



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE: June 24, 2011

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- MEDIA ALERT -

Workforce Solutions for Tarrant County awarded the 2011 Enhanced Transitional Jobs Demonstration Grant

The Department of Labor (DOL) announced nearly \$40 million for Enhanced Transitional Jobs Demonstration program in a press release on June 23, 2011. The seven grants awarded help individuals with significant barriers to employment – specifically, low-income non-custodial parents and ex-offenders – obtain the skills they need in the workplace. Workforce Solutions for Tarrant County is proud to announce that our Next STEP Program was one of the initiatives awarded with grant money from DOL. Next STEP Program serves non-custodial parents, who have been incarcerated in Tarrant County.

Next STEP provides participants with a combination of services, including case management; intensive assessments; job readiness and job search skills training; short-term occupational skills training; job placement; temporary subsidized employment with private sector employers that consists of a staggered wage step-down; legal aid assistance; parenting skills classes; professional counseling for mental health, substance abuse, relationship, and adjustment issues using a cognitive-behavioral therapy approach; assistance with modification of child support orders and appropriate wage garnishment; support services to include transportation assistance and work-related expenses; follow-up care including advancement and retention services; a peer-directed support group, and incentives for attaining employment milestones.

Secretary of Labor Hilda L. Solis made the announcement for DOL and said, “This assistance allows program participants to provide for themselves and their families and establish a clear pathway to financial stability and independence.”

Workforce Solutions for Tarrant is committed to Keeping Tarrant County Working!

Workforce Solutions for Tarrant County is Tarrant County’s local workforce board and provides services to jobseekers and employers. A 29 member Board made up of business and community leaders chaired by Leslie Sisk with Lhoist North America works in partnership with the Workforce Governing Board (WGB), which is composed of the mayors of Fort Worth and Arlington, and the Tarrant County Judge, to oversee Workforce services in Tarrant County. More information about the 7 centers we have throughout Tarrant County can be found at our website: www.workforcesolutions.net

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