

MASSACHUSETTS

Workforce Investment Act

WIA Communication No. 05-87

Policy Information

To: Chief Elected Officials
Workforce Investment Board Chairs
Workforce Investment Board Directors
Title I Administrators
Career Center Directors
Title I Fiscal Officers
DCS Regional Directors for Workforce Integration
DCS Associate Directors
DCS Field Managers

cc: WIA State Partners

From: Susan V. Lawler, Director
Division of Career Services

Jonathan Raymond, President
Commonwealth Corporation

Date: December 14, 2005

Subject: WIA-DYS Promising Practices Forum

Purpose: To inform Local Workforce Investment Boards, One-Stop Career Center Operators and local workforce investment partners of an upcoming forum for policymakers, managers, and practitioners working with Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Title I eligible youth. This forum will be held on Tuesday, January 10, 2006 from 9:30 to 12:00 at the College of the Holy Cross (Hogan Center) in Worcester (directions are attached). The event will focus on “promising” practices that have been followed by a number of Massachusetts’ practitioners to successfully connect youth involved with the Department of Youth Service (DYS) to the workforce development system.

Background: In July, 2004, the U. S. Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration (ETA) released Training & Employment Guidance Letter 3-04 outlining ETA’s “New Vision for the Delivery of Services under the Workforce Investment Act.” To achieve its vision, ETA adopted a new strategic approach to serving “the neediest youth”. Youth who are in the custody of the Department of Youth Services are considered to be some of the most seriously “at-risk” youth.

This population requires a unique set of services and interventions in order to support their success in Title I WIA youth services.

In its continuing effort to assist local practitioners to implement this “new vision” Commonwealth Corporation is sponsoring the promising practices forum. The forum agenda will focus on the creation of stronger DYS/WIA connections leading to the ultimate goal of improving the educational and workforce outcomes for DYS involved youth. The forum will highlight WIA-funded programs in Massachusetts that have achieved success in working with this “neediest” of populations.

Action

Required: Please share this information with all appropriate staff. Those interested in attending should RSVP to Prudence Tegha at Ptegha@commcorp.org or 617-727-8158 no later than January 4, 2006.

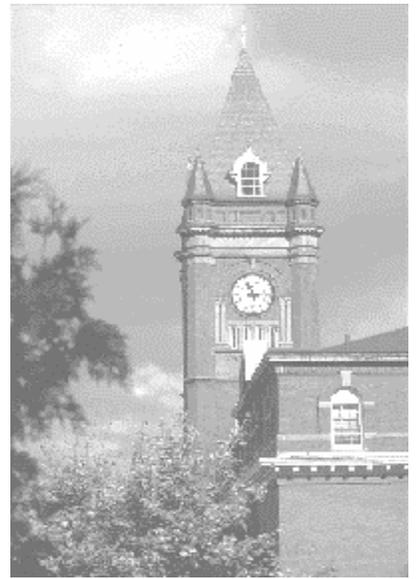
In case of poor weather, attendees are asked to call the Commonwealth Corporation hotline after 6 a.m. on the day of the event at 1-800-307-0760 or the regular telephone number 617-727-8158 using extension 2314. A voice message will provide information on meeting cancellations (no voice message indicates the meeting remains scheduled.)

Inquiries: Please direct all questions to Florrie Reddish at Freddish@commcorp.org or 617-727-8158.

Filing: Please file this in your notebook of previously issued WIA Communication Series Issuances as #05-87.

Directions to the

College of the Holy Cross



From Boston, Hartford and New York

Massachusetts Turnpike Route 90.

Take Exit #10 to Route 290 East toward Worcester. Take Exit 11 (College Square/Southbridge Street) off 290.

Cross over to the right lane immediately after coming off the ramp to College Square.

Take the first sharp right (**before** the traffic light and entrance to 290 East) onto College Street.

Go up to the top of the hill and enter at the last gate on the left which is Gate 7.

The Hogan Campus Center is the second building on the left with the large silver cross on it.

Visitor parking is to the right of the Campus Center.

From the North

Route 495 South to Route 290 West, Exit 25B.

From Route 290 West take Exit 11 to College Square, Southbridge Street. Bear left coming off the ramp toward College Square.

Take the first sharp right (**before** the traffic light and entrance to 290 East) onto College Street.

Go up to the top of the hill and enter at the last gate on the left which is Gate 7.

The Hogan Campus Center is the second building on the left with the large silver cross on it.

Visitor parking is to the right of the Campus Center.

From Providence, Rhode Island

Route 146 North to Auburn.

Route 20 West to Route 290 East to Worcester.

Take Exit 11 (College Square/Southbridge Street) off 290.

Cross over to the right lane immediately after coming off the ramp to College Square.

Take the first sharp right (**before** the traffic light and entrance to 290 East) onto College Street.

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