



**Workforce Alliance for Growth in the Economy™**  
November Monthly Report — 2010

## **UAPB WAGE**

### UAPB November Success Stories

The WAGE™ program at UAPB has been very successful in the month of November. The students here have earned 3 employability certificates, 2 industrial certificates, and 1 clerical certificate. One of our students interviewed with the Department of Health recently. We are hoping the best for her and hope to hear good news soon. A male student was hired by Evergreen. He earned his GED and Employability Certificate with this adult education program over the last few years.

The Advisory Committee met at the Delta Rivers Nature Center on November 19. Many business, industry, and service organizations sent representatives to find out about WAGE™. The representatives have taken the information back to their organizations and we hope to have partnership agreements signed and returned before the end of the year. Many more organizations that were unable to attend have emailed their interest to attend at the next scheduled meeting and to be updated regularly on the WAGE™ program. Evergreen has requested that a satellite class be taught on site.



Albemarle of Magnolia has expressed an interest in employees of the Pine Bluff Arsenal that are being laid off due to the chemical stockpile completion. They are requesting that any person from Pine Bluff that is interested in applying with them first earn their WAGE™ Employability and Industrial Certificates. The chemical engineers could expect \$26.00 per hour. There will be 20 positions available.

The UAPB Plaza location is almost ready. The furniture and materials have been moved in and cleaned; now the computers need to be moved in and set up. WAGE™

classes will be held in suite 4 and testing will be in suite 6. It has been a lot of work for the adult education program teachers, but it will be worth it when we are able to have students!

The WAGE™ instructor for UAPB attended LTA training in Malvern on Nov 29, 30, and Dec 1. The training was very informative. A LTA was conducted for a bank teller position at Farmers Bank and Trust under the leadership of Dr. Charlotte Robertson. This was a fantastic learning experience for our instructor because we need to establish a banking partner. All of the information gained will be used to successfully make this happen. It was a wonderful opportunity for learning, experiencing, and networking within the WAGE™ program.

### **LONOKE WAGE**

There was one industrial Certificate issued for the month of November. Two students gained employment this month making \$10.00 per hour.

### **COSSATOT WAGE**

As part of the Regional WAGE Meeting a Customer Service (LTA) Literacy Task Analysis was conducted for a Waitress/Cashier Position at Fat Chance's Buffet in De Queen.

One student obtained a job this month after earning his WAGE certificate.

### **CONWAY WAGE**

There were 4 Employability Certificates, 3 Industrial Certificates, and 1 Clerical Certificate issued for the month of November. One student gained employment this month.

### **CRAWFORD COUNTY WAGE**

An LTA WAS CONDUCTED at Titan/Coleman Propane on November 16. Those conducting the LTA were Darla Melton, Jackie Harris, Chelsea Harrell, and Jerry Wilson. Titan/Coleman Propane signed as a WAGE Partner.

### **OUACHITA TECHNICAL COLLEGE WAGE**

There were 8 Employability Certificates, 3 Industrial Certificates, and 2 Clerical Certificates issued for the month of November. The Hot Spring County/Grant County

WAGE Board met on November 17, 2010 at OTC. Pictured are students receiving their WAGE Certificates.



The LTA training was held in Malvern on November 29, 30, and December 1 at OTC. LTAs were conducted at Farmer's Bank and Trust and Smith House in Malvern, Malvern National Bank in Sheridan, and Stratcor in Hot Springs.

### **MAGNOLIA WAGE**

While Magnolia's WAGE attendance is up considerably, for the month of November we only issued 6 Industrial Certifications and 6 Employability. One of our past unemployed graduates has gained employment with an El Dorado partner; another current client is working part-time through the holidays and plans to return to complete WAGE and CRC certification as soon as possible.

Our classroom attendance has been steadily increasing. In September, we had 13 WAGE clients enter the classroom for the first time. In October, it increased to 23; November closed with 26. These numbers do not include those who have only tested or expressed an interest in the office but not yet entered the actual training. They also do not include pre-WAGE students. We look forward to a busy December and an even busier new year.

### **MONTICELLO WAGE**

A Public Library Recruitment & Enrollment was conducted on (11/19/20). WAGE information was shared with 20 library patrons. We are currently waiting to finalize plans with the Drew county parole & probation offices, to start GED & WAGE classes for clients in Drew County. The Sesame Daycare & Learning Academy has agreed to be on the WAGE Advisory Board.

## **RUSSELLVILLE WAGE**

For the month of November 11 Employability, 5 Industrial, 3 Clerical, 2 bank Teller Certificates were issued. Three students gained employment, with one receiving a raise.

The Russellville AE/WAGE quarterly meeting was held November 17 at the Russellville Chamber of Commerce on November 17, 2010. Jeff Pipkin, Chamber President and CEcD of Arkansas Valley Alliance for Economic Development hosted the luncheon and was also the guest speaker. Jeff talked to the group about the upcoming plans in the River Valley and thanked Russellville Adult Ed and WAGE for being a key component in the valley development. He said that companies coming into the area look at the education and training services available. He said Russellville is very effective in meeting that requirement. Adult Ed was invited to display a booth at the Tyson Health Fair on October 15. Adult Ed, ESL, and WAGE information was distributed to employees in attendance. The booth was also manned by staff at the annual city Fall Fest. For recruitment, Shawn Woods, WAGE instructor, spoke to unemployed clients at the monthly local DWS Job Search Workshop about the WAGE and Adult Ed programs on November 16. For retention, students' names, with a required amount of attendance for each day, were put into a drawing for a free Turkey. Rickey Gordon, a dislocated worker from Riverside Furniture, won the turkey. Jackie Harris met with Darla Melton in Van Buren to conduct an LTA on a customer service position at Titan Propane on November 16.

## **FT. SMITH WAGE**

3 Employability certificates were issued for November. Another student received a job at St. Grobain Proppants. A Banking Teller LTA was conducted with Arvest Bank. The Local WAGE Advisory Meeting is scheduled for December 14. Our interim Advisory Chair, Dr. Brenda Sellers, Assistant Superintendent of Personnel, Fort Smith Public Schools, will acknowledge our Fall WAGE students who completed certificates. Marcia Dye, Workforce Coordinator, attended 3 TAA workshops for Whirlpool and Southern Steel & Wire. News video links are below highlighting Ft. Smith Adult Education.

**Thousands Show For Job Opportunity Fair—See Video at:**

<http://www.4029tv.com/video/25557592/detail.html>

**Millions Struggle With The Loss Of Unemployment Benefits—See Video at:**

<http://www.4029tv.com/video/25980641/detail.htm>

## **NATIONAL PARK COMMUNITY COLLEGE WAGE**

Three LTAs were written for Stratcor, Inc. during the WAGE Literacy Task Analysis Training Sessions 2010-11 during November. Three groups of WAGE instructors performed the LTA's. After an extensive orientation and tour of the plant, the groups were allowed to view the operators in three different processing areas.

## **HOPE WAGE**

Three students received their WAGE Certificates; 1 Industrial Certificate and 2 Employability Certificates were issued in November.

Pictured is Charles George (WAGE & Adult Education Coordinator) presenting certificates to students.



## **LTA CLASS IN MALVERN**

The Literacy Task Analysis Class Phase I was conducted November 29, 30, & Dec. 1 in Malvern. Phase II will be January 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> at AALRC in Little Rock.



