

**Portland Development Commission**  
**Economic Opportunity Grantees, 2011-12** (July 1, 2011)

## Micro-enterprise Projects

### **BUSINESS OUTREACH PROJECT, *Portland State University***

The Business Outreach Project, drawing on the resources of Portland State University's Business School, provides mentoring, and business assistance to small businesses primarily in North and Northeast Portland.

### **CHILD CARE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT, *Neighborhood House***

The Child Care Improvement Project provides culturally diverse networks of home-based childcare providers with business planning, training, technical assistance, marketing support, access to group rates for business supplies and other supports. A program quality assurance system based on national standards and individualized improvement plans provides parent security and a business marketing edge.

### **ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROJECT, *Mercy Corps NW***

The Mercy Corps NW Entrepreneurship Project provides business development services to traditionally underserved populations through a business training curriculum, individual development accounts, individualized support and access to capital.

### **MICRO ENTERPRISE SERVICES OF OREGON (MESO)**

Micro Enterprise Services of Oregon provides support to small businesses throughout Portland, including business planning, marketing, training and technical assistance, and access to grants and loans. They tailor their hands on approach to the personality, current needs, and stage of each business.

### **METROPOLITAN CONTRACTOR IMPROVEMENT PARTNERSHIP (MCIP), *National Assoc. of Minority Contractors***

Business education, coaching and technical training for historically disadvantaged construction firms. Assistance with bids and working capital, links to work opportunities and other support services.

### **SMALL BUSINESS SUPPORT PROJECT, *Hispanic Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce***

The Hispanic Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce's Small Business Support project assists low-income Latino entrepreneurs with business planning, technical assistance, training, access to capital, life skills training, peer support, business ESL and case management.

### **TRILLIUM ARTISANS PROJECT, *Trillium Artisans***

Trillium Artisans supports local craftspeople that create with recycled and reclaimed materials. The project provides business assistance, access to markets, peer networking, and skills development to its members.

## Adult Workforce Projects

### **ACCESS TO BUILDING TRADES AND CUSTOMER SERVICE OCCUPATIONS PROJECT, *Central City Concern***

ABTCO serves formerly homeless individuals, who have multiple employment barriers, with long-term intensive support, employment placement and advancement assistance, and supplementary support services.

### **GROWTH INDUSTRY TRAINING INITIATIVE (GITI), *Central City Concern***

Central City Concern's GITI project provides housing-focused job coaching for formerly homeless men with training, employer linkages and intensive job search and retention support combined with Moral Recognition Therapy in two housing units.

### **HOMELESS EMPLOYMENT & SUPPORT PROJECT (CHES), *Central City Concern & JOIN***

Supported employment project including case-management, job preparation and linkage, retention and advancement support. with chronically homeless adults, many of whom have criminal, substance abuse and mental health barriers.

### **PACE PROJECT, *Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization (IRCO)***

The IRCO PACE project serves refugees and immigrants with limited English. It provides language and skills assessment, counseling, preparation for the US workplace, pre-vocational and vocational training, placement, retention and advancement services with employer partners primarily in the health care & metals industries.

### **EX-OFFENDER EMPLOYMENT PROJECT, *Irvington Covenant CDC***

Irvington Covenant CDC's Ex-Offender Employment Project provides ex-offenders with case management, life skills training, employment training, job placement and retention support within the construction industry.

### **PORTLAND TRADES AND APPRENTICESHIP CAREERS FOR WOMEN PROJECT, *Oregon Tradeswomen***

Oregon Tradeswomen's PTACW project provides low-income women with career counseling, academic skill training, and work experience leading to placement into an apprenticeship and advancement in the construction trades.

### **VOCATIONAL ESL-METALS & HEALTH CARE TRAINING (VESEL), *Mt. Hood Community College***

Technical skills training, ESL, American workplace orientation and immigrant transition assistance are provided together preparing welders and other metal workers, Certified Nursing Assistance Training and other health occupations training, placement, retention and advancement support.

## Adult Workforce Projects

### **PRISONER RE-ENTRY EMPLOYMENT PROJECT (PREP), SE Works**

Pre-release planning for state correctional inmates with post-release job training, placement, retention, support services and housing assistance in collaboration with Multnomah Co. Corrections and HAP

### **IMMIGRANT CREDENTIALING PROJECT, SE Works**

The Immigrant Credentialing project offers immigrants with professional backgrounds work-oriented ESL, job training required for equivalent U.S. professions, orientation to the U.S. workplace, and assistance establishing professional certifications.

### **PEER SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT PROJECT, Human Solutions**

The Peer Supported Employment project serves Russian-speaking immigrants who live in Human Solutions housing, with cultural workplace skills, ESL, job training, placement, and retention with committed employers.

### **SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPING & ENERGY EFFICIENCY, Verde**

Verde is a social venture providing "green jobs" doing sustainable landscaping, development of a nursery business and training and placement in energy efficiency jobs that provides living wage jobs with benefits to primarily Spanish speaking workers.

## Youth Workforce Projects

### **YOUTH TRANSITIONS PROJECT, Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization (IRCO)**

The Youth Transitions project provides career planning, job placement, retention, advancement, and support in transition to post secondary education and occupational skills training.

### **NATIVE AMERICAN YOUTH EMPLOYMENT SERVICE, Native American Youth and Family Center (NAYA)**

The NAYES project provides Native American youth with personal support, cultural life skills training, job skills training, internships, community service opportunities, job placement, retention, and advancement support.

### **PROMOTING AVENUES TO EMPLOYMENT (PAVE), New Avenues for Youth**

The PAVE project trains homeless youth in one of two employer-designed curricula featuring customized training and employer-hiring commitments in hospitality and business services with job placement, retention, and career advancement.

### **RETAIL INDUSTRY SALES EXPOSURE (RISE), New Avenues for Youth**

The RISE project works with youth in N/NE Portland to develop long-term career goals and skills, and supports their entry into and advancement in the retail industry with multiple employer partners. Nike is the lead employer partner.

### **TRANSITIONS TO CAREERS PROJECT, Open Meadow Alternative School**

The Transitions Project provides former high-school dropouts with long-term mentoring, personal, academic and career assistance and high school completion assistance. Job training and placement may be tailored to specific employers or specific industries, individualized career plans often include simultaneous work and college with support in both arenas.

### **HOMELESS YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROJECT, Outside In**

The Homeless Youth Employment project prepares youth for work experience at Virginia Woof dog day care center and builds homeless youths' job skills and experience that lead to placement with committed employers in pet care and related fields.

### **CAREER OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH PROJECT, Portland Opportunities Industrialization Center**

The COFY Project provides at-risk youth with employer-based training and certification in the coffee industry and support with career planning and transition into post-secondary education and occupational skills training.

### **YOUTH EMPLOYMENT EMPOWERMENT PROJECT, Portland Opportunities Industrialization Center**

The YEPP project provides at-risk youth with work readiness training, job placement, and transition into post-secondary education and occupational skills training. Current major focus is development of a Natural Resources pathway for youth with major employer partners such as the U.S. & State Forest Service, several Parks Departments and Bureau of Land Management.

### **GRADUATE SUPPORT PROJECT, Portland Youthbuilders**

The Graduate Support Project provides work readiness training, intensive mentoring and ongoing career guidance for graduates of Portland Youthbuilders who are placed in construction trades

### **YOUTH TRANSITIONS PROJECT, SE Works**

A post GED completion program, Youth Transitions provides career planning, job placement and personal support during post-secondary education and/or occupational skills training, retention & advancement.

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