



JOB CORPS'

R&R Field Report

Aiding in America's Recovery and Reinvesting in Our Future



ARRA E-newsletter Volume 11

From the National Office of Job Corps

Dear Job Corps Staff,

I have made it a priority to learn about the exciting ARRA projects progressing on our Job Corps campuses, and this month I had the pleasure of meeting with staff and students from the Muhlenberg Job Corps Center during the *Earth Day Every Day (EDED)* awards ceremony in Washington, D.C. The center, located in Greenville, Ky., received the **Job Corps National Green Center Recognition Award** for its outstanding efforts to reduce energy and waste consumption on center.

Muhlenberg Job Corps Center was one of six regional *EDED* award winners considered for the national award. The other winners included Brunswick Job Corps Center, Penobscot Job Corps Center, Paul Simon Chicago Job Corps Center, Shreveport Job Corps Center, and Treasure Island Job Corps Center. Each winner demonstrated outstanding leadership in a variety of green initiatives and should be commended for its efforts.

While it is important to recognize these six centers, I also would like to acknowledge all of the centers that participated in the recent *EDED* Week activities. Creating a more environmentally friendly program is truly a team effort, and we proved that this week with successful events and activities across the country. We've already started receiving photos and videos from these events and look forward to showcasing them in our next *R&R Field Report*.

As I mentioned in the last report, our ARRA-funded projects continue to have an impact on students and the economy through our Green Training Initiative. Students in the Construction, Advanced Manufacturing, and Automotive career pathways are acquiring green skills as they prepare for the jobs of today and tomorrow. In this report, we have featured the Automotive and Machine Repair career training area, giving you the opportunity to hear from real Job Corps students on what they're learning and how these skills will make them more marketable to employers.

As always, please remember that 100 percent of ARRA funds must be committed by June 30, 2010, and a large portion of the work must be completed by September 30, 2010. Thanks again, for everyone's hard work – it is critical – and so very much appreciated.

Sincerely,

Edna Primrose
National Director

Center Spotlight: Alaska Job Corps Center



Alaska Job Corps Center students use heavy equipment simulators to train on virtual excavators and front-end loaders.

Thanks to four new equipment simulators purchased with ARRA funds, weather is no longer an issue for Alaska Job Corps Center students learning to drive and operate heavy machinery. Come rain, sleet, snow, or wind, students are hard at work on "virtual" excavators and front-end loaders.

In addition to allowing students to train year-round, the simulators reduce the impact the Alaska Job Corps Center has on the environment. The simulators don't use gasoline, so there are no emissions. The center saves on fuel, maintenance, and repair costs.

The simulators allow students to practice driving within a variety of terrains and weather conditions. They inform the operating student of the conditions of the drive, including safety issues such as whether he or she is driving too fast or slow, whether the vehicle's tires are spinning, or whether the actual machine is using too much gasoline. This helps reduce student injury by giving them valuable experience before driving on the roads. At the end of each session, the student is informed how much money a training session on real heavy-equipment machines would have cost the company,



News from the *Earth Day Every Day* Awards Ceremony

Secretary of Labor Hilda Solis presented Muhlenberg Job Corps Center students and staff with the National Green Recognition Award at the Earth Day awards ceremony last week for its exceptional efforts in "greening" the center and community. In addition to recognizing the center's success, the event, which was held at the Department of Labor, celebrated Earth Day's 40th anniversary.



Muhlenberg Job Corps student Crystal Turner receives her award from Secretary Solis.

Secretary Solis was joined by ETA Assistant Secretary Jane Oates and Job Corps National Director Edna Primrose. Both offered remarks and congratulations to the students and center director, Kenny Brown, during the ceremony.



Eight representatives from the Muhlenberg Job Corps Center Student Green Advisory Board pose for a picture before the ceremony.

To see a video clip of this event, [please click here](#).



Automotive Training Opportunities — The "Drive" for Success

The increasing popularity of hybrid and alternative fuel vehicles is "driving" demand for new expertise and knowledge at auto-repair shops across the country. Job Corps is ready to help meet this demand.

For decades, Job Corps has trained students to be automotive technicians, adopted new technologies, and stayed ahead of the curve with training in the latest repair and maintenance practices. We are doing the same with hybrid technologies. As consumers seek more environmentally friendly automobiles, Job Corps' students are learning the skills and gaining the knowledge required to service and repair these new vehicles.



Clearfield Job Corps Center Automotive student learns about green technology on a clean diesel engine.

Ninety-six automotive training programs in Job Corps received funds through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) to purchase a hybrid or high-efficiency vehicle, to use in training students who choose the basic Automobile Technician programs at Job Corps. These vehicles benefit students' experience at Job Corps through enhanced hands-on training and exposure to green technology and practices.

At the same time, students learn core practices that reduce the environmental impact of their shops, and learn pollution prevention principles related to the handling of hazardous materials that guide students in the proper disposal of various part components, such as asbestos brakes, automotive fluids, antifreeze, grease, and brake fluid.

In addition, students in Job Corps' Automotive programs study how to use advanced tools and equipment such as the Automatic Cleaning System Parts

including the operator's time and amount of gasoline used.

The center plans to use the simulators in other career technical training areas on center. To see photos of Alaska Job Corps Center students using the heavy-equipment simulators, [click here](#).

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.

Washer, which eliminates the use of toxic chemicals from the cleaning process by using plain water at high temperatures and pressures.

Beyond this core training, Job Corps also has worked in partnership with the United Auto Workers - Labor Employment and Training Corporation (UAW-LETTC) to offer an advanced Hybrid Electric Vehicle Training Achievement Record, preparing graduates for in-demand jobs that require not only an awareness, but mastery, of specialized tasks.



The Montgomery Job Corps Center utilizes its hybrid vehicle for hands-on training opportunities.

Each step of the training prepares students for work in any automotive shop from day one. As the market for these skills expands, Job Corps will be ready to fill those jobs, providing well-trained mechanics who possess the skills and environmental awareness necessary to be successful in today's economy.

[Clearfield Job Corps Center Automotive students talk about the green skills they are learning.](#)

[A San Diego Job Corps Center Automotive instructor and student talk about the importance of using the latest green technology for training.](#)

To see more photos from **The "Drive" for Success**, please [click here](#).

Please send photos of students and staff to ojc.arra@dol.gov, or upload them to GreenSnap at www.greensnap.org. These photos may be featured in an upcoming e-newsletter.

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.