



JOB CORPS'

# R&R Field Report

Aiding in America's Recovery and Reinvesting in Our Future



ARRA E-newsletter Volume 8

## From the National Office of Job Corps

Dear Job Corps Staff,

As I mentioned in the last edition of the Job Corps R&R Field Report, last month marked the one-year anniversary of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. When President Obama signed the act into law on Feb. 17, 2009, it made \$787 billion available to fund a variety of programs and projects designed to put Americans to work.

Job Corps was appropriated \$250 million to invest in our infrastructure and modernize our training. We have made significant progress in the planning and execution of programs and projects that will bring short- and long-term benefits to Job Corps, our students and the communities in which we operate.

You will recall the main thrust of our efforts was to create jobs and stimulate the economy, and to realign our training toward new opportunities in green employment. As you read about several of our accomplishments and ongoing efforts, like green training opportunities, in the main article below, I hope you are as proud as I am to be a part of such an amazing program.

I appreciate everyone's continued enthusiasm and cooperation as we maintain focus on all ARRA-related initiatives. Specifically, I want to congratulate the *Earth Day Every Day* Center Recognition Award winners that were announced in late February. They are:

- Boston Region – Penobscot JCC
- Philadelphia Region – Muhlenberg JCC
- Atlanta Region – Brunswick JCC
- Dallas Region – Shreveport JCC
- Chicago Region – Paul Simon Chicago JCC
- San Francisco Region – Treasure Island JCC

The Muhlenberg Center deserves another round of applause for just recently being named the *Earth Day Every Day* National Center Recognition Award winner. We look forward to seeing students and staff from their center in D.C. next month for the *EDED* ceremonies and activities.

In closing, as I depart from the role of Interim National Director, I am proud to look back at all we have accomplished under the Recovery Act. This has been a unique time in our program's history to reshape our training, invest in our facilities, and aid in the recovery of the American economy. I know as we move forward you will continue the good work we have started, keeping service to our students in the forefront of your minds.

Sincerely,

Lynn A. Intrepidi  
Interim National Director

### Center Spotlight: Denison Job Corps Center



A few of Denison's Green Heroes display their recycling spirit.

The Denison Job Corps Center has generated so much attention for its commitment to recycling that a waste management association has requested to hold part of its statewide training meeting on center.

Members of the Iowa Society of Solid Waste Management will be at the Denison Job Corps Center on March 30 to learn more about the center's recycling efforts and to tour the facility.

The interest shows that "Be a Green Hero, Not a Green Zero," the newly adopted motto for its recycling program, is a lot more than a catchy phrase on a T-shirt – it's fast becoming a center philosophy that's being put into action and recognized within the community.

Students and staff members have been very busy over the past several months implementing programs and making the necessary changes to become a more environmentally conscious campus.

One recent major initiative was a centerwide competition aimed at increasing recycling and raising awareness among students and staff, who were divided into six teams of equal size.

Prior to the kickoff of the competition, the Denison Welding students retrofitted a large trailer into a recycling



## Job Corps and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act – Already a "NUMBER" of Accomplishments

- **\$211 million** has been allocated to more than **800 shovel-ready construction projects**, including **three** new dorms at the St. Louis Job Corps Center, **one** new dorm at Jacobs Creek Job Corps Center, the **construction** of the new Ottumwa Job Corps Center, and approximately **16 solar, wind and pellet technology projects** on centers such as the Westover Job Corps Center and the North Texas Job Corps Center.



Rendering of a dorm at the new Ottumwa Job Corps Center.

- Construction projects have commenced on more than **65** centers, helping to create and retain jobs.



- More than **100,000 Job Corps students** across the U.S. have been given the opportunity to participate in ARRA-funded activities, including Green Training initiatives, rehabilitation projects and centerwide green practices.

- **\$2,230,256** has been distributed to centers for more than **196 Green Supplemental CTST projects**, such as organic gardens, solar panels, wind turbines, and greenhouses that allow students additional experience and green training.



- More than **\$9 million** has been spent on realigning **76 Training Achievement Records**, which are providing students with hands-on training in green skills that will prepare them for jobs in the new green economy. [Learn more from a plumbing student at the San Diego Job Corps Center.](#)

- Approximately **\$7.8 million** has been used to replace older, less energy-efficient computers with **11,028 new PCs**, which meet Federal Desktop Core Configuration (FDCC) requirements and are compliant with the Energy Star and EPEAT requirements.



- **\$5 million** has been allocated for the purchase of electric and hybrid vehicles at **97 Job Corps centers** to replace gasoline-based fleet vehicles and to be used as student training aids.



center with three compartments: one for cardboard boxes, one for paper, and one for glass, metal and plastic.

Teams were encouraged to fill up at least one trash bag's worth of recyclables each week and bring them to a recycling trailer marked with their team's color-coded plastic tie. Each time the recycling trailer was emptied by the maintenance staff, the Denison JCC Impact Innovations Coordinator tallied up the total number of bags recycled by each team.

At the end of the contest, the center had recycled a total of 20,320 pounds during a six-month period. All teams recycled at least one bag per week to receive a free T-shirt, and the winning team was rewarded with a special outing to a local park.

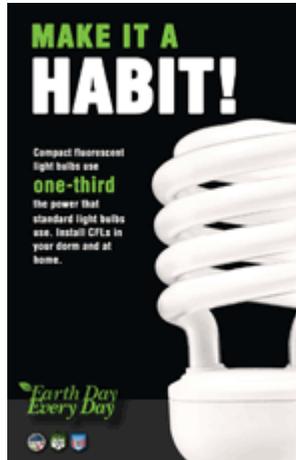
"It was so exciting to see how much we were able to recycle over the span of the entire competition," said Denison Job Corps student Terri Hetrick. "Imagine how much waste we could reduce as a country if everyone committed to filling up at least one trash bag's worth of recyclables per week. I'm proud to be a part of Job Corps' green efforts and want to do my part to help raise environmental awareness."

For Denison Job Corps students and staff, "Reduce, Reuse and Recycle" has become second nature. The Welding students are already in the process of building a second recycling trailer that will be located next to the dorms, and the center kicked off another recycling competition on Feb. 10 that now challenges the six teams to fill at least five trash bags of recyclables per week. Keep up the great work, Denison!

Denison students and staff members are also implementing several other ARRA initiatives on center in addition to their impressive recycling efforts. Some of these projects include:

- An organic garden that was planted and harvested by the Culinary Arts students.
- The installation of low-flow toilets, showerheads and faucets in the dormitories.
- The order and purchase of three four-wheel-drive electric vehicles.

- **Nineteen awards** have been presented to centers for going above and beyond in their efforts to reduce energy and water usage and for implementing other green initiatives on campus, such as recycling programs and green committees.
- **Six Earth Day Every Day campaign posters** have been used to promote environmental awareness and utility conservation, to encourage students and staff members to get excited about celebrating Earth Day, and to reinforce the messages of the *Earth Day Every Day* initiative. These posters should now be displayed in centers nationwide.



- **Ten ARRA Toolkit materials** for recruitment and outreach efforts have been created for OA, BCL and CTS use, including one-pagers, PowerPoint presentations and template letters.



- More than **100 photos** have been submitted through GreenSnap.org to help capture the green efforts of centers nationwide.



Penobscot Job Corps Center's organic garden.

- **Twenty-four ARRA-related Webinars** have been held to share information on green training, center operations, *EDED* and the ARRA Toolkit.

To view a slideshow of Job Corps' ARRA highlights over the past several months, please [click here](#).

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.

- The installation of more energy-efficient lightbulbs, HVAC units and windows.
- The replacement of a steamer in the cafeteria with an Energy-Star-rated appliance.
- The purchase of recycled materials such as toilet paper, Kleenex tissues, printer toner, cornstarch eating utensils and recycled copy machine paper.
- The implementation of green TARs in the Bricklaying, Carpentry, Facilities Maintenance, Painting and Welding career technical training areas.
- The education of staff and students on energy-saving practices such as turning off lights in unoccupied areas and unplugging electronic appliances when not in use.
- The implementation of a green-focused Resources Committee on center that has one representative from each dorm.
- *Special note – Denison JCC was one of two Chicago Region Earth Day Every Day Demand-side Management Award winners.*

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).