

September 30, 2009

Session leader: Mike Senew

Topic: “Must start early” activities when planning a Brownfields job development and training program

NOTES FROM SESSION 12

Session 12 and subsequent sessions into December will focus on key elements supporting a sustainable Brownfields job development and training program. A tentative schedule of topics for upcoming PLC sessions appears below.

NOTE: The Brownfields PLC is currently meeting at 2-week intervals.

Start early in planning a job development program – Labor Market Assessments

- Search for existing labor market assessments from state department of labor or commerce.
- Fill in voids and customize your own labor market assessment specific to Brownfields and green jobs.
- Go further than the basic survey form. – Conduct one-on-one interviews –. This helps establish potential lists of employers, advisors and program contributors. One-on-one interviews will also assist in timing training cycles.

Community Involvement and Public meetings

- Conduct public announcements and meetings demonstrating the intent to start a job development program. Public meetings and announcements are a “before the fact” not “after the fact” event. Waiting before planning the program shuts out of many potential contributors and stakeholders.
- Presentations to community groups and governmental agencies announcing program plans can result in unanticipated support and resources as the program plan develops.
- Meetings announced with ads in community newspapers, church bulletins, and radio are often used by Brownfields job training programs. Make sure to document public hearings and community meetings.
- The job training presentation can be part of a larger community or stakeholder meeting. Public hearings associated with other Brownfields programs can be an excellent forum.

Rollout of the *Brownfields Toolbox*

The *Brownfields Toolbox* provides a centralized repository for Brownfields job development and training resources. PLC recordings, reference materials, and session notes can also be found at the site along with contributions provided by *Toolbox* users.

www.brownfields-toolbox.org

AGENDA for upcoming PLC sessions

- Wednesday, October 14, 1:00 – 1:30pm CDT: **Training Programs, Core Curriculum, and Certifications**
- Wednesday, October 28, 1:00 – 1:30pm CDT: **Student Services, Recruitment, and Placement**
- Wednesday, November 11, 1:00 – 1:30pm CST: **Community Involvement, Working with Employers**

- Wednesday, December 2, 1:00 – 1:30pm CST: **Health and Safety Training and Practices**
- Wednesday, December 16, 1:00 – 1:30pm CST: **Technical Resources and *Brownfields Toolbox Website Tour***

PLC GUIDELINES

- Limited to 30 minutes to put less burden on the members
- Work best as small groups
- Do not include EPA staff
- Include successful job training grantees and EPA staff as occasional guest speakers
- Gives members the opportunity to learn and share solutions to common problems in the development of job training programs.

Please take advantage of this opportunity. If you know of anyone who might benefit from participation in the PLC, please ask them to contact Mike Senew at msenew@aol.com or Glo Hanne at ghanne@eicc.edu.