



JOB CORPS' R&R Field Report

Aiding in America's Recovery and Reinvesting in Our Future



ARRA E-Newsletter Volume 25

From the National Office of Job Corps

Dear Job Corps Staff,

In this last edition of the Job Corps R&R Field Report, the National Office and I are excited to introduce the Job Corps ARRA electronic report. This report is a detailed explanation of Job Corps' ARRA journey – from the day the program received its \$250 million in funds to the day the last dollar was obligated, to updates on projects that are in their final stages of completion. The different sections of the e-report are outlined in the main article below, but first I think it is important to reflect on how far we've come over the past 2 years and to recognize everyone's hard work on Job Corps' ARRA initiatives.

Upon receiving our ARRA funding, Job Corps immediately began working with the office of the Secretary of Labor to develop a plan that created jobs, stimulated economic activity, and promoted environmental stewardship.

Job Corps' many construction projects across the country, large and small, allowed construction companies to keep employees on the payroll and, in some cases, hire additional workers and subcontractors for projects. For example, **more than 19 local contractors and subcontractors were hired to work on various renovation and rehabilitation projects at the Gerald R. Ford Job Corps Center in Grand Rapids, Michigan.** You can read about these contractors and several others in the economic impact section of the e-report.

In addition to breaking ground on our construction projects, we set out to stimulate economic activity by strengthening the foundation of our program – our career training programs. **Job Corps created several new training areas, including Weatherization; Renewable Energy (Solar PV and Thermal System Technology); Smart Grid (Smart Meter Technician, Overhead Line Construction), Underground Residential Distribution); Electronic Health Record Specialist; and added green training elements to three existing career pathways (Advanced Manufacturing, Automotive and Machine Repair, and Construction).** By training our students for careers in these emerging industries, Job Corps will continue to be a leader in preparing young adults for the ever-evolving American workforce.

I can't even begin to count the ways in which Job Corps has and continues to promote environmental stewardship. **From coast to coast, our centers implemented energy-efficient practices, such as replacing lightbulbs and installing low-flow toilets and showerheads, and organized environmentally conscious activities, such as centerwide recycling programs and planting organic gardens.** And remember *Earth Day Every Day 2010*? I was overwhelmed by the creative ideas that our students and staff came up with to help celebrate Earth Day. I feel confident that Job Corps will forever be a more sustainable, more energy-efficient program, and I know our students will remain dedicated to promoting environmental awareness even after they graduate.

As our ARRA projects reach completion, **I want to sincerely thank every single person who had a hand in helping Job Corps accomplish its ARRA goals.** From the students at various centers whose different recycling programs have dramatically reduced waste production on campus, to the construction contractors at many different centers who are working very hard on much-needed new dorms for our students, and, of course, to our regional and national staff members who were integral in monitoring our funds and the status of hundreds of projects. This was truly a team effort, and we would not have succeeded without everyone's dedication, patience, and determination.

In my 14-year history with the program, I have seen firsthand how Job Corps has helped young men and women from a variety of backgrounds completely change their lives. Thank you for your commitment to this program, and specifically to our ARRA goals. The accomplishments outlined in the e-report are remarkable. I hope you will take some time to review it and share it with your co-workers, students, community organizations, and employers. We have a lot to be proud of, and we need to tell Job Corps' ARRA success story.

Sincerely,



Edna Primrose
National Director



The Job Corps ARRA Journey

The ARRA Electronic Report (E-Report) was created to provide a detailed overview of how Job Corps used its \$250 million in Recovery Act funds at various centers across the country. The report is broken down into five sections – Economic Impact, Green Training, Center Construction, Green Culture, and Outreach – and each section contains text and photos and/or videos that explain how ARRA funds impacted all aspects of the Job Corps program.

For many months, our staff, students, and contractors have worked together to collect stories, pictures, and video testimonials that portray the countless ARRA initiatives and projects taking place at our centers. This report is a compilation of those stories, and every center that received funding is represented in this report.

The entire report can be found at <http://arrareport.jobcorps.gov>, but a brief description of each section and what it includes is provided below in order to help you navigate the site.



The screenshot shows the homepage of the ARRA Final Report. At the top, there is a navigation bar with a search box and menu items: Home, Economic Impact, Green Training, Center Construction, Green Culture, Outreach, Expand, and Additional Resources. The main content area features a video player titled "Job Corps and the Recovery Act" with a play button. To the left of the video is a list of bullet points and a numbered list of goals. Below the video is a "Related Videos" section with a thumbnail and a "View Photo Albums" link. At the bottom, there is a "Related Photos" section with a gallery of images and a caption: "A Facilities Maintenance student at the Tulsa Job Corps Center in Tulsa, OK, installs a new energy-efficient hot water tank for the center's cafeteria." The footer contains copyright information and contact details for the U.S. Department of Labor.

Economic Impact

The Economic Impact section of the E-Report shows how Job Corps construction projects funded by the Recovery Act had a positive impact on several local economies and helped create and maintain jobs for many local businesses. Some of the projects highlighted here are the new dorm at the Gerald R. Ford Job Corps Center in Grand Rapids, Mich., and the brand-new Ottumwa Job Corps Center in Iowa. [Click here to watch the video.](#)



Green Training



ARRA Final Report

Search this site:

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Construction Renewable Resources Health Care Advanced Manufacturing Automotive and Machine Repair

Green Training

Job Corps has taken a leadership position in providing training for an emerging green economy. Job Corps launched four new advanced training areas within the Construction career pathway - Weatherization Technician, Overhead Line Construction, Smart Meter Technician, and Underground Residential Distribution. One new career technical training program has been added to the Renewable Resources career pathway - Solar Photovoltaic and Thermal System Installer, and one new program has been added to the Health Care career pathway - Electronic Health Record Specialist.

In addition to creating these new advanced training areas, Job Corps added green elements to existing career technical training programs in three initial industries: Construction, Advanced Manufacturing, and Automotive and Machine Repair.

Seventy-six new programs were updated as part of the program's Green Collar Training Initiative. To update its new training programs, Job Corps convened workgroups composed of industry experts, environmental-accreditation agencies, and Job Corps instructors and managers from each of the three initial industry sectors. These workgroups teamed up to identify the appropriate knowledge or skills to be incorporated into the updated programs. Through collaborative discussion, each workgroup

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An Electrical student at the Cassadaga Job Corps Center in Cassadaga, NY, learns how to operate the center's new electric lift.



Green Training – Advanced Manufacturing subpage

The Green Training section of the E-Report gives an overview of the four new advanced training areas that were launched, as well as the green elements that were added to existing career technical training programs in three initial industries: Construction, Advanced Manufacturing, and Automotive and Machine Repair. Through numerous photos and videos, Job Corps students showcase how their additional green training is preparing them for the workforce, and in some cases, how their training led to full-time jobs.

Center Construction

More than \$211 million in Recovery Act funds was allocated to centers for construction projects, including renovations and new buildings, such as dorms, training facilities, and cafeterias. This section of the E-Report highlights some of these construction projects and provides examples of how our campuses are becoming more sustainable.



Green Culture

This section represents how Recovery Act funds allowed our students and staff members to change the way they do things on center. From installing energy-efficient lightbulbs, to purchasing driver's education simulators, our centers are reinforcing a more energy-efficient culture on campuses throughout the country. Here, our students and staff discuss the different ways in which we are implementing energy-efficient practices in our day-to-day lives.



Outreach

This section demonstrates how Job Corps communicated the progress of ARRA-funded projects to both internal and external audiences through e-newsletters, materials, presentations, and television spots. The section contains thumbnail examples of e-newsletters, informative one-pagers, PowerPoint presentations, and logos. It also includes examples of the TV spots created specifically to promote Job Corps' ARRA training programs, media clips, and numerous pictures and videos of the program's *Earth Day Every Day* initiative. Each page in this section illustrates Job Corps' commitment to being transparent in how every ARRA dollar was used to meet

the goals of the Administration.



Photos from the Outreach section of the E-Report of students participating in different *Earth Day Every Day* initiatives and public appearances of Job Corps National Director Edna Primrose.



ARRA Recap Video

Since receiving ARRA funds, Job Corps staff and students have devoted countless hours to implementing green training initiatives and completing energy-efficient projects on their centers. From learning how to build wind turbines to installing low-flow plumbing fixtures, to planting organic gardens, Job Corps students have gone above and beyond to prepare themselves for a variety of careers in green industries and to raise environmental awareness across the country. To view a five-minute video of some of the fun projects that students and staff members have participated in during the past 2 years, click [here](#).

Administered by the U.S. Department of Labor, Job Corps is the nation's largest career technical training and education program for students ages 16 through 24. Job Corps is a U.S. Department of Labor Equal Opportunity Program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. TDD/TTY telephone number is (877) 889-5627.