

Mass Workforce Issuance

Workforce Issuance No. 10-60

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 Managers

cc: WIA State Partners

From: Michael Taylor, Director
Department of Workforce Development

Nancy Snyder, President
Commonwealth Corporation

Date: June 24, 2010

Subject: **Massachusetts 2009 Summer Youth Employment Report**

Purpose: To transmit to Local Workforce Investment Boards, Youth Councils, One-Stop Career Center Operators and other local workforce investment partners notice of the publications of the Massachusetts 2009 Summer Youth Employment Report.

Background: The Massachusetts 2009 Summer Youth Employment Report (Attachment A) documents the Summer Youth Employment Program that operated in Massachusetts during the summer of 2009. In contrast to prior summer employment efforts, the 2009 summer program was bolstered by the infusion of additional Recovery Act funds specifically targeted for youth employment. The additional funds resulted in a significant increase in the number of youth who were able to benefit from summer employment despite the continuing weakness of the state's economy.

Commonwealth Corporation, on behalf of the Massachusetts Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development, worked with local workforce investment boards and their youth councils, together with SYEP program operators and subcontractors to quickly ramp-up a significantly larger scale summer program due to the added Recovery Act funding. All partners worked in concert to support the implementation of a high-value summer program that offered quality work experience for all participating youth.

Highlights of the report include:

- Performance outcomes indicate 85% of participants achieved the work readiness measure under the Recovery Act
- Surveys of youth participants demonstrate a high level of satisfaction with the program (greater than 90%)
- The report summarizes the terms and types of employment options in Massachusetts during the 2009 SYEP
- The report profiles participant ethnicity by funding sources (ARRA, WIA, Youth Works)
- The report outlines characteristics of Recovery Act participants by Local Workforce region
- A “2009 at-a-Glance” review summarizes outcomes and suggested improvements
- A readiness checklist is provided for consideration in developing the local FY 2010 SYEP
- Several local vendor programs are specifically featured

Action

Required: Please share the report with LWIB staff; the local Youth Council; appropriate One-Stop Career Center and program vendor staff and other local youth practitioners and interested parties.

Inquiries: All inquiries regarding the content of this issuance should be addressed to Samuel Martin: Smartin@commcorp.org or 617-717-6918.