

NEWS RELEASE

For Regional Distribution



For Immediate Release

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Contact: Wendy Mihm-Herold

Telephone: (563) 382-0457 extension 111
or (866) 520-8986 extension 111

Future Pipeline of Iowa Workers

Decorah, IA – Have worker shortages put a crimp in your business? Are you worried that the future demand for workers will not meet the needs of employers? If so, this workshop is for you. Area employers, economic developers, chamber directors, and employment specialists should attend this workshop to be prepared in addressing future employment needs. The workshop will take place Thursday, October 18, 2007 from 12:00p.m. – 4:30p.m. at the Wilder Bldg. on the NICC – Calmar Campus, Hwy. 150 South, with registration being held from 12 Noon – 12:30 p.m.

Four presentations will be presented during the workshop. The keynote presentation “Future Pipeline of Iowa Workers” will be given by Wendy Mihm-Herold, Regional Manager of IWD. Other presentation topics and presenters are: Jessica Boer, Outreach Project Manager for Relay Iowa presenting “Using Relay Iowa,” Deb Ostrem, Labor Market Research Economist with Iowa Workforce Development presenting “On the Map,” and Mary Lynn ReVoir, Disability Program Navigator and Joe Wiegel, Iowa Department for the Blind presenting “The Glue to Fill the Gaps.”

The keynote presentation will compare the past, current and future workforce profiles and looks at local and global trends impacting the workforce. “Using Iowa Relay” will help the audience learn how the Deaf, Hard of Hearing, Speech Impaired, and Hearing communicate over the phone and enrich the Iowa workforce. Telephone communication is used daily to identify potential employees, perform interviews, and conduct business. In the year 2000 there were an estimated 220,000+ Iowans with a reported hearing loss. “On the Map” will inform attendees about an interactive mapping application that shows in high definition where people live and where they work. Users begin by defining custom study areas using a freehand drawing tool or by simply clicking on a standard geography (e.g., city, county, zip code area, census area, etc.). Based on the selected area, maps and reports are produced showing where workers come from that are employed in the selected area or where workers are employed that live in the selected area. The last presentation of the day, “The Glue to Fill the Gaps” will give attendees tools and resources to assist an employer in the recruitment and hiring of mature workers and workers with disabilities.

The cost to attend this workshop is \$45.00 / person. To register: Contact the Northeast Iowa Community College - Calmar at: 1-800-728-2256 x 399. The “Future Pipeline of Iowa Workers” workshop is a Northeast Employers’ Council of Iowa event.

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