

Happenings and Highlights

April 2010

A publication of Workforce Solutions
of West Central Texas

Special thanks to all Board members
during National Volunteer Month

YTD Highlights

(Oct – Sep)

February

1,958 Employers Served
25,925 Job Seekers Served
13,949 Job seekers obtained
employment (80.63%)
1,837 Children in care daily
average (210 funded with
ARRA)

*New methodology - rolling
measures vs. year-to-date

Updates. . .

- ◆ The annual Hot Dog I Got a Job Youth Job Fair is Thursday, April 8 from 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Abilene Civic Center. Our employer participation is lower this year, but we anticipate a lot of interest from youth.
- ◆ We will have another summer youth program this year with a few modifications. Youth must be 16 – 24 years old, from low-income families and interested in working. The program will be 100% work activities with private or public employers. Check out the website around mid-April if you interested in providing a quality work opportunity or feel free to share with families or youth who are looking for a summer job.
- ◆ Congratulations to Genesis Networks Solutions who will receive approximately \$100,000 in layoff aversion assistance from the Board. Training resulting from this grant will allow the company to retain jobs and increase wages. Workforce Investment Fund dollars are being used to support this project.
- ◆ The Board is a co-sponsor of the third annual Springboard Ideas Challenge. This year's mini-business plan competition was open to the entire community and has been expanded to include an elevator pitch contest. Next year, we hope to partner with the ACU College of Business to expand access to residents of our entire 19 county region.
- ◆ The South Plains workforce board has invited other boards in the Rural Workforce Network to participate in the South Plains Recruitment and Reemployment Project. This innovative project assists in the recruitment and relocation of unemployed workers from areas/states with high unemployment for hard-to-fill jobs in our communities. There is no cost to participating workers or businesses.
- ◆ If you have a question, announcement or idea to share, please contact Mary Ross at 325-795-4301 or e-mail at mary.ross@workforcesystem.org.

April

- 1 – Emergency Board meeting, 10 a.m.
Merkel High Career Day
- 8 - Hot Dog I Got a Job youth job fair from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. at Abilene Civic Ctr.
- 10 – Caregiver appreciation day from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Festival Gardens at Nelson Park.
- 12 - Regional alternative energy consortium mtg, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Abilene WFC, Taylor Room.
- 21 – Executive Committee meeting, 10:30 a.m., Abilene WFC, Stephens Room on 4th floor.
Regular Board meeting, Noon, Abilene WFC, Taylor Rm.
- 24 – PALS conference – Career Pathways presentation, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Howard Payne University, Brownwood
Springboard Ideas Challenge – Awards dinner, Abilene Christian University, Hunter Welcome Center

May

- 7 – Career Day, 8:30 – 11 a.m., Sweetwater HS gym.

Got a Question about . . .

- South Plains Recruitment and Reemployment Project, contact Robert Puls at 325-795-4302 or via e-mail at: robert.puls@workforcesystem.org.

Boardconnect

JANA FLOYD

Name, Title, Organization: Jana Floyd/Area Account Executive/Personnel Services

Career highlights: Current SHRM Texas State Council District Director for Brownwood and Stephenville Chapters and board service with Workforce Solutions of West Central Texas

What I like best about my job: The personal and professional relationships, friendships and bonds that have developed from business interactions with customers.

If I ever snuck out of work early, I could probably be found: At home on Treadmill, at home floating in pool or playing golf

People would be surprised to know: I was a partner on a race horse two different seasons.

One thing I wish I understood better: Politics and politicians