



JOB CORPS'

R&R Field Report

Aiding in America's Recovery and Reinvesting in Our Future



From the National Office of Job Corps

Dear Job Corps Staff,

This is the first in a series of e-communications to provide updates and share information on American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) initiatives.

It is so important that everyone act promptly and diligently to execute the projects for which your particular center is receiving ARRA funds. We must each do our part to ensure that Recovery Act projects are immediately undertaken and quickly carried out.

Thank you for your hard work and dedication thus far, and I look forward to hearing updates regarding your projects. I'm excited about the opportunities these ARRA funds have provided our Job Corps program, and I know that our teamwork and cooperation will allow us to achieve the goals that have been set for our program.

Sincerely,

Lynn A. Intrepidi
Interim National Director

ARRA E-newsletter Volume 1 – The Big Picture

As you know, Job Corps received \$250 million in economic stimulus funds through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. Working closely with the Secretary of Labor, the National Office of Job Corps developed a plan to use the funds to accomplish two main goals – **1) to create jobs and stimulate economic activity across the nation**, and **2) to support the administration's priority of environmental stewardship**.

So, how are we creating jobs and stimulating the economy?

Job Corps is allocating the majority of the Recovery Act funds to shovel-ready construction projects at more than 60 centers nationwide. These projects include the construction of the new center in Iowa and new facilities in Los Angeles, the construction of new dormitories on multiple centers, the additions of wind turbines and pellet boilers on several centers, and much more. The purpose of these much-needed projects is to create jobs for American workers and to make our program's facilities more sustainable. Several projects have already begun, including construction on the new center in Ottumwa, Iowa, and on three new dorms at the St. Louis Job Corps Center. ([Click here to see renderings.](#))

Center Spotlight: Treasure Island Job Corps Center



Treasure Island Job Corps Center in San Francisco is building a one-acre community urban farm. The farm will provide organic food for students, staff and community members while also promoting healthy lifestyles and educating students about ecology, gardening, composting and sustainable principles.

Ultimately, the urban farm is expected to produce an estimated annual yield of 7,000 to 11,000 pounds of vegetables, 6,000 pounds of fruit and nuts, and more than 1,000 eggs.

Treasure Island will use the produce in the center cafeteria and student-run restaurant, and it hopes to start supplying the produce to restaurants in the San Francisco area that could become future employers of Treasure Island culinary graduates.



Future home of Treasure Island Job Corps Center organic garden.

Way to go, Treasure Island!
Other centers such as Denison, Shreveport and Sacramento Job Corps

And how exactly are we promoting environmental stewardship?

With the help of Job Corps staff, students and contractors, we are well on our way to becoming more green. On Oct. 1, 2009, 76 new Training Achievement Records were launched as part of the program's Green Collar Training Initiative. Through this initiative, Job Corps has begun greening its Career Technical Training programs in three initial industries: **Advanced Manufacturing**, **Automotive and Machine Repair**, and **Construction**. Students who choose one or more of these career pathways are training in a variety of new subject areas, such as green materials and products, pollution prevention principles, hybrid and alternative vehicles, environmental awareness, green building requirements, and many others that will help prepare them for successful careers in the new green economy.

We are also acting as environmental stewards by changing our daily actions and incorporating more energy-efficient practices in our offices and on our centers. One example at the Finch Henry Job Corps Center in Mississippi is the center's addition of a new recycling program and its transition to using energy-efficient light bulbs.

And this is just the beginning. Over the course of the next eight months, more and more ARRA-funded projects, special events (such as our Earth Day Every Day competition) and activities will be launching in the Job Corps community. And we want to hear about it. If you have news or updates about green happenings or other ARRA-funded initiatives on your center, please send information and pictures to OJC.ARRA@dol.gov. It is important that we share information with one another and communicate how Job Corps is doing its part to invest in America's economic recovery.

centers have plans to build organic gardens as well. We look forward to hearing about their progress in the coming months.

If you have news to share about your center and want to be featured in a center spotlight, please e-mail OJC.ARRA@dol.gov.

Administered by the U.S. Department of Labor, Job Corps is the nation's largest career technical training and education program for students ages 16 through 24. Job Corps is a U.S. Department of Labor Equal Opportunity Program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. TDD/TTY telephone number is (800) 733-JOBS.