

Attachment A
Enhancing Youth Connections and Access to the One-Stop Connections
(Demonstration Planning Grants)

Regional Employment Board of Hampden County, Inc.

Shelley Nuckols, Director of Youth Programs
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Award: \$20,000

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The Regional Employment Board and Youth Council of Hampden County will produce a strategic plan to link youth and youth activities to the One-Stop Centers. This project will build on current planning efforts and has an emphasis on involving youth in the planning process. It will include conducting focus groups and interviews with major stakeholders (including youth and youth serving program providers) to address strategies for: marketing and outreach to youth; enhancing the One-Stop facilities and self-help services to better accommodate youth customers; linking youth programs to One-Stops, and creating better linkages between employers, youth-serving agencies, and One-Stop Centers. The Youth Council of Hampden County is connecting with the *Center for Youth Internships and Employment*, a joint public-private venture, to address sustained youth attachment to the One-Stop system.

Regional Workforce Development Board

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Award: \$20,000

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The Regional Workforce Development Board of Greater New Haven, the New Haven Youth Council, and Connecticut Job Corps are joining together to increase youth participation at the One-Stop through enhanced youth-oriented services and providing a dedicated area for youth services to create a more “youth-friendly environment.” The youth-oriented services will include specialized workshops, Internet-based career exploration, job shadowing/mentoring, and Job Clubs and Job Fairs tailored to youth. The New Haven Youth Council has already established broad-based support that goes beyond the required members to include representatives from higher education, homeless youth, the housing authority, law enforcement and healthcare providers. In addition, the One-Stop partnership is well established and consists of over 20 institutions and agencies.

Chemung-Schuyler-Stueben Workforce Development Board

Nancy E. Blake, Youth Council Chair
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Award: \$20,000

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The Chemung-Schuyler-Stueben Workforce Development Board will establish a strategic planning committee and marketing committee comprised of members of the Board, Youth

Council, Career Development Council Board and the community. Young adult members of the Youth Council will organize groups of teens to visit the existing One-Stop Centers to observe current services and make recommendations for improvements. The strategic planning committee will develop plans to address concerns and a part-time staff person will be assigned to each One-Stop center to assist in implementing improvements. The marketing committee will develop youth-focused marketing materials, participate in community employment activities such as job fairs, and develop referral and communications systems to link youth program providers and employers with One-Stop centers.

**Gloucester County Workforce Investment Board
Youth Council**

Eileen Gallo
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Award: 20,000

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The Gloucester County WIB Youth Council will use the award to conduct youth resource mapping of existing services and develop innovative marketing strategies to connect youth to the One-Stop system. A youth WEB page and Community Youth Mapping database will be established and maintained by youth. The resource mapping will also be connected to the Gloucester Planning Department and their Geographical Information System. The Youth Council would like to see that at least two permanent “youth positions” be established at the planning department in order to keep the mapping information current and accessible to the community. To enhance marketing and outreach, the Youth Council will compile recruitment strategies from successful youth service organizations. In addition, school aged youth will work with a marketing firm as part of a structured learning experience to develop innovative marketing strategies.

Frederick County Workforce Development Board

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Award: \$20,000

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The Frederick County Workforce Development Board has commissioned its Youth Council to work with the Board to design a youth area within the One-Stop Center, which is scheduled to open in Spring 2002. This Youth Council has formed a Youth Advisory Team to assist with community resource mapping, designing One-Stop youth area, and developing a website. The Youth Advisory Team will visit other state and regional sites to identify best practices in linking youth to One-Stop services. Employers and providers will be encouraged to provide recommendations through roundtable discussions. Building on Frederick County’s One-Stop Employment Partnership and strong School-to-Career initiative, both the Youth Council and Youth Advisory Team are staffed by a parent and individuals from the school district, the rehabilitation agency, and the WIA administrative entity and One-Stop operator.

Capital Area Workforce Investment Board

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Award: \$20,000

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The Capital Area Workforce Investment Board will engage in strategic planning activities to enhance One-Stop Center facilities and services to youth in the seven-county area it serves. This project will target youth customers by refining labor market and demographic data, convening a forum of youth service providers and a forum for youth in each of the seven counties, and creating a resource map. Youth-specific content will be developed for Virginia's electronic workforce information system, Career Connect, and Youth Centers will be created in each of the full service One-Stop Centers. Driving this effort is the Capital Area Youth Council, which includes required partners and employers, a local elected official, a county administrator, and representatives from organized labor as well as education/alternative education, mental health/mental retardation, and rehabilitation agencies.

Hillsborough County Workforce Board Inc.

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Award: \$20,000

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Hillsborough County currently has six One-Stop Workforce Centers in their Community. The Hillsborough County Workforce Board Inc., will enhance youth connections and access to the One-Stop System with a multi-faceted planning effort. The Board will develop (1) an outreach plan for all youth services to provide a seamless system of service provision with the One-Stop system; (2) an operational plan to enhance the capacity of the existing Centers and Youth Opportunity Centers to work cooperatively; (3) a marketing and communication plan to develop strategies for creating and strengthening linkages with the community; and (4) an evaluation plan to assess the effectiveness of the strategic planning process. The Workforce Centers will operate as a contact point and clearinghouse for the entire area on available summer work, educational opportunities and enrichment activities.

Palm Beach County Workforce Development Board Inc.

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Award: \$20,000

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The Palm Beach County Workforce Development Board Inc. plans to expand efforts to provide One-Stop services that are accessible to youth, including establishing youth One-Stop services in local high schools. They will conduct needs and outcome assessments, environmental scans, and surveys to enhance One-Stop services for youth. With this award, the Board will develop

marketing and outreach strategies to employers and youth. These efforts will also include increasing partnerships with local businesses to expand mentor programs, internships, and employment opportunities to youth.

The North East Texas Workforce Development Board

Mary Duckert , Community Relations Coordinator
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Award: \$20,000

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The North East Texas Workforce Investment Board/Youth Council will develop a strategic plan to enhance youth services and conduct activities that support youth connections and linkages to the Texas Workforce Network. To do this, a youth advisory group (representing various youth service programs and activities) will be formed to act as advocates for youth and provide valuable linkages to youth services and employers in the area. Advisory group activities will include: (1) analyzing current youth service delivery through surveys conducted by One-Stop center staff; (2) determining gaps in services including age groups and special populations not being served sufficiently and services within the ten program elements not being provided; (3) identifying other providers providing services to youth, and elements not currently provided through the One-Stop system; (4) determining staff development needs; and (5) identifying effective outreach and recruitment strategies.

Utah Department of Workforce Services

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Award: \$20,000

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Since Utah is a single statewide workforce area, the Utah Department of Workforce Services and the State Youth Council will work with the Utah State Workforce Council on this project. The initial activity will be a strategic planning session for the State Youth Council to develop a comprehensive mission and vision, as well as short-term and long-term goals. The Youth Council will focus on (1) marketing and outreach strategies to recruit youth to use One-Stop systems; (2) referral and communication systems to link youth programs to One-Stop centers; (3) operations and staffing to support youth; (4) enhancing One-Stop center facilities and self-help services to tailor them to youth; and (5) creating employer and provider linkages among local youth-serving agencies and other agencies within the One-Stop system (including Job Corps). Utah will integrate these strategies in all regions throughout the state.

Workforce Investment Board of Northern Cook County

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Award: \$20,000

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The Workforce Investment Board of Northern Cook County will analyze strategies for linking all youth, including those not eligible under WIA, with two One-Stop Centers located in Northern

Cook Co., Illinois. The grant will be used to further a strategic planning process that is already underway by funding several activities. These activities include (1) conducting a two-day youth summit to involve youth in establishing strategies for linking youth to the One-Stop system; (2) conducting a two-day youth service provider summit to build a collective agenda for serving youth, marketing and conducting outreach, including the development and distribution of marketing materials and an interactive Web site; and (3) convening a task force of businesses, educators, and service providers to determine services that can be linked electronically to schools and agencies. These plans will compliment ongoing activities including resource mapping, a report on youth needs within the area, and a review of best practices in youth programming.

Northern Indiana Workforce Investment Board

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Award: \$20,000

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Northern Indiana Workforce Investment Board will support planning projects that enhance youth connections and provide access to the One-Stop system, (WorkOne Center). Strategic planning and other activities will identify best practices and One-Stop models that “focus on youth.” A youth service provider will be co-located at the One-Stop. The Board will conduct youth focus groups to assess knowledge of and accessibility to One-Stop centers and recommendations will be presented to the Youth Council. Youth will be involved in these efforts by forming a youth advisory board. One-Stop staff will receive cross-training by youth service providers. Other activities will include marketing to businesses and youth, utilizing web based interactive tools and having One-Stop staff visit schools.

Worksystems, Inc.

Jim Wernsing, Youth Services Director
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Award: \$20,000

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Worksystems, Inc. managed the competitive bidding process that established seven sub-regional One-Stop Centers in its three county region and now provides contract management, fiscal and performance oversight, and technical assistance for the One-Stops. This grant will support a community-based strategic planning process for extending customer friendly operation and integrated service delivery, the core of the region's One-Stop and Youth Opportunity Center models, to all of the region's youth. The community process, informed by best practices and the region's experience with the One-Stop system and Youth Opportunity Center, will result in a strategic plan for connecting youth to the One-Stop system. The strategic plan will be incorporated into FY 2002 Requests for Proposals requiring prospective One-Stop operators and youth contractors in each sub-region to demonstrate how they will accomplish the objectives for development of One-Stops as gateways for youth career development.

Snohomish County Workforce Development Council

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Award: \$20,000

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The Snohomish County Workforce Development Council will develop a strategic plan to enhance connections between youth and the local One-Stop system, known as WorkSource Snohomish County. The project expands an existing, multi-phase planning effort launched by the local Youth Council initially focused on only those youth who are eligible under Title I-B of the Workforce Investment Act to a broader, county-wide strategy to meet the employability, education and developmental needs of Snohomish County youth. Activities will include updating the MATCHES employer database; identifying system-wide models that foster youth transition and provide housing support, improving referral protocols, and providing ongoing cross-training of Youth Council members and WorkSource Snohomish County partners.

Coconino County

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Coconino County established a One-Stop system in 1996 to provide information to youth. They plan to further connect all youth to the workforce by engaging them in a self help, easy access information system through satellite One-Stops and a youth employment web page to give rural youth the same opportunities as urban youth. The well-established Youth Council regularly invites youth input during meetings and has already held youth forums to identify service gaps and how to fill them. The grant will enable a strategic planning committee to conduct more structured surveys to identify the interests and needs of youth and assess the needs/interests of employers and other stakeholders. They will then hold public planning meetings to review the survey findings and generate ideas. Based on all this information, a youth advisory group will help determine how to make a future Youth One-Stop a success and to integrate youth related products into existing One-Stops.