



**ITEMS OF NOTE** -- August 2008

Submitted by: Greta Suda, Chair, Maricopa Workforce Connections Advocacy Task Force  
Assistant General Manager, Jobing.com

On behalf of:

Katharine Levandowsky, co-chair  
Administrator, Arizona Dept. of Economic Security Rehabilitation Administration  
Tina Huff, Executive Director Human Resources, Pro's Ranch Markets  
Karen Poole, Associate Director, Center for Workforce Development, Maricopa  
Community Colleges

**FACTS AND FIGURES**

MWC surpassed its goal of enrolling 4,000 qualified adult and dislocated workers in Workforce Investment Act during program year 2007-08, which closed on June 20, 2008 – it enrolled 4,333! This total includes WIA enrollment of 1,334 dislocated workers – individuals who lost their job due to facility closings or layoffs, separated veterans, or homemakers returning to the workforce.

In addition, nearly 400 youth (16-21 years) were enrolled in WIA and Job Readiness Workshop attendance surpassed 11,000!

**NEWS & MEDIA**

**Working with State and Local Organizations**



The Rotary Vocational Fund of Arizona — <http://www.trvfa.org/>  
MWC has formalized a relationship with The Rotary Vocational Fund of Arizona (TRVFA) to share the cost of financing vocational training of WIA recipients. Because TRVFA and WIA eligibility requirements are similar it is hoped that MWC candidates, and TRVFA, will benefit from this newly established community relationship.

The Rotary Vocational Fund of Arizona (TRVFA) is a non-profit organization, whose purpose is to assist people who qualify to obtain financial assistance to further their vocational studies. The Fund is used to provide scholarships up to \$2,000 to pursue job/vocational skill attainment.

The Rotary is expanding the MWC initiated relationship to all One-Stops in the state to improve the distribution its Vocational Fund scholarships.



Open Table — <http://dreamlifeline.com/>  
MWC formalized a collaborative partnership with Open Table, a faith-based program with a focus on ending homelessness.

Open Table members, members of local congregations, work with an individual or family to develop a step-by-step economic stability and wholeness plan. Goals are attained through an ongoing management process, as well as by drawing on resources from the congregation, personal networks and solutions already created by other Open Table groups, such as MWC.

This will be a long-term working relationship helping MWC/WDD directly matching our mission of helping people secure viable employment!

**MISSION STATEMENT**

Maricopa Workforce Connection's mission is to promote and facilitate strategic alliances among public and private stakeholders within the Maricopa County area to ensure workforce excellence and contribute to the economic vitality for area employers, incumbent workers and future workers. Funding for MWC services to local businesses and job seekers is primarily from WIA federal pass through dollars.

(more)

## NEWS & MEDIA, cont.

The Maricopa County Board of Supervisors appointed 6 new private-industry members to the Maricopa Workforce Connections Workforce Investment Board. New appointments represent the automotive, construction, hi-tech, aerospace technologies, and job training and placement industries. MWC is an industry led board with 51% private-industry representation with the remaining 49% of representatives from economic development, community-based organizations and government. MWC Board members serve 2-year terms.

### Newly appointed MWC board members from the private sector include:

1. Vania Black, Vice President of Organizational Development, Televerde
2. Danny Guido, Owner and Chief Executive Officer, Tony's Service Center
3. Tony Abraham, Director of Human Resources, Modern Industries, Inc.
4. Kelsie McClendon, Human Resources Manager, Rummel Construction
5. Dean Wine, Business Manager and Financial Secretary, IBEW Local 640
6. Ben Candler, Manager, Intellichoice Financial Services

Additional details is available online at: <http://maricopaworks.staging.hsd.maricopa.gov/Press%20Releases/070808%20MWC%20New%20Board%20Appointments%20070108.pdf>

## PARTNER ITEMS

**Local Community Colleges Aid Job Seekers in Determining Careers** — Maricopa County Community College District (MCCCD) Workforce Development/Public Workforce System Team, proud partners in the local workforce investment areas, presented 143 workshops for more than 1,100 attendees in FY 2007-08. MCCCD staff present individual and workshop-based career services at all Maricopa Workforce Connections and Phoenix Workforce Connection comprehensive One-Stops. MCCCD Managers of Career Services are on-site experts providing career counseling and academic advising for the breadth of certificate and degree programs offered at the ten colleges and two skill centers comprising MCCCD.

### *Dream It! Do It! – Local Collaboration to Spotlight Manufacturing Careers*

MCCCD and the Arizona Manufacturers Council are sponsors of the Greater Phoenix *Dream It! Do It!* campaign -- a local adaptation of a national effort. The program is designed to provide the region's manufacturing community with ongoing access to adequate, skilled workforce necessary to successfully compete in a global business environment. *Dream it! Do It!* will accomplish this by reinventing the face of manufacturing as a viable, cutting-edge career choice for young people between 16 and 26 years. The Greater Phoenix campaign is scheduled to launch the spring of 2009 with the collaborative assistance from MWC, PWC, local Chambers, State offices and media outlets.

## EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

**Exchange insights with Maricopa Workforce Connections Board** — The MWC Board focuses on increasing the wealth of individuals, businesses, and the community by identifying labor market needs to develop effective, innovative responses to meet industry demands. Bi-monthly meetings are scheduled at various locations in the valley. Please contact Patrick Burkhardt, Assistant Director, Maricopa County Human Services Department (Phone: 602-506-4146 or [burkhartp@mail.maricopa.gov](mailto:burkhartp@mail.maricopa.gov)) to discuss opportunities to address the MWC Board.

*MWC participates in local job fairs by helping to recruit businesses with openings and reviewing resumes for job seekers. Upcoming workforce Development events in Maricopa County include:*

### *Aug. 22*

Maricopa Workforce Connections/Phoenix Workforce Connection Joint Meeting

### *September 24*

East Valley Career Expo ([www.azjobfair.com](http://www.azjobfair.com)) in partnership with Arizona Employer's Advisory Council and Jobing.com

### *October 2*

Recruit Military Job Fair



*WA Funding Fuels Grassroots Economic Growth*

### **Gilbert Career Center**

735 N. Gilbert Road, Ste. 134

Gilbert, AZ 85234

Tel: 480/497-0350

TTY: 480/632-1910

### **West Valley Career Center**

1840 N. 95th Ave., Ste. 160

Phoenix, AZ 85037

Tel: 602/372-4200

TTY: 602/372-4261

*Please visit the valley's 2 MWC Career Centers. We'd enjoy showing you what we do!*