



PORTLAND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY INITIATIVE REPORT CARD – FALL 2008

The first 3-year graduating class surpassed its goals. The goal was a 25% income increase. Most micro enterprises more than tripled gross sales. Most workers moved from no income or minimum wage to a living wage.

This City-wide economic prosperity program is designed to significantly increase the incomes of very low-income residents. Thirty-four community-based projects provide holistic support and customized career and micro enterprise development services to each participant for three years. Participants are grouped by common backgrounds and career goals and provide peer support to each other. Income or business revenue is measured quarterly. Project staff meet frequently to share strategies and address resource gaps and common training needs.



TOTAL INITIATIVE DEMOGRAPHICS

Number of Participants	2199
• Micro Enterprises (5 or fewer employees)	506
• Workforce Development Participants	1693
• People of Color	51%
• Participants enter below Federal Poverty line	80%
• Participants enter below 50% of Median Income	100%
Total Projects	34
• Culturally Specific Projects	12

This program is primarily funded by the City of Portland and the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Other key resources are provided by the NW Area Foundation, the Kaiser Fund of the NW Health Foundation, Worksource Oregon and United Way of the Columbia-Willamette.

REPORT CARD – FALL 2008

In 2008, 201 people successfully graduated from the three year program.

This is 83% of the goal for the first class.

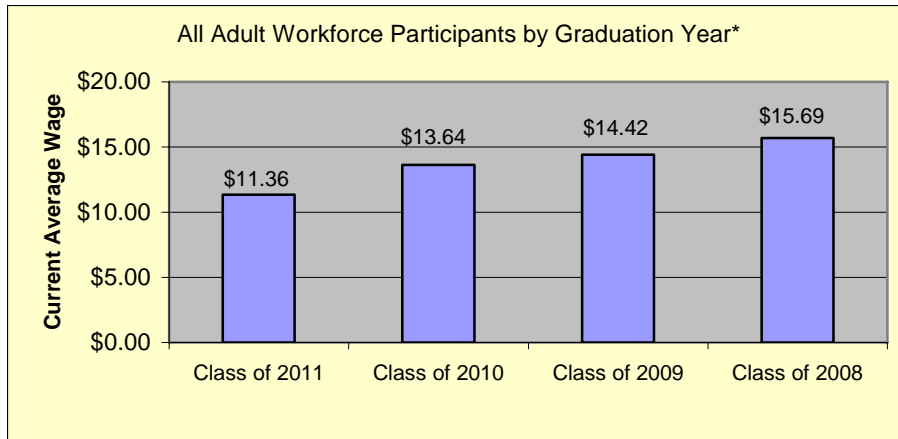
In 2009, 421 successful graduates are anticipated.

79 Adult Workforce Graduates:

78% entered without a job

48% now earn more than \$16/hour

Wages grew 50% from first job placement

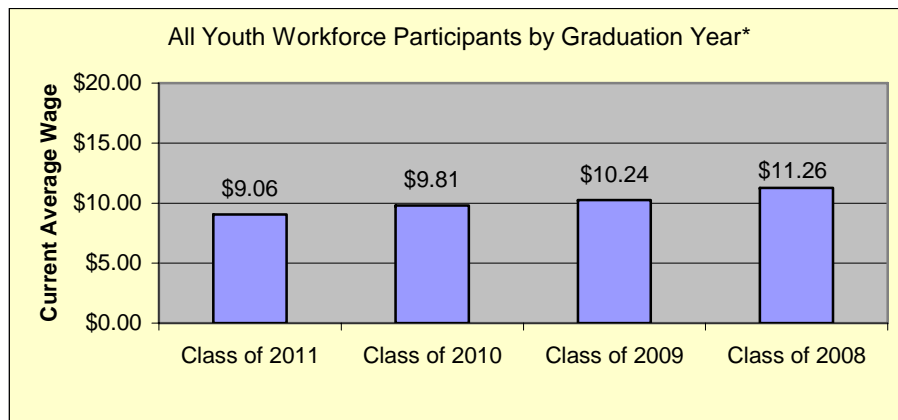


45 Youth (18-25) Workforce Graduates:

66% entered without a job

51% now earn more than \$10/hour

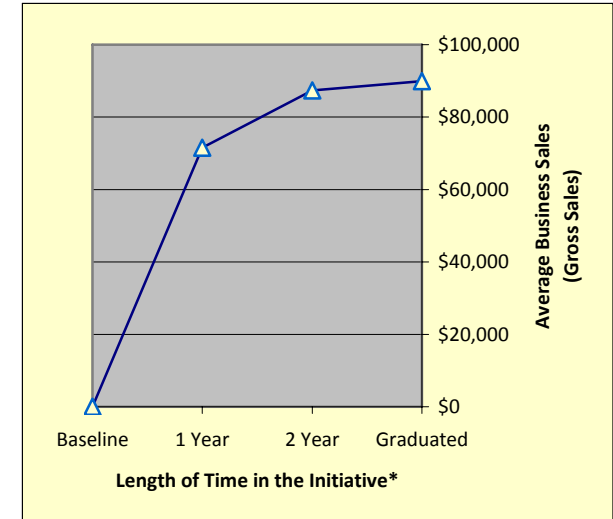
Wages grew 24% from first job placement



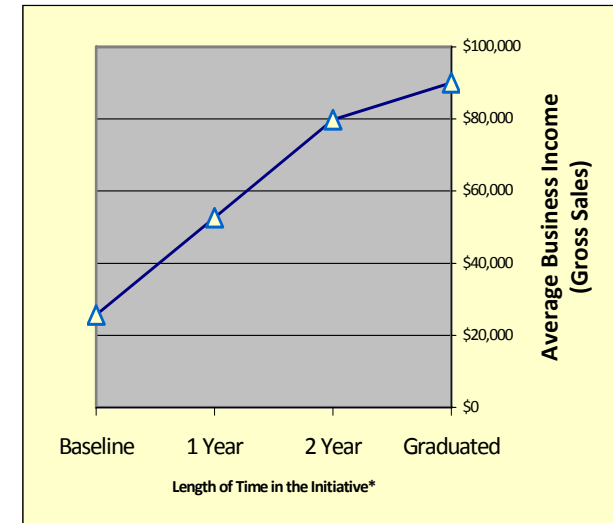
*Charts represent 4 separate cohorts (2004-2008) as of July, 2008.

Micro Enterprise Graduates:

After one year in business, 30 *startup* micro enterprises averaged \$71,000 in gross sales, which then grew by 26%.



On average, 47 *existing* micro enterprises more than tripled their gross sales (251%).



*Charts represent 1 cohort (2004-2005) as of July, 2008.