

# American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009



An Overview of  
Montana's Plan for WIA

---

# WIA Funding from USDOL

Allocated to each State based on:

- Areas of Substantial Unemployment
- Economic Disadvantaged
- Excess Unemployment (greater than 4.5%)

# Funding Streams for WIA

- Adult
- Dislocated Worker
- Youth

# Adult

Preference is given to eligible covered persons (veterans)

- Eligibility

- 18 years or older
- US Citizen or Registered Alien
- Meet Selective Service requirements
- Meet the priority of Service Definition (for intensive and training services)
  - Recipients of public assistance
  - Low income individuals
  - Are older workers
  - Face language or cultural barriers

- Services

- Core Services – available to all adults and include such things as job seeking skills, computer access, information on labor market, job search etc.
- Intensive Services – include comprehensive assessments, individual employment plan development, adult/basic education services etc.
- Training Services – include occupational skills training. On the Job training, job readiness etc.

# Youth

Preference is given to eligible covered persons (veterans)

- Eligibility
  - Aged 14 – 24 at time of enrollment
  - US Citizen or Registered Alien
  - Meet selective service requirements
  - Low income
  - Meets one of the following categories:
    - Basic skills deficient
    - School Dropout
    - Homeless, runaway or foster child
    - Pregnant or parenting
    - Offender
    - No vocational goal
- Youth Activities
  - Assistance in achieving academic and employment success – gained through work experience and tutoring
  - On-going mentoring opportunities
  - Training service, support services, and incentives for recognition and achievement
  - Opportunities for activities related to leadership development, decision making, citizenship, and community service

# Dislocated Worker

Preference is given to eligible covered persons (veterans)

- Eligibility

- 18 years or older
- US Citizen or Registered Alien
- Meet Selective Service requirements
- Meet Dislocated Worker Definition or
- Meet Displaced Homemaker Definition under Dislocated Worker

- Services

- Core Services – available to all DW and include such things as job seeking skills, computer access, information on labor market, job search etc.
- Intensive Services – include comprehensive assessments, individual employment plan development, adult/basic education services etc.
- Training Services – include occupational skills training. On the Job training, job readiness etc.

## Montana's Share of WIA ARRA Funds

- WIA Adult - \$1,234,406
- WIA Youth - \$2,918,025
- WIA Dislocated Worker - \$1,756,038

# How Should ARRA Funds be Spent?

- Quickly! – We are ready to start enrolling people into these programs as soon as we get approval from the Legislature – passing of HB645 and HB2
- Eligible Expenditures!

# How Should ARRA Funds be Spent?

- Youth Funds
  - Primarily used for Summer Youth Programs
  - Summer Work Experience
  - Ages 14 – 24
  - May 1 through September 30

# How Should ARRA Funds be Spent?

- Focus on Green Energy and Technology Training
- Focus on Getting People back to Work
- Partnership with Other Agencies
- Tracking all Green Job Creation

# How Will We Succeed??

- Goal is Employment – Get people working
  - Focus on Green Jobs & Energy Jobs
- HRDC's Weatherization Project
  - Reserve some funds for training for this project
  - WIA Trains, Weatherization employs
  - Shows Coordination and Cooperation between programs
  - Prevailing Wage Jobs

# How Will We Succeed??

- Enroll and serve lots more people
- Short-term Training
  - Shorter term training with certificate

USDOL Recovery Website

<http://www.dol.gov/recovery/>

Montana Recovery Website

<http://www.recovery.mt.gov/default.mcp>

# YouthBuild

- Key Concept
  - Alternative education program that assists youth who are significantly behind in basic skills
    - Obtain GED or High School Diploma
    - Gain education and employment skills to lead them to self sufficiency
    - Provide disadvantaged youth opportunities for meaningful work and service to communities
    - Expand the supply of permanent affordable housing for low income and homeless individuals and families

# YouthBuild

- \$50,000,000 available through ARRA
- Competitive Grant Process through USDOL
- Grants are announced each year
- Available for PY 2008 and 2009
- Through June 30, 2010
- <http://www.grants.gov/>

# Job Corps

- Serve Youth ages 16 – 24
- Low Income
- Be an individual who is:
  - School Dropout
  - Anyone who requires additional career technical training or intensive career counseling and related assistance in order to participate successfully in regular schoolwork or to secure or hold employment
  - Basic Skills Deficient
  - Homeless, runaway, or a foster child
  - Parent

# Job Corps

- \$250,000,000 for Construction, Rehabilitation, and Acquisition of Job Corps Centers
- 3 Job Corps Centers in Montana
  - Anaconda <http://anaconda.jobcorps.gov/>
  - Kicking Horse, Ronan <http://kickinghorse.jobcorps.gov/>
  - Trapper Creek, Darby <http://trappercreek.jobcorps.gov/>

# Questions?

Suzanne Ferguson  
MT Department of Labor and Industry  
PO Box 1728  
Helena MT 59624  
406-444-1620  
sferguson@mt.gov

