

Twin Cities Greater Metropolitan Workforce Council							
Assessment of Current Activities – April 2012				Grayed out rows indicate initiatives that have recently concluded or are currently dormant.			
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Sector	Brief Background	Initiative	Mission/Objective	Timeframe	Leadership & Key Players	WIB engagement	Current Status
Health Care	Metro area WIBs have been engaged in health care sector training efforts for at least a decade, dating back to the Hennepin County Partners for Progress initiative beginning in 2000. That effort, and others since, have focused on different elements of the nursing continuum, recognizing the ongoing shortage of nurses and other direct-care providers. More recently, area WIBs have tried to meet industry need in other occupational clusters in partnership with area colleges and community-based service providers. In 2010, some community-based organizations received funding for nursing and related training through federal ARRA funds.	Allied Health Care Training	Expand enrollment and completion of skilled professionals in the Medical Laboratory and Clinical Lab fields	Project begun in 2008 with expected completion in 2010	Led by Saint Paul College in partnership with Allina	Supported by several area WIBs	Funding from USDOL obtained by Saint Paul College in 3-08, with closeout expected later in 2010.
		Universal Health Care Worker for Older Adult Services	An innovative training model designed to prepare entry level low income health care workers for a more diversified role in community and assisted living settings.	Partners were able to secure another round of funding through June 2012. Additional FastTRAC funds secured extending through 2013.	Led by the Anoka County Job Training Center with Anoka Ramsey Community College and Anoka Technical College providing the training. Minnesota Family Investment Program staff at the Job Training Center provide referrals and ongoing management of the project.	WIB approved grant application and supports the project.	Local partners and business partners have funding to continue this work through June 2012.
		Health Care Convening focused on Nursing Continuum	Two separate assessments began independently in area WIBs, both with emphasis on addressing nursing workforce needs and strengthening teaching approaches for occupations along the continuum.	2009 and 2010 to jointly secure federal funds through grant proposals. Partners continue to identify other funding opportunities to support this effort.	Leadership from Anoka and Ramsey WIBs, key engagement by HealthForce Minnesota, SEIU, and others including Anoka Ramsey Community College, Anoka Technical College, Metro State University, and several leading industry partners.	Anoka County and Ramsey County WIBs have each led elements of this effort.	Ongoing efforts to identify new resources to strengthen nursing continuum training for the region. Efforts underway to develop Scrubs Camps in metro for adults and youth
		FastTRAC assessments for occupational skill training	Using the Career Readiness Certificate and the National Work Readiness Credential, County residents are being assessed and enrolled into occupational skills training, followed by placement. The initiative is refining the assessment process among several partners and testing the use of these new tools.	Groundwork done in early 2009. FastTrac funding available through 2010.	Ramsey County Workforce Solutions along with the St. Paul School District ABE and Metro East ABE Consortium and Goodwill/EasterSeals		This is happening in other occupational areas in addition to healthcare, with a significant focus on healthcare related occupations.
		MNBEST	Led by Dakota Scott WIB, this is a training initiative leading to CPR certification, nursing assistant certification and clinical experience in a long-term care facility.	Developed in 2009 and funded by FastTRAC through 2010	Dakota Scott WIB, industry partners, and Inver Hills Community College	Dakota Scott WIB	one of the FastTrac pilots
		Ramsey County WIB Healthcare Initiative	A program initiative led by HealthPartners and other area industry leaders to train residents for medical office careers.	Grew out of the convening work done in late 2008 and early 2009. Funding to support the program is now available through 2013.	Led by Ramsey County WIB, with leadership from HealthPartners, Goodwill EasterSeals, Saint Paul ABE, and Saint Paul College.	Ramsey County WIB	With financial support from DEED, this program's current cycle is in process (expected end 2013).
		Manufacturing / Engineering	Several efforts during the last few years were undertaken to boost training for area manufacturers, with particular attention to the metalforming sector. With the deep recession beginning late 2008, many of those initiatives stalled and have not recovered as of yet. Renewed efforts, led by industry associations and workforce leaders together, may be underway beginning in mid to late 2010.	Central MN Manufacturers Association	Gather industry leaders in the northern/western metropolitan region to strengthen pipeline of trainees/new entrants into the field.	This effort was begun in late 2007 as a "roundtable" among metalforming businesses.	Led by Central Minnesota WIB
North Minneapolis FastTRAC Manufacturing	Begin the manufacturing career pathway for north Minneapolis residents			7/1/11 - 5/31/13	Led by City of Minneapolis in partnership with MCTC, Minneapolis ABE, and EMERGE Community Development	City of Minneapolis WIB is lead partner.	Ongoing
Metropolitan Manufacturing Sector Initiative	Expand successful M-Powered metalforming initiative to east metro sites, with a subsequent expansion into the plastics industry.			2007 - 2010	Originally led by Ramsey WIB with Anoka County WIB, Washington County WIB, Anoka Technical College, Saint Paul College, Hennepin Technical College, HIRED, industry leaders. With MJSP funding in second phase, leadership shifted to Saint Paul College	Led by Ramsey, Anoka, and Washington County WIBS for the GMWC. Interest in expanding to other GMWC WIBs	MJSP funding began in June 2008 - offering courses at Anoka Tech and Saint Paul College. This grant was ended in early 2010.
FastTRAC Manufacturing Initiative	Development of a FastTRAC training program that includes NCRC assessment/testing and NIMS credentialing			Development in January – June 2012 with an anticipated implementation of the initiative summer/fall of 2012	Washington County WFC, South Washington County ABE, St. Paul College, Haberman Machine	Washington County WIB	Planning/Development Stage
Robotics Academy	The Robotics Academy is now fully integrated into the curriculum at Stillwater school district 834. The curriculum has been expanded to include grades 8-12. It has received the following awards:2008 Outstanding Organizations Award (Minnesota Community Education Association), 2007 Local Government Innovation Award (Hubert H Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs);2006 Award for Excellence and Innovation in Workforce Development Delivery (Minnesota Workforce Council Association)			This is a continuing program offered through the schools.	Initiated by Washington County WIB, with continuing leadership from Stillwater area public schools and businesses.	Washington County WIB initiated this effort.	This is a continuing program offered through the schools.
Twin West Workforce Ready! initiative	Gather industry leaders in the northern/western metropolitan region to strengthen pipeline of trainees/new entrants into the field.			This initiative began in 2008 and continues now.	Led by Twin West Chamber of Commerce, Hennepin County WIB and GMWC are participating.	Partnering with GMWC in delivery of this initiative.	Synthesized the learning from west metro employers and are continuing to bring partners together to move forward on action items from that learning.

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		Twin Cities Coalition for Construction Diversity	Create a coordinated approach to meeting industry need and jobseeker interest in a wide range of construction-related careers	Initiated in Saint Paul with St. Paul Human Rights several years ago. Ramsey focus on construction began in 2006. Minneapolis	Leadership: City of St. Paul, St. Paul Trades and Labor Assembly, Minneapolis and Ramsey WIBs. Other key players include: Construction Careers Coalition,	Led by WIB leaders and facilitated through staff.	The original efforts led by Ramsey County Workforce Solutions are largely inactive now, but much of the content is now being
		RENEW Minneapolis	An initiative to train low-income, low-skilled residents from specific high-poverty neighborhoods in Minneapolis in one of five industry clusters: construction, manufacturing, building systems, transportation, and renewable energy development. Training will focus on "green practices" in each of these arenas.	4/1/12 - ongoing	City of Minneapolis in partnership with 7 community-based workforce development agencies and a number of private and public trainers	The Minneapolis WIB oversees the activities of METP and the RENEW Minneapolis project	ongoing
		Mayors' Initiative on Green Manufacturing Thinc Green ^{MSP}	An effort by Mayors Coleman and Rybak to identify opportunities to create new "green" jobs in the Twin Cities as well as "greening" existing manufacturing in the region	Began in 2007, an initial report completed in 2008, and continuing work now resulting in an initiative by both cities to implement "green policies" that may have regional implications.	Mayors Coleman and Rybak, with the Blue Green Alliance	WIB members from the region have been involved in various stages of this work. Minneapolis WIB staff have been engaged throughout.	ThincGreen ^{MSP} is the next iteration of this work, creating a shared purchasing arrangement between the two cities for 'green' products.
Green Jobs	Foundational activities during the last four years including the Mayor's Initiative on Green Manufacturing, Legislative Task Force on Green Jobs, and engagement in philanthropic efforts focused on green jobs, all laid the groundwork for major USDOL investments now operating in this arena	Living Cities Green Boot Camp Initiative	Metro leaders attended a "boot camp" training session on green job creation, specifically, energy-efficient retro-fitting older properties.	Leaders attended a session in June 2009. Funds from Living Cities are pending to continue work through 2010.			Pending additional funds from Living Cities, there may be additional projects under this initiative.
		GreenPOWER	Curriculum being delivered for "lean green" skills to incumbent workers and new labor market entrants	USDOL grant funded effort beginning January 2010 through January 2012. Effort continues with MSESF funds through November 2012.	Blue Green continues as grant recipient with Anoka Ramsey Community College, Anoka Technical and St. Paul College partners.	Metro WIBs are partners in recruitment and placement.	Program activity continues through November 2012
		Dakota Future Telecom Initiative	Economic development initiative to update telecom inventory for Dakota County and convene stakeholders to address policy issues	Several activities in 2008 and previously	Led by Dakota Future with partnership from area telecom providers	Supported by the Dakota County WIB	Partnering with the MN IT Workforce Collaborative to develop a workforce training approach to
		Advance IT Minnesota / MN IT Workforce Collaborative	Serve as a catalyst for individuals and businesses to acquire the knowledge and skills needed to create and maintain competitive information and communication systems that	Begun through MnSCU Centers of Excellence in 2006	Major partners include MnSCU campuses, area IT business partners, and other stakeholders	GMWC is a partner in the effort	Continuing to advance its work through cooperative efforts with employers and educators.
		North Minneapolis FastTRAC Culinary Arts	Begin the culinary arts career pathway for north Minneapolis residents	7/1/11 - 5/31/13	Led by City of Minneapolis in partnership with MCTC, Minneapolis ABE, and EMERGE Community Development	City of Minneapolis WIB is lead partner.	Ongoing
Other	During the last several years, the metro area WIBs, together with business, ABE, education, and economic development partners have worked collaboratively in a number of ways outside of specific sector initiatives. This section highlights a selected number of those initiatives.	Streamlining regional literacy and job readiness assessments	To improve the customer experience and the efficiency of our literacy and job readiness assessment processes in WorkForce Centers and other points of service in the region	Seed planted in 2008, recent initiative begun in late 2009	Led by ABE consortia leaders in the region, and WorkForce Center/CBO staff. Supported by GMWC staff.	GMWC is the lead partner	Part of the GMWC Working Learners Collaborative.
		One Minneapolis Employment Equity	Focus on addressing employment disparities between people of color and whites in Minneapolis and our metro area	1/1/2012	Leadership from Minneapolis Civic Rights and Community Planning and Economic Development		Continuing work, likely to dovetail with Ramsey County Everybody In.
		Everybody In	Efforts to address disparity in employment by race -- particularly following completion of a study in 6/10 identifying the Twin Cities region as having the greatest racial gap in employment.	Began in 2011	Leadership by the Ramsey County WIB in partnership with Ramsey County, City of Saint Paul and the Minneapolis Workforce Council	Ramsey County WIB in partnership with Minneapolis Workforce Council	Work beginning in 2011. This is expected to become the vehicle for metrowide efforts to address racial employment disparities.
		College Collaboration	Work collaboratively with Inver Hills Community College (IHCC) Dakota County Technical College (DCTC) and the University of MN.	Began in 2012	Dakota-Scott WIB, IHCC, DCTC, U of M	Dakota Scott WIB	1) Met collectively w/ one key employer. Working on next steps based on that meeting. 2) Developing a survey to send to businesses to learn their training needs
		National Association of Workforce Boards Leadership Council	Learn how to have a more effective WIB.	Began in 2012	NAWB and 14 WIBs across country	Dakota Scott WIB	Just started this one year project.
						prepared by LukeWorks, LLC for the GMWC, updated by the GMWC partners in 2012	last update 4/2012