



Dakota-Scott Counties Workforce Investment Board News and Notes July – Sept. 2006 Edition, Vol. 4-3

Mission: Providing comprehensive, professional, and timely services for jobseekers and employers.

Welcome to the Dakota-Scott Counties Workforce Investment Board's (WIB) News and Notes. This newsletter's purpose is to provide you with an update of workforce and economic development activities.

WIB Updates

- Friday, Oct. 13th – WIB Meeting – West. St. Paul
 - Tuesday, Oct. 17th - Get Jobs, Job Fair - Eagan
<http://www.mnwfc.org/Dakota/jobfair/index.htm>
 - Thursday, Nov. 9th – County-wide Business After Hours – Crystal Lake Golf Course (contact your local Chamber)
 - Friday, December 8 – WIB Legislative Event and Awards Banquet – West St. Paul
 - Thursday, January 11, 2007 – January Jump Start – West St. Paul
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Burnsville WorkForce Center Open House

The Burnsville WorkForce Center held an Open House September 12th. Speakers included LaDonna Boyd, Workforce Investment Board Chair; Ward Einess, Acting Commissioner, Department of Employment and Economic Development; and Elizabeth Kautz, Burnsville Mayor. Approximately 100 people attended. The Burnsville WFC opened for business on June 5. In August, there were nearly 2,400 visitors to the Center's Resource Room. www.mnwfc.org/Dakota



Getting together at the WorkForce Center Open House were (l to r): Burnsville Mayor, Elizabeth Kautz; Dakota County Commissioners Will Branning, Tom Egan and Mike Turner; and WIB Chair, LaDonna Boyd

August Unemployment Rate 3.1 % in Dakota; 2.7% in Scott

The August unemployment rate (unadjusted) was 3.3% for the state and 4.6% nationally.

<http://www.deed.state.mn.us/lmi/tools/laus/display.asp?geog=2704>

Unemployed?

You may be eligible for the Dislocated Worker program.
<http://www.mnwfc.org/Dakota/dwprogram/index.htm>

WIB Receives “Best Practice” Award

“January Jump Start” received one of three “Best Practice” Awards at the 2006 Minnesota Workforce Council Association conference.

http://www.mncounties3.org/mwca/workforce_system.htm

Help for Businesses - BizNice

Looking for a “tool that will help businesses navigate state permitting, licensing and regulatory requirements.” Check out BizNice. Steve Sussman - 651-297-1164

steve.sussman@state.mn.us

<http://www.deed.state.mn.us/bizdev/biznice.htm>

For Youth - The Zone

The Zone is a special space in the WorkForce Centers in Dakota County and is also a web site

www.mnwfc.org/Dakota/zone/index.htm where young people can find advice about achieving their educational and employment goals. The Zone is overseen by the Dakota-Scott Counties Youth Council.

The Great North Alliance

Doug Petty, Great North Alliance, was the featured speaker at a recent WIB meeting. Petty's web site is www.thegreatnorth.com. Two of the group's valuable publications are the “Opportunity Forecast” and the “Great North Alliance Update.”

Hot Topics - Eye on the Future

Each WIB meeting features an “Eye on the Future” topic featuring a look at hot topics related to workforce and economic development.

Recent presentations are available on-line at

<http://www.mnwfc.org/Dakota/wib/eyeonthefuture.htm>

and include: What Should Keep You Up at Night; City of Burnsville - Development; Comprehensive Housing Needs Assessment of Dakota County; and Demography is Not Destiny.

Fascinating Presentations Available

Looking for presentations for your civic group? The WIB has a 5-minute video focused on employer services as well as a powerpoint presentation on “Dakota - Scott - A

Snapshot of the Private Sector Economy of Dakota and
Scott Counties.” Call 651-554-5633 for more information.