

TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT NOTICE	NO. 32-07
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TO: ALL STATE WORKFORCE LIAISONS
ALL STATE WORKFORCE AGENCIES

FROM: THOMAS M. DOWD /s/
Administrator
Office of Policy Development and Research

SUBJECT: Release and Availability of *Employment and Training Administration (ETA) Occasional Paper 2007-16: Collaborating with Faith- and Community-Based Organizations: Lessons Learned from Twelve Workforce Investment Boards, Final Report*

1. Purpose. To announce the release and availability of *ETA Occasional Paper 2007-16: Collaborating with Faith- and Community-Based Organizations: Lessons Learned from Twelve Workforce Investment Boards, Final Report*.
2. Background. In July 2004, ETA awarded demonstration grants to 12 Workforce Investment Boards (WIBs) to promote sustainable collaborations between faith- and community-based organizations (FCBOs) and the workforce investment system. The grants were intended to: 1) increase access to the workforce investment system among underserved populations; 2) provide new or enhanced services to job seekers; and 3) build FCBO's capacity and enable their ongoing participation in the workforce investment system.

The report describes three different models implemented by the WIBs for integrating FCBOs into the workforce investment system, each of which represents a different combination of possible FCBO roles. The three approaches are: a) *Recruit and Refer*, where FCBOs conduct outreach, provide supportive services, and then refer clients to the One-Stop Career Center for placement, b) *Provide Specialized Job Readiness Training*, where FCBOs provide training tailored to target populations followed by job placement or referral to the One-Stop Career Center, and c) *Offer Comprehensive Services*, where FCBOs provide a range of employment and social services in an accessible location within the community. The report describes the resources leveraged from the community by the FCBOs to meet the needs of their clients and also presents a limited amount of information on the employment outcomes of project participants.

Two previous reports were produced under this evaluation and serve to buttress the information provided in the final report. The first report was issued as *ETA Occasional Paper 2006-02: Building Relationships Between the Workforce Investment System and Faith-based and Community Organizations, Background*

Paper. The report is a background paper that describes what was known before the demonstration program about the potential benefits of, barriers to, and strategies for promoting collaborations. It provides an overview of the policy and legal context for the grants and the potential benefits to the One-Stop system of partnering with FCBOs.

The second report was issued as ETA Occasional Paper 2006-03: Evaluating Grants to Build Collaborations Between the Workforce Investment System and Faith- and Community-Based Organizations, Early Findings. The report describes the demonstration, the grantees' goals, the procedures for developing and building relationships, the collaborative approaches developed, and early findings from the evaluation. Both reports are available on ETA's Web site at: <http://wdr.doleta.gov/research/keyword.cfm>.

3. Publication Description. This report, *ETA Occasional Paper 2007-16: Collaborating with Faith- and Community-Based Organizations: Lessons Learned from Twelve Workforce Investment Boards, Final Report* describes the lessons learned in response to three main research questions:
 - 1) Why should the workforce investment system collaborate with FCBOs?;
 - 2) What are the main barriers to collaboration?; and
 - 3) What steps can be taken to build productive partnerships between the workforce investment system and FCBOs?

To learn more about this publication's findings, please see the attached "Summary and Implications" document.

4. Inquiries. To view an abstract of this publication as well as to download the full report as a PDF, visit the ETA Occasional Paper Series Web site at: <http://wdr.doleta.gov/research/keyword.cfm>.

To request a hard copy of this publication, please write: the Dissemination Team, Division of Policy, Legislation and Dissemination, Office of Policy Development and Research, Employment and Training Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Room N5641, Washington, DC 20210; or call the publication order line at: (202)693-3666.

5. Attachments.
 - *ETA Occasional Paper 2007-16: Collaborating with Faith- and Community-Based Organizations: Lessons Learned from Twelve Workforce Investment Boards, Final Report, Summary and Implications.*
 - *Summary and Implications Paper on ETA Occasional Paper 2007-16*