

Economic Growth Region 11

Serving Dubois, Gibson, Knox, Perry, Posey, Pike, Spencer, Vanderburgh and Warrick Counties

www.workonesouthwest.com

Did you know....

- Region 11 has maintained an unemployment rate lower than the State average for September and October 2013
- WorkOne Southwest is helping plan a "STEM Challenge" providing hands-on challenges to High School students

JOBS for AMERICA'S GRADUATES

Jobs for America's Graduate's (JAG), is a dropout recovery and prevention program which targets students in high school settings that are in danger of dropping out of school and those who have dropped out of school. Each student is encouraged to obtain High School Diploma or equivalency and engage in education and training beyond the secondary level for entry into a career path.

The JAG classes are taught by JAG Specialists who are equipped with the tools needed to help the youth remain in school through graduation and encourage the students to pursue post-secondary education promoting in-demand skills for high growth industry sectors. The JAG Specialists also drive the students' involvement in school activities and to become involved in their community through volunteer opportunities.

Our JAG reach has expanded to serving youth in eight schools this year. We are fortunate to add five schools to begin classes in January 2014. New schools include:

Princeton Community High School, Gibson Southern High School, Central High School, Bosse High School and Harrison High School. We continue to operate classes at Vincennes Lincoln, Pike Central and Tell City High Schools.

Business and community leaders are needed for the classrooms as guest speakers to educate students on the skills needed for employment at their facilities and where the student can obtain those skills, as well as engage the students in real workplace problem-solving opportunities. Businesses also have the opportunity to participate in the Regional Career Development Conference. JAG students present their skills in categories related to employability skills, service learning and communication skills. Business representatives choose award winners in each category. Those winners have the opportunity to then compete at the State level for possible scholarships.

If you are interested in participating in this program please contact [Sara Huelsman](mailto:Sara.Huelsman).

HELPING FILL WORKER NEEDS

Production began in early December at Farbest Foods' new state-of-the-art turkey processing plant in the Vincennes Industrial Park, bringing 300 new jobs when first-shift activities are fully engaged and significantly more jobs if the company expands to a second shift.

Months before the plant was fully-functional, recruitment of potential employees was ramped up in Knox County and the surrounding area with the assistance of the WorkOne Vincennes staff, which conducted job fairs and facilitated the application, interview and orientation process to set the stage for operation of the facility.

Farbest Foods' Director of Human Resources and Workforce Investment Board member Phil Seger coordinated activities with the WorkOne staff for the Human Resources team of the Vincennes facility to operate out of temporary quarters at the WorkOne office, as applicants were moved through the application and orientation process. A total of 209 of the initial group of new

hires was interviewed, assessed and enrolled in the WorkOne employment service program.

During the ribbon-cutting ceremonies on December 2, Farbest Foods officials expressed their appreciation for the role WorkOne played in getting the 227,000 square-foot plant fully staffed and ready to start production.

"We look forward to becoming a big part of an era of economic growth in Knox County and Southwestern Indiana," company President Ted Seger said at the Vincennes plant's opening ceremony.

Farbest Foods is one of the largest turkey producers in the U.S., with its headquarters, original processing plant and related facilities in the Dubois County area.

JFS Milling, Farbest Food's new turkey feed mill in Bruceville, began making pelleted feed in October. It is expected to employ 30 people when it reaches full production.

Upcoming Events:

Business Seminars: Detecting the Telltale Signs of Chemical Dependency in the Workplace

- January 2, 2014
WorkOne Southwest
700 E. Walnut St.
Evansville, IN 47710
7:30am-9am CST
To register please contact Gina Hertel
ghertel@dwd.in.gov

- January 23, 2014
VU Jasper Campus
850 College Ave
Jasper, IN 47546
7:30am-9am EST
To register please contact
Nancy Schroering
nschroering@workone-southwest.org

Please note: In the event of inclement weather, the seminars will be cancelled when the local school system is closed or delayed in starting.

Contact:

For more information on mentioned programs please contact:

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