individuals completing training programs who receive industry-recognized credentials and to increase the number of individuals completing training programs for employment in green jobs. The award ceiling for this grant is \$8 million.
- Career Pathways Innovation Fund: Giving the ability to Workforce Investment Boards to tap into monies once reserved for Community-Based Job training Grants to support projects with a focus on career pathway programs. The award ceiling for this grant is \$5 million.
- Native Hawaiian Education Program Grant: This grant is to develop innovative education programs to assist Native Hawaiians and to supplement and expand programs and authorities in the area of education. The award ceiling for this grant is \$950,000.

Furthermore, the WDC is looking to file:

- H-1B Technical Skills Training Grants: To provide education, training and job placement assistance in the occupations and industries for which employers are using H-1B visas to currently hire foreign workers and the related activities necessary to support such training.

Homeless initiative

The WDC along with the State’s Office of Language Access, Department of Labor and Industrial Relations and Department of Human Services are teaming up to provide innovative job and job training opportunities for unemployed and under-employed homeless individuals. Through leveraging of grant and WIA monies, WDC will provide guidance and technical support for homeless who are given assistance under WIA to participate in recycling programs and acquire jobs in the recycling industry. The program is scheduled to start in early May and end in September 2011.

WDC Arrivals and changes

The WDC welcomes Jillian Yasutake as the WDC Performance Specialist. She started working at the WDC in mid-April. Current assignments for Jillian are to assist WDC staff member Ruth Caldwell in implementing the Healthcare Planning Grant, as well as taking the lead on writing grants for the WDC. Hailing from Palolo, she is a Kaiser High School and Hawaii Pacific University Graduate.

With Kim Coco Iwamoto ending her term on the Board of Education (BOE), her term as BOE Chair for the Career and Technical Education Coordinating Advisory Committee (CTECAC) will also be ending. CTECAC, operated by Career and Technical Education - UH, has appointed WDC Member Alan Chung as its new BOE Chair.