



PHOTO: JOAN HACKETT

SECRETARY ELAINE L. CHAO INTERACTS WITH VANESSA, A PARTICIPANT IN A CHICAGO GEM-SET (GIRLS ELECTRONIC MENTORING IN SCIENCE, ENGINEERING, AND TECHNOLOGY) EVENT IN MARCH 2002. THROUGH THE GEM-SET PROGRAM, 500 YOUNG WOMEN AND GIRLS HAVE GAINED INFORMATION AND VALUABLE FIRST-HAND CAREER GUIDANCE FROM PROFESSIONAL WOMEN EMPLOYED IN SCIENCE, ENGINEERING, AND TECHNOLOGY FIELDS.

Strategic Goal 1

A Prepared Workforce *Enhance Opportunities for America's Workforce*

DOL is committed to enhancing opportunities for America's workforce by providing the tools and assistance necessary for success in today's job market to people new to the labor force or wishing to improve their potential. Special emphasis is placed on closing the employment gap for out-of-school youth **and providing long-term jobs for individuals so they may reach their full economic potential.**

In addition, the Department publishes crucial labor market information to support key economic and policy decisions.