



JOB CORPS'

R&R Field Report

Aiding in America's Recovery and Reinvesting in Our Future



ARRA E-newsletter Volume 13

From the National Office of Job Corps

Dear Job Corps Staff,

As summer break approaches, I want to thank you for all of your dedication to American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) projects.

This is an exciting time of year for our students as many of them prepare for graduation and their future careers. Students in the Construction, Automotive, and Advanced Manufacturing career pathways are finding new opportunities in the growing green job market. In this edition, we feature students in the Advanced Manufacturing pathway who are preparing for new jobs by learning cutting-edge skills in green manufacturing technology and practices.

While we have a lot to celebrate during this time of year, it is also important to use the summer break as an opportunity to focus our energy on completing ARRA projects. The tremendous progress made thus far is appreciated and commendable. Please continue your efforts to ensure that all ARRA projects are completed on schedule.

Lastly, please remember that 100 percent of ARRA funds must be obligated by June 30, and a large portion of the work must be completed by September 30, 2010. Thanks again for all of your enthusiasm and diligence on all ARRA-related projects!

Sincerely,

Edna Primrose
National Director



Tools to a Greener Career

Today's consumer has a greater awareness of the economic and environmental necessity for more efficient products. With rising energy costs and consumer behavior shifting toward budget-conscious and eco-friendly buying habits, manufacturers are looking for ways to change their production practices to help the environment while saving dollars.



A San Diego Welding student learns about green training.

For years, Job Corps has trained students to work in the advanced

Center Spotlights: Gerald R. Ford Job Corps Center



Students, center staff, and construction contractors all participated in a partnership session at the Gerald R. Ford Job Corps Center prior to beginning construction work on campus.



Students at the Gerald R. Ford Job Corps Center assist with ARRA-funded construction on center.

To make sure the extensive renovations to the Gerald R. Ford Job Corps Center campus (made possible by ARRA funds) go as smoothly as possible, students and center staff members worked with PBDewberry at a partnership session to develop a construction plan.

Everyone involved in the construction process on center was invited to the session, including key center staff and the student leadership, a total of approximately 80 people. The session allowed members of the construction crew from different organizations to meet one another and to form a relationship with students and staff.

"Students were incorporated into the session because of the impact the construction will have on their daily lives," said Jeff Jablonski, deputy center director. "If everyone understands we need to work together, our journey through this process will be much easier."

manufacturing industries, which include welding, manufacturing technology, and machining. In order to meet the changing needs of manufacturers and to continue leading the way in preparing America's youth for promising careers, Job Corps has implemented new green training initiatives.

In the updated Advanced Manufacturing programs, students build a foundational awareness of efficient practices from their first days in the shop while also acquiring a keen familiarity with industry-recognized skills developed by the National Institute of Metalworking Skills and the American Welding Society SENSE Program. These programs prepare students to recognize opportunities to apply cost-cutting and green manufacturing methods in their new careers. Students also learn basic practices, such as using fluorescent lighting, motion sensors, and automatic light controls to help their future employers meet budgetary and environmental demands, and the reuse and recycling of materials is emphasized throughout the program.

In Welding courses, students learn how to dispose of hazardous materials according to Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) practices. Students also gain experience using EPA welding practice guidelines, and are able to define and practice energy efficiency in the workplace.

Machining and Manufacturing Technology students employ green practices by engaging in procedures that reduce energy consumption, eliminate waste and avoid harmful spills, and promote environmental stewardship and sustainability, all of which can affect the economic viability of a company.

All of the educational and training elements in the Advanced Manufacturing career pathway are essential to the development of graduates who are equipped to begin work on day one. As the job market for green manufacturing skills increases, Job Corps will provide graduates who are well-prepared and well-trained, and who possess not only industry-specific skills and certifications, but also the environmental awareness necessary to be successful in today's workplace.

[An Exeter Advanced Manufacturing student receives hands-on train in green manufacturing.](#)

[A Pittsburgh Advanced Manufacturing instructor trains students in bio diesel technology.](#)

To view more photos from the "Tools to a Greener Career," article, click [here](#).

Send Us Your Success Stories

If you have green graduates or soon-to-be green graduates on your center who have been hired by employers in the automotive, construction, or manufacturing industries, please send us detailed information about those students and the types of jobs they have accepted to ojc.arra@dol.gov. We want to hear about how students are putting their green training to use in the workforce.

We also want to hear about the ARRA-funded construction projects taking place on your center. Are students involved in the process? Did your center hire construction companies to complete the work? Do you know whether the contractor you selected had to hire additional workers to complete the work, thereby creating jobs for local citizens? Do you know whether that contractor would be willing to be featured in an upcoming article? If the answer is yes to any of the questions, please send the contact information for the center and contractor to ojc.arra@dol.gov.

Please send photos of students and staff to ojc.arra@dol.gov, or upload them to GreenSnap at www.greensnap.org. These photos may be featured in an upcoming e-newsletter.

Gadsden Job Corps Center



A General Motors electric vehicle, purchased with ARRA funds, at the Gadsden Job Corps Center.

At the Gadsden Job Corps Center, electric vehicles have become a large part of the center's green culture. The American-made automobiles, purchased with ARRA funds in January, are key to the day-to-day activity at the center in Gadsden, Ala., and have an important environmental impact by reducing carbon emissions.

Gadsden purchased three electric General Motors (GM) cars, models e4, e6 and eL XD, each with a specific job. One functions as the security car, another for transporting recreational equipment on campus, and the last for transporting maintenance equipment and staff around center. By designating these vehicles as the machines tasked for particular duties around campus, the center ensures that the electric cars will get maximum use and serve in the place of gas-powered cars.

Each automobile runs on six 12-volt batteries that keep them operating for 3 to 4 days at a time, after only 8 hours of charging. The vehicles use a 120-volt plug that is standard for most homes and businesses, making it possible for them to be charged in the center's garage overnight, giving the battery enough power to run for nearly a week.

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.