



# e-News

New Community Partnerships to Strengthen Career Planning for Milwaukee Teens - 9/17/2008

## Work-Readiness Certification to be studied

The feasibility of implementing a work-readiness assessment, remediation and certification process for youth in Southeastern Wisconsin is currently being studied thanks to a grant from the Workforce Innovation and Regional Economic Development (WIRED) program.

The first goal of the study is to research existing skill assessment systems that can help identify and measure the skills needed by workers for success in a wide range of jobs and occupations.

An effective skills assessment tool, coupled with a structured remediation program that helps job-seekers develop their skills, could be a major step forward in addressing the "skills gap" between employers' needs and job-seekers' abilities.

Finally, the study will also examine whether a credential component connected to the skills assessment and remediation program would be accepted by employers in the region as a valid predictor of a job-seeker's work-readiness...[read more on page 2](#)

## Life Ventures Partnership launches new website

The Life Ventures Partnership (LVP) has launched its new website at [www.lifeventuresmilwaukee.com](http://www.lifeventuresmilwaukee.com). LVP is a collaborative public/private initiative to promote the future vitality of Milwaukee's regional economy by preparing young people to become:

- ◆ Life-long learners
- ◆ Productive workers
- ◆ Self-sufficient citizens

The Life Ventures Partnership will accomplish its mission by:

- ◆ Exposing kids to the world of work;
- ◆ Educating kids about the relationship between education and career choices; and...[read more on page 2](#)

For more information about the Life Ventures Partnership, contact William J. Malone, Youth Development Coordinator,  
Milwaukee Department of City Development,  
At 414-286-5894 or [william.malone@milwaukee.gov](mailto:william.malone@milwaukee.gov)

## Work-Readiness Certification...continued from page 1

The research will examine the utility of a variety of existing assessment programs such as JobFit, WorkKeys, Profile XT, WorkReady, and the National Work Readiness Credential. Programs will be assessed using the following criteria:

1. Employer Acceptance
2. Evidence-based Validation
3. Normative Base
4. Cost/Affordability
5. Portability/ Ease of Administration
6. National Acceptance
7. Remediation Component
8. Accreditation Component
9. Alignment with USDOL Common Measures
10. Alignment with ONET

The study is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

The study is a partnership between the Southeast Wisconsin Workforce Development Board, the Milwaukee Area Workforce Investment Board, the Milwaukee Area Technical College, and Gateway Technical College. For more information about the study, contact: Mark Gesner, Youth Team Leader, Racine County Workforce Development Center, at 262-638-6622.

## LVP website...continued from page 1

- ◆ Teaching work-readiness skills critical to future success in the workplace.

The LVP website will provide information on:

- ◆ Youth development
- ◆ Collaboration
- ◆ Quality standards
- ◆ Best practices
- ◆ Resource sharing
- ◆ Professional development

Visit the LVP website today and let us know what you think.

For more information about the Life Ventures Partnership, contact William J. Malone, Youth Development Coordinator,  
Milwaukee Department of City Development,  
At 414-286-5894 or [william.malone@milwaukee.gov](mailto:william.malone@milwaukee.gov)