

Long Island LWIB Regional Plan

PROGRAM YEAR 2013

REVISED 8/9/13



Narrative

1. Describe the progress that has been made on the action steps you outlined in support of REDC strategic goals and priorities in your 2012 Regional Plan.

The primary deliverable stated in the 2012 LWIB Regional Plan for the Long Island Region was to train a cohort of 114 residents and to place 57 of that group through a coordinated regional project. This regional initiative, which is entitled the “Long Island Business and Workforce Investment Project,” is funded under a Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) Grant awarded to the Town of Hempstead Department of Occupational Resources (DOOR) on behalf of the three LWIBs, including the Oyster Bay Consortium LWIB, Hempstead/Long Beach LWIB and Suffolk County LWIB. It consists of two major components, targeted and general training. The targeted training has been implemented in two phases to date. Phase one is a Health Care Information Technology course provided by Hofstra University. Phase two is a Paralegal course, also provided by Hofstra. Under the general component, we are conducting a variety of training programs related to multiple demand occupations, including soft skills training. At the halfway point of implementation, the project has already exceeded its benchmark goals for training and employment, as illustrated in the table below:

| Benchmark | Goal | Actual |
|---|------|--------|
| Low Income and Dislocated Individuals Who Have Completed Training | 114 | 174 |
| Low Income and Dislocated Individuals Who Have Entered Employment | 57 | 61 |

In addition, since September 2010 the LWIBs have benefitted from a five year \$5,098,718 Project School grant to provide TANF recipients and low income workers training and employment opportunities in the health care industry on Long Island. The program is a comprehensive, seamless, user-friendly service delivery module that addresses a shortage of skilled health care workers in the Long Island region. In the first two years of Project School, 406 individuals have completed training and 177 have found employment. Of those employed individuals 75% found employment in the health field.

2. Using labor market information provided through NYSDOL, identify the worker skills commensurate with your REDC’s target sectors.

REDC Strategic Plans can be found at <http://regionalcouncils.ny.gov/> under the “Regional Councils” button.

In its Five-Year Strategic Plan, the LIREDC stated that “The region’s commitment to education and workforce development, particularly in the STEM areas—Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics—will be critical if we are to seize the opportunities in growth sectors, such as green energy and the life sciences. Our STEM focus also will strengthen our information technology and advanced manufacturing sectors, which are essential to both

nascent and established industry clusters.¹ Appendix I to this Plan describes the skills commensurate with the LIREDC's targeted sectors, based upon information provided by the NYSDOL Division of Research and Statistics. In addition, a priority ranked list of demand occupations for the Long Island Region, which includes Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) codes and job titles is posted under the following link:

<http://www.labor.ny.gov/workforcenypartners/lwia/local-plan-overview.shtm>.

3. Describe how the Regional Business Services Teams have been deployed to effectively broker the region's demand and supply for skilled workers in REDC target sectors.

The LWIBs participate on the Long Island Business Services Team by contributing to the Team's planning and marketing activities. They broker the region's demand and supply for skilled workers in REDC target sectors through job matching, marketing of On-The-Job Training (OJT) to businesses and jobseekers, and development of special state initiatives, as required, such as New York Youth Works, Summer Jobs Express, etc. Our Business Services Team has arranged several targeted job fairs in the health care industry specifically geared for the Project School participants. Other job seekers are also encouraged to attend the job fairs. Seventeen health care employers attended the most recent event and they are currently interviewing many of the attendees.

4. Identify existing resources to be utilized region-wide to help businesses and job seekers acquire occupational skills necessary to support REDC target sectors.

Examples may include: align approval of Eligible Training Providers so that skills upgrading and training capacity can be viewed regionally (rather than locally); align procurement of youth services under the Workforce Investment Act with needs identified by the REDC; and align Individual Training Account policy across LWIAs within the region regarding amount, target sectors and/or skills.

During the development of the Long Island Regional Economic Development Council's Strategic Plan, the Connect Long Island Partnership, facilitated by the Long Island Forum for Technology and led by the three Long Island local workforce investment boards (LWIBS), consolidated eight (8) separate organizational proposals under the Workforce Innovation Network (WIN) Proposal. The Long Island Business and Workforce Investment Project (LIBWIP) was among the proposals included in the WIN Proposal that was ultimately included in the LIREDC Plan. Moving forward, the LWIBs intend to continue to coordinate their local One-Stop systems, Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Title I-B Programs and the Long Island Business and Workforce Investment Project with the WIN organizations to help businesses and job seekers acquire occupational skills necessary to support REDC target sectors. The LWIBs will also continue to coordinate sectoral initiatives with local education and training institutions. For example, for the sector of Green Technologies, the LWIBs are coordinating activities with Farmingdale State College, which has a Renewable Energy and Sustainability Center. The college recently presented its annual International Energy and Sustainability

¹ <http://regionalcouncils.ny.gov/content/regional-economic-development-council-final-five-year-strategic-plans-2012-2016>.

Conference. In addition, New York Institute of Technology places a major emphasis on teaching sustainability. They also hold an Energy conference every year, and they operate a Center for Metropolitan Sustainability. Green academic programs are conducted at both schools under LWIB-funded contracts, including courses such as Sustainable Building Advisor Certificate and Green Facilities Management.

The Long Island Opportunity Agenda Overview indicates that “The combined expertise of the work group participants, particularly in the areas of education and workforce training, will help the region identify unmet needs and new opportunities.²” As engaged members of the Workforce and Education Workgroup, the LWIBs contribute their expertise and work to ensure alignment and coordination of REDC workforce initiatives. Under the Opportunity Agenda project, Wyandanch Rising, the REDC has identified “expanded person-based initiatives such as education, workforce training,³” as part of its three-pronged approach. Working under the auspices of the LWIBs, the Long Island One-Stop Career Centers currently offer many services that fulfill the requirements of these initiatives.

5. Describe how the business memberships of the region’s LWIBs have or are planned to be aligned with REDC target sectors and/or REDC members.

The LILWIBs’ membership currently includes individuals representing organizations aligned with the LIREDC’s target sectors, as well as LIREDC members. We will continue to pursue this alignment. As vacancies occur on the LWIBs, our Business Services Team will reach out to LIREDC’s targeted sectors to acquire new members.

² <http://regionalcouncils.ny.gov/assets/documents/regionalopportunities/longislandopportunityagenda.pdf>.

³ Ibid.