



JOB CORPS'

R&R Field Report

Aiding in America's Recovery and Reinvesting in Our Future



ARRA E-Newsletter Volume 18

From the National Office of Job Corps

Dear Job Corps Staff,

First and foremost, I want to thank all of you for your hard work on Job Corps' American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) initiatives over the past year. As everyone is well aware, Job Corps was required to outlay 70 percent (\$131.6 million) of our ARRA funds by Sept. 30, 2010. I am extremely proud to announce that we exceeded this goal and outlaid 77 percent (\$144,971,707) of our funds! This is a tremendous accomplishment for our program, and we should all be proud of our teamwork and final efforts in the days leading up to the deadline. Because of our ARRA initiatives, Job Corps is stronger – both in the way we teach and train and in the way we act.

Now, on to Volume 18 of the R&R Field Report. In this issue, we take a look at the impact that ARRA projects are making, not only on centers, but also on local economies. The Gerald R. Ford Job Corps Center in Grand Rapids, Mich., has seen many of its Construction students hired full time by local contractors after their graduation, and the Ottumwa Job Corps Center in Ottumwa, Iowa, is creating new jobs for local companies. The positive, long-term hiring impact of our ARRA-funded projects in many of our centers' communities is substantial.

We also spotlight the Hubert H. Humphrey Job Corps Center in St. Paul, Minn., which will open a new single-parent dormitory in late fall. The building utilizes green construction features that will help reduce utility costs and improve the dorm's sustainability, while providing Job Corps students and their children a safe and comfortable home.

Finally, we spotlight the Sacramento Job Corps Center and several of its new ARRA-funded simulators and devices that are helping Construction students train for green careers.

Thanks so much again for everyone's support, teamwork, and dedication in helping Job Corps exceed its 70 percent outlaid goal. Just keep in mind that our ARRA work is not complete and that we need to remain focused on working together on ARRA initiatives in the months ahead. OJC will continue to track all ARRA funds until the final dollar is obligated, so please keep your ARRA reporting and invoices a top priority.

Sincerely,

Edna Primrose
National Director

Center Spotlight: Heavy Lifting at the Sacramento Job Corps Center



A female student at Sacramento practices on the center's new heavy equipment simulator.

Training on heavy equipment operating simulators and using oil filter crushing devices are just a few of the changes in the Heavy Equipment Operations training program at the Sacramento Job Corps Center that will better prepare students for future career opportunities.

Heavy Equipment Operations students helped build the heavy equipment simulators they are now training on. The project was overseen by Josh Buhlest, a Job Corps graduate. Buhlest, who has been out of the program since 1995, is currently the welding and fabrications instructor at the Operating Engineers Training Center in Rancho Murieta, Calif.

"The simulators are a great way for students to gain



Job Corps' ARRA Funds Spark a Chain Reaction for Employment in Local Communities

More than 100 jobs will be created in the Ottumwa, Iowa, community when Job Corps' newest center opens in 2011. Hundreds more have been hired during the construction phase.

Randy Houk, a Grooms & Company Construction employee, had been laid off by his previous employer and was out of work before getting hired by Grooms to work on the construction of the Ottumwa Job Corps Center.

"Iowa Job Corps got me a job, and will hopefully result in a future job with this company," Houk says. "I've been working since last October, and I'm proud of the job we're doing."

The Ottumwa Job Corps Center will continue to be a leading job source in the community long after the construction is complete. The center will look to the community to find qualified instructors, administrative staff, and maintenance workers. Local businesses will also benefit from the center's presence in the community when graduates prepare to enter the workforce.

The construction of the Ottumwa Job Corps Center is just one example of the impact that Job Corps projects funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act are having on the economy. Across the nation, Job Corps center construction projects and green career training opportunities are helping local workers and students find employment.

The St. Louis Job Corps Center, like Ottumwa, has employed numerous local companies in the construction of three new dormitories on the campus. Students from Hubert H. Humphrey and Earle C. Clements Job Corps Centers have been hired for full-time positions because of the training they received at Job Corps.

At the Gerald R. Ford Job Corps Center, construction on center, including a new female dormitory and numerous renovation projects, has put more than 19 local contractors and subcontractors to work. John Brondsena, project superintendent for Nevilles Electric Service, is one of many workers experiencing the positive impact that this project has afforded the Grand Rapids community. "If it weren't for this job, I would have been out of work for the next 18 months," Brondsena said.

The Ford project also led the general contractor to form a work-based learning partnership with the center, so Construction students are able to receive hands-on training in a variety of tasks. The quality of work and level of dedication shown by the students training with the construction contractors has helped lead to several employment opportunities.

Following graduation from Job Corps, several students were hired by Nevilles to continue working on the center construction project. Carpentry graduate Jamell West was planning to return to his hometown of Detroit, but chose to stay in Grand Rapids when Nevilles offered him a job. "I knew nothing about carpentry before I came to Job Corps," West said. "The center taught me the skills that I use every day at work."

To see photos of construction projects and hands-on training at the Gerald R. Ford Job Corps Center, click [here](#).



Construction of the new facilities at Gerald R. Ford is expected to be complete later this year.



A student at Gerald R. Ford shows off his training skills and works hard on the construction of the center's new dorm.

valuable hands-on training time before actually being put on a machine," says Buhlest. "This cuts down on the amount of fuel used to run the machines on center because the simulators are electric and portable, allowing them to be used more frequently and in various areas."

The Sacramento Job Corps Center has a goal of reducing fuel consumption centerwide by 10 percent.

Students training at Sacramento are also on a path of conscious energy conservation by using an oil filter crushing device that removes and recycles up to 90 percent of the oil left in the filter used during training. The center consumes an average of 50 five-gallon oil cans per month, and all recycled oil is then shipped to a local recycling center. In addition, the crushing device reduces the disposal size of the can by 75 percent.

The heavy equipment simulators and the oil filter crushing device were purchased with American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds.

To see photos of Sacramento Job Corps Center students at work, click [here](#).

Hubert H. Humphrey Boasts New Accommodations for Single Parents

To learn more about companies and communities that have been impacted by construction on Job Corps centers, watch this [video](#).



... 98 ... 99 ... 100% Outlaid!

To recognize the hard work and dedication of many of our students and staff, we will continue to list the Job Corps centers that have outlaid 100 percent of their ARRA funds in each future edition of the *R&R Field Report*. Congratulations to the following:



Boston Region

Cassadaga Job Corps Center
Exeter Job Corps Center
Hartford Job Corps Center
New Haven Job Corps Center
Northlands Job Corps Center
Shriver Job Corps Center

Philadelphia Region

Blue Ridge Job Corps Center
Charleston Job Corps Center
Old Dominion Job Corps Center
Philadelphia Job Corps Center
Red Rock Job Corps Center

Atlanta Region

Atlanta Job Corps Center
Dr. Benjamin L. Hooks Job Corps Center
Finch-Henry Job Corps Center
Gadsden Job Corps Center
Gulfport Job Corps Center
Mississippi Job Corps Center
Montgomery Job Corps Center

Dallas Region

Carville Job Corps Center
Guthrie Job Corps Center
Laredo Job Corps Center
Little Rock Job Corps Center
Shreveport Job Corps Center

Chicago Region

Cleveland Job Corps Center
Flint/Genesee Job Corps Center
Gerald R. Ford Job Corps Center
Paul Simon Chicago Job Corps Center
St. Louis Job Corps Center

San Francisco Region

Cascades Job Corps Center
Inland Empire Job Corps Center
Long Beach Job Corps Center



On Thursday, Sept. 9, Representative Betty McCollum of Minnesota's 4th District cut the ribbons to officially dedicate the center's new ARRA-funded single parent dorm as well as another renovated building that will expand classroom space for several career training areas.

Many single parents say that caring for their children while training for a career is a balancing act. Hubert H. Humphrey Job Corps Center is trying to help by turning a building on campus into a single-parent dorm located above a day care center. This will allow many at Job Corps to train for their careers while staying close to their children.

The center completed construction on two additional floors above a Head Start Day Care facility that will house 18 single parents and their children. Each family will have its own room and bathroom and can enjoy common lounge areas on each floor.

"The solo-parent dorm is going to be a great addition to our campus. Many single parents don't complete their education or training, and this new dorm will hopefully make it easier for students to raise their children and prepare for their futures simultaneously," said David MacKenzie, center director.

This renovation project originally began in 2004 with the opening of a Head Start Day Care facility where Job

Los Angeles Job Corps Center
Phoenix Job Corps Center
San Jose Job Corps Center

Corps students can leave their children while they attend their academic and training classes during the day. While the child-care center was a big help for single parents, they still struggled with the daily commute. Since Job Corps is a primarily residential program, the center decided to join the seven other Job Corps centers that are accommodating single parents by building the new dorm.

The dorm, funded by the Recovery Act, has been designed using green construction techniques, including energy-efficient heating and cooling systems, motion-detector lighting, and Energy Star washers and dryers.

To learn more about the green features of the new dorm, click [here](#).

To view more photos of the dorm, click [here](#).

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 (877) 889-5627.