



JOB CORPS'

# R&R Field Report

Aiding in America's Recovery and Reinvesting in Our Future



## From the National Office of Job Corps

Dear Job Corps Staff,

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) initiatives continue to roll out, with construction projects, energy-efficiency programs and green technical training gaining momentum on centers nationwide.

At the National Office, we are excited about the progress we're making and need your help tracking and sharing our successes. If you have news or updates about green happenings or other ARRA-funded initiatives on your center, please send information to [OJC.ARRA@DOL.GOV](mailto:OJC.ARRA@DOL.GOV), or if you're an ARRA Regional monitor, upload photos to GreenSnap at [www.greensnap.org](http://www.greensnap.org).

I can't stress enough how important it is to be in constant communication with your regional contacts about any ARRA-related projects or initiatives happening on your center. This is an exciting time for Job Corps, and we need to spread the word as much as possible.

Sincerely,

Lynn A. Intrepidi  
Interim National Director

## ARRA E-newsletter Volume 2 – Training and Technology

### ARRA Training Conference

ARRA monitors from all six Job Corps regions met with National Office representatives last month at a two-day training conference in Austin, Texas, where they received instruction and information on Job Corps' ARRA projects and initiatives, and were trained to monitor funding and progress for these projects.

Monitors are tasked with reviewing ARRA-funded projects and equipment at each Job Corps center, and reporting information to the National Office. At the recent conference, ARRA monitors learned to fulfill these roles by simulating a monitoring site visit, logging time and data gathered on the ARRA tracking Web site, using reporting forms and systems, and becoming informed on guiding principles.

When your center is contacted, please be ready to help our monitors, and do your best to execute your ARRA projects as diligently and responsibly as you can.

### Center Spotlight: Paul Simon Chicago Job Corps Center



The Paul Simon Chicago  
Center BIONIC Committee.

The Paul Simon Chicago Job Corps Center has set an aggressive goal of cutting energy usage by 5 percent, and has created a special steering committee – the Believe It Or Not I Care (BIONIC) committee – to implement energy-saving programs.

Made up of various center leaders, including Student Government Association (SGA) representative Vasha Priester, the committee meets biweekly to prioritize its green initiatives and share updates on its four areas of focus – paper reduction, energy conservation, recycling and green education.

One of the committee's initial goals will be creating BIONIC Green Days, which will use energy-reduction competitions on campus as part of its green education and awareness initiative, all while bringing the center closer to its energy-reduction goal.

The BIONIC committee is a permanent fixture on the Paul Simon Chicago campus, according to center director Bryan Mason. "President Obama has made a commitment to energy conservation, and we completely support him," Mason said. "It's our job to be good stewards of our environment and to make the best of the resources we have."



## Electric and hybrid vehicles

In an effort to support green training programs and reduce emissions, Job Corps has allocated \$5 million of ARRA funds to purchase electric vehicles for center operations and hybrid vehicles for student training. These vehicles serve several key purposes:

- Reduce Job Corps' carbon footprint by replacing gasoline-based on-center miles with clean "electric miles."
- Provide students in Automotive career technical training (CTT) programs with hybrid vehicles for hands-on technical training in "green" vehicle technologies.
- Contribute to Job Corps' "green culture."
- Create a pilot program for best uses and practices.

Centers will receive funds to purchase electric vehicles by Dec. 31, 2009, from GSA Schedule vendors. In addition, centers with automotive CTT programs have the opportunity to acquire hybrid vehicles as student training aids.

[Click here](#) to learn more about electric vehicles from Bryan Mason, the center director at the Paul Simon Chicago Job Corps Center. The Paul Simon Chicago Job Corps Center will be adding three Polaris electric vehicles to its fleet for security monitoring on campus.

## New PCs

More than 4,500 new, energy-efficient, ARRA-funded computers have arrived on Job Corps centers so far. These computers are only part of the more than 11,028 PCs Job Corps has purchased with these funds, to replace older computer models. The new PCs meet Federal Desktop Core Configuration (FDCC) requirements and are compliant with the Energy Star and EPEAT requirements, which are more energy-efficient.

Please send photos of students using the new computers to [OJC.ARRA@DOL.GOV](mailto:OJC.ARRA@DOL.GOV), or if you're an ARRA Regional monitor, upload them to GreenSnap at [www.greensnap.org](http://www.greensnap.org). These photos may be featured in an upcoming e-newsletter.

[Hear from the SGA representative.](#)

[Click here](#) for a quick message from the BIONIC Committee.

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If you have news to share about your center and want to be featured in a center spotlight, please e-mail [OJC.ARRA@dol.gov](mailto:OJC.ARRA@dol.gov).