

**Special points of interest:**

- MSW WIB's Local ARRA Plan
- Pell Grants for Training and Education
- Youth Barriers to Employment

## MSW WIB's Local ARRA Plan

### Implementing ARRA

The WIB's draft *Plan for Implementing the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Funds* was submitted to the State Employment & Training Commission (SETC) on May 29, 2009. The revised and final Plan was submitted to the SETC on July 10.

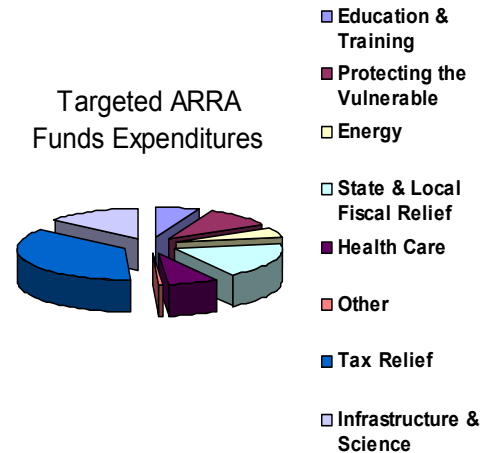
The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 is an economic stimulus package enacted by the 111th United States Congress and signed into law by President Barack Obama on February 17, 2009. The Act of Congress is intended to provide a stimulus to the U.S. economy in the wake of the economic downturn. The measures are nominally worth \$787 billion.

The Act includes federal tax cuts, expansion of unemployment benefits and other social welfare provisions, and domestic spending in education, health care, and infrastructure, including the energy sector.

The Act specifies that 37% of the package is to be devoted to tax cuts equaling \$288 billion. \$144 billion, or 18%, is allocated to state and local fiscal relief (more than 90% of the state aid is going to Medicaid and education). 45%, or \$357 billion, is allocated to federal social programs and federal spending programs.

The federal government has created [www.recovery.gov](http://www.recovery.gov) to provide information on the stimulus bill, including a brief timeline of activities and summary information.

Targeted ARRA Funds Expenditures



The Morris-Sussex-Warren WIB's *Plan for Implementing the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Funds* can be found on the WIB's website at [www.mswwib.org](http://www.mswwib.org).

**Inside this issue:**

Local ARRA Plan	1
Outreach to MC Employers	2
SYP Job Readiness Workshop	2
WIA Re-authorization Sessions	2
Grants for Training & Education	3
Continuing Education at SCCC	3
Youth Barriers to Employment	4
WIB Officers & Staff	4
Employment & Training Links	4

## Freeholders and Chamber Reach Out to Employers

WIB member and President of the Morris County Chamber of Commerce **Paul Boudreau** announced that the Morris County Freeholders and the Morris County Chamber of Commerce are meeting with the largest employers in the county to discuss job retention and economic development.

According to Chamber President Paul Boudreau, "This initiative was launched in late June in an effort to offer assistance to companies who are significant providers of jobs in Morris County. Our Freeholders are stepping up to the plate, thanking companies for being here and offering any assis-



*Paul Boudreau, President of Morris County Chamber of Commerce*

tance they can to retain the jobs we have in the county, and grow new jobs in the future."

Meetings have taken place with senior officials at Wyndham Worldwide, Honeywell, Alcoa/Howmet, Atlantic Health Systems and Saint Clare's Hospital. Additional visits have been scheduled with Novartis, MetLife, PricewaterhouseCoopers, Pfizer and Tiffany's in the weeks ahead.



Next WIB  
Open Meeting:

**September 24**

*Save the Date!*

## Summer Youth Program Job Readiness Workshop

On July 7, counselors from Morris/Sussex/Warren Employment & Training Services and NewBridge Services held a Job Readiness Workshop at the Morris County Public Safety Training Academy in Parsippany for participants of the Morris County Summer Youth Program.

The all-day workshop was based on a curriculum from New Bridge Services. Those completing the seminar received a certificate of workforce readiness.

## WIA Re-authorization Listening Sessions

WIB Members **Louis Baram, Jr.** of the I.B.E.W. (Local 102) and **George Krevet** of Communications Workers of America will participate in a series of listening sessions about WIA re-authorization with other labor representatives who serve on WIB Boards.

The listening sessions, scheduled to take place in early September, are being arranged by the *AFL-CIO Working for America Institute* at the request of the Assistant Secretary of Labor for Employment and Training.

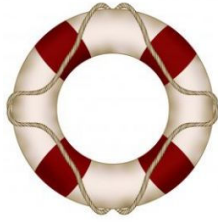
In the months ahead, the *Institute* hopes to become a useful resource for labor representatives and the boards on which they serve.

More information about the *AFL-CIO Working for America Institute* can be found on their website at [www.workingforamerica.org](http://www.workingforamerica.org).



# Pell Grants for Training and Education

## Opportunity for Unemployment Insurance Benefits Recipients



Recipients of unemployment insurance (UI) benefits will now receive special consideration for financial aid (specifically, Pell Grants) to pay for job training or education. In addition, UI recipients may also be able to continue receiving benefits while enrolled in training or educational programs.

Federal Pell Grant scholarships cover up to \$5,350 in education and training expenses and are accepted at most universities and community colleges, and many trade and technical schools.

Further information can be found at the following websites:

- Information from the U.S. Departments of Education and Labor on applying for financial aid and finding training and educational opportunities: [www.opportunity.gov](http://www.opportunity.gov)
- Federal website: [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)
- State website for answers to frequently asked questions regarding financial aid and eligibility: [http://lwd.dol.state.nj.us/labor/roles/faq/faq\\_index.html](http://lwd.dol.state.nj.us/labor/roles/faq/faq_index.html)
- Lists of training/educational providers: [www.njtrainingsystems.org](http://www.njtrainingsystems.org) and <http://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator/>

*The Morris Sussex Warren Workforce Investment Board is an equal opportunity employer with equal opportunity programs.*

*Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.*

### Newsletter Submissions

Contact WIB Word Editor  
Sallie Sullivan at:

[ssullivan@co.morris.nj.us](mailto:ssullivan@co.morris.nj.us)

## Continuing Education at SCCC

### Career Training Certificate Programs

Continuing Education at Sussex County Community College offers many certificate programs to help individuals fine tune and update skills for their careers. The certificate programs run from one to twelve months, depending on the type of program. On July 29, it was announced that the following new certificate programs are available:

*Basic Auto CAD Drafting Tech Certification* - Create 2-dimensional drawings and presentations. Course covers creation and editing of shapes and designs, and use of layers, text, basic dimensioning and plotting commands.

*Computerized Accounting with QuickBooks* - Accounting applications with emphasis on computer technology including accounting, word processing, and computerized bookkeeping.

*AutoCAD 3D* - Automate procedures and extract information from drawings to create bills of materials and reports. Function in multi-seat, multi-discipline design environment where several designers are working on same model simultaneously. Create 3-dimensional models and photo quality renderings that help general public better visualize designs before they are built.

*Medical Administrative Assistant* - Manage a medical office - medical records management, insurance processing, coding and billing, and other fundamental medical office management tasks. (For information on this particular certificate program, contact Health Services at 973-300-2263).

For more information on the programs, call 973-300-2287 or visit [www.sussex.edu](http://www.sussex.edu).

## Youth Barriers to Employment Sent to State Added to Basic Youth Eligibility Criteria

The Workforce Investment Act (WIA) allows WIBs to identify serious barriers to employment and add these barriers to the basic youth eligibility criteria.

The basic barriers are: a) school dropout, b) basic skills deficient (defined as an individual who has English reading, writing, or computing skills at or below the 8<sup>th</sup> grade level on a generally accepted standardized test or a comparable score on a criterion-referenced test), c) one or more grade levels below the grade level appropriate to the individual's age, d) pregnant or parenting, e) possess one or more disabilities, including learning disabilities, f) homeless or runaway, g) offender, or h) face serious barriers to employment as identified by the Local Board.

After receiving guidance from the WIB's Youth Investment Council (YIC), the WIB added the following new barriers effective April 8:

- Is identified as handicapped under section 504 of the Americans with Disabilities Act
- Has not demonstrated proficiency on the High School Proficiency Assessment

- Has been classified by a school district
- Is or has been involved with the juvenile justice system
- Lacks marketable skills as deemed by the local labor market (out-of-school youth)
- Lives in housing governed by public housing
- Is currently being served or has been served, by the Division of Youth and Family Services
- Resides in an Abbott School District
- Has been referred or is being treated by an agency for a substance related problem
- Resides in a youth shelter or has recently resided in a youth shelter
- Youth whose parent is a current Unemployment Insurance recipient, or a recent (six months) Unemployment Insurance exhaustee

*"It takes courage to push yourself to places that you have never been before ... to test your limits ... to break through barriers."*

*- Anais Nin*

### WIB Officers and Staff

**Chair:** David A. Hollowell  
**Vice Chair:** Glenn R. Lewis  
**Vice Chair:** Karen B. Kubert  
**Secretary/Treasurer:** Louis J. Baram, Jr.

**Director:** Jack Patten  
 Phone: (973) 829-8400, ext. 232  
 E-Mail: [jpatten@co.morris.nj.us](mailto:jpatten@co.morris.nj.us)

**Secretary to the Director:** Sallie Sullivan  
 Phone: (973) 829-8400, ext. 230  
 E-Mail: [ssullivan@co.morris.nj.us](mailto:ssullivan@co.morris.nj.us)

### Employment & Training Links

[www.njnextstop.org](http://www.njnextstop.org)  
 New Jersey Next Stop

*"For tomorrow's workforce: skills / vocations beyond high school. At [www.njnextstop.org](http://www.njnextstop.org), find out what New Jersey's employers are saying about jobs and careers growing right here in the Garden State. Get vital details about industries, types of jobs, and the cutting-edge career paths that combine many of your talents."*