Report on WIB Training

John Dorrer
Maine Department of Labor
Former Deputy Director, Workforce Development Strategies Group, NCEE
January 27, 2005
Importance of LWIBs as LED Customers

Good vehicle for LED data to increase sophistication of workforce strategies, improve outcomes

Good links to employer users, other stakeholders

LWIBs can form alliances with State LMI resources
Series of Training Events

Local WIB Training (September)
High Skills Cities Consortium (December)
AACC Workforce Development Institute workshop (January)
Maine (February)
NAWB Pre-conference session (March)
Alabama (March-April)
ACCRA (June)
Strategy for Engaging LWIBs in September Training Session

Identify LWIBs that are sophisticated data users
  – Jacob France Institute MEETS program
  – NCEE/CSW Recommendations

Conduct training session

Provide follow up support

Contact to assess nature and extent of use of LED
Participating LWIBs

- The Brevard, FL Workforce Development Board
- The Pikes Peak, CO Workforce Center
- Three Rivers (Pittsburgh) Workforce Investment Board
- Chicago Workforce Board
- San Diego Workforce Partnership
- West Central Texas Workforce Development Board
- Citrus, Levy and Marion Counties, Florida (CLM Workforce Connection)
- Workforce Investment Council of Clackamas County, OR
- Montgomery County, MD Division of Workforce Investment Services
Training Agenda

Module 1: Introduction to LED

• What’s in it for Local Workforce Investment Boards?
• The Role of State Labor Market Information in the LED Program
• Introduction to Quarterly Workforce Indicators
• Feedback and Evaluation
Training Agenda, con’t.

Module 2: Template for Workforce Investment Boards

- Review Exercise
- Discussion: What’s in it for WIBs?
- Introduction to WIB Templates
- Computer Exercises for WIB Templates
- Discussion: Balancing use of totals and use of percentages
- Feedback and Evaluation
Training Agenda, con’t.

Module 3: Template for Employers, Customized Tools and Other Workforce Information Sources

• Review Exercise
• Discussion: What’s in it for individual employers?
• Introduction to Employer Templates
• Computer Exercises for Employer Templates
• Introduction to Customized Reports
• Other Workforce Information Sources
Training Agenda, Con’t.

Module 4: Product Development and Next Steps

• Product Development Exercise and Discussion
• Next Steps
• Feedback and Evaluation
Feedback from Local WIBs

Generally very positive
Data useful for decision making, setting strategies, enhancing WIB credibility
Intuitive website, good user interface
Answers many important questions, but not all questions!
Impact of Training

Participants shared information and trained colleagues, partners, stakeholders at home
Some promoting use of LED among partners
Some using LED data for planning, setting strategies
Some sharing interesting LED data with relevant audiences (community, employers)
Anticipate broader applications later
LWIB Concerns

Timeliness of data
  – 9 month time lag acceptable
  – Frustrated by additional time to “scrub” data

Frequently changing LED website undermines confidence in use (trade off between continuous improvement and stability)

Interested in occupations as well as industries