

**Mayor Bloomberg Announces Expanded Hours at WF1CCs**



On December 1, Mayor Bloomberg, Deputy Mayor Lieber, and **Commissioner Robert W. Walsh** announced the expansion of evening and weekend hours at all of the Workforce1 Career Centers (WF1CC). The announcement was made at the newly opened Workforce1 Career Center in Hunts Point, the Bronx. All Centers are now open until **8:00 PM on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays**, and will also be open for services on the **first and third Saturdays of each month from 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM**. Previously, most Centers were open only until 5:00 PM

on weekdays and were closed on weekends. In total, the monthly hours of operation at the Centers will be increased by roughly a third. This will make using the Workforce1 Career Centers more convenient for New Yorkers who have other work, school, or family responsibilities and this, in turn, will greatly increase our opportunities to help even more New Yorkers find and fill new jobs. We are monitoring the foot traffic during these extended hours closely and are working to spread the word about these additional opportunities

for New Yorkers.

This initiative is one of 18 announced by the Mayor on October 30 as part of a package of programs designed to help New Yorkers obtain the help they need during the economic downturn. New York City Department of Small Business Services (SBS) is responsible for managing six of these initiatives. We would like to thank WIB members **Rocco Damato** and **Rose Rodriguez** for their attendance at the press conference to help us celebrate both the Hunts Point Center and extended hours.

**Labor Market Information:**

Private sector employment in New York City fell by 17,100, or 0.5 percent, to 3,226,900 for the 12-month period ending November 2008.

**Growth was largest in:**

- Educational and health services (+6,300)
- Information (+2,300)
- Leisure and hospitality (+2,700)

Manufacturing lost jobs over the year (-6,200), as did professional and business services (-3,500), natural resources, mining and construction (-2,100), and trade, transportation and utilities (-1,800).

**Source:** James Brown, Employment In New York State

**WIB Hears From Policy Experts on Future of Workforce Development**

On December 11, the New York City Workforce Investment Board (WIB) hosted its Quarterly Board meeting. The meeting focused on presentations from two organizations that advocate for workforce programs at the federal, state, and local level – the New York Association of Training and Employment Professionals (NYATEP) and the government relations firm Moss, McGee, Bradley, and Colbert. Topics included the Obama Administration’s policy focus for workforce development programming, hot workforce topics in Albany for 2009, and the likely effect on New York City of changes in U.S. Department of Labor leadership

and in the New York State Senate and Assembly. The priorities of the WIB, as well as the City’s Workforce Investment Act funded programs, are directly impacted by the political environment in Washington, D.C. and Albany. SBS and the WIB will continue to stay informed about these political developments and their expected impacts. For any questions regarding these presentations or other policy related concerns, please contact Stephanie Martinez at [smartinez@sbs.nyc.gov](mailto:smartinez@sbs.nyc.gov). The next Quarterly meeting will be on March 18, 2009.

**Preliminary Launch of CareerLinkNYC**

Over the past four weeks, the New York City Workforce Investment Board (WIB), NYC Department of Small Business Services (SBS), and the Economic Development Corporation (NYCEDC) launched the website [www.CareerLinkNYC.com](http://www.CareerLinkNYC.com), a “one stop” internet portal designed to connect recently unemployed individuals to the information they need to weather the economic downturn. The site is geared toward entry- to mid-level professionals in the Financial Services and Information Technology sectors; however the information is relevant to any professional impacted by the financial downturn. The website offers resources and information on em-

ployment and educational opportunities, how to change careers, labor market data, and benefits. CareerLinkNYC is a part of Mayor Bloomberg’s strategy to help New Yorkers endure the economic downturn. An official roll out of CareerLinkNYC will occur in mid-January. For additional information please contact Lea Kilraine at [lkilraine@sbs.nyc.gov](mailto:lkilraine@sbs.nyc.gov).



**SBS and DYCD Present at Policy Forum**

On December 8, SBS Commissioner Robert W. Walsh and DYCD Deputy Commissioner Suzanne M. Lynn participated in a panel discussion at the New York City Employment and Training Coalition's (NYCETC) Workforce Policy Forum. Participating on the "Perspectives from NYC" panel, Commissioner Walsh highlighted six SBS initiatives that were announced by Mayor Bloomberg in October to help New Yorkers weather the economic downturn. Deputy Commissioner Lynn highlighted changes in DYCD's reallocation of funding for the coming year and highlighted programmatic outcomes and initiatives from 2008. The goal of the forum was to provide senior staff of local workforce development organizations with information on key workforce policy issues at the city, state, and federal levels. Also in attendance at the forum were WIB Members: **Rae Linefsky, Rex Davidson, Commissioner Robert Doar, and Rose Rodriguez.** The presentations are available for download at [www.nyc.gov/wib](http://www.nyc.gov/wib).

**Thank You!**

The WIB would like to extend an enthusiastic thank you to all our WIB members for their contributions throughout the year. We wish you all a very Happy Holidays and New Year!

**2009 Meeting Schedule**

WIB Meeting Schedule:  
**Quarterly** (8:30 AM - 10:30 AM)  
 March 19, 2009  
 June 11, 2009  
 September 9, 2009  
 December 10, 2009

July 15, 2009  
 October 28, 2009

**Workforce Policy** (8:30 AM - 10:00 AM)  
 March 5, 2009  
 June 19, 2009  
 September 24, 2009  
 November 18, 2009

Location: 110 William Street, 4th Floor

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WIB Committee Meeting Schedule:  
**Executive** (8:30 AM - 9:30 AM)  
 February 5, 2009  
 April 15, 2009

**Youth Board and Youth Council:**  
 To be posted next month.

**DYCD Reallocates WIA Funding**

To comply with New York State directives on federal WIA funding allocations, which mandate a significant reallocation of funding to programs serving older youth (OSY) within existing resources, and to manage programs for high school aged youth more effectively, the Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD), intends to restructure the WIA In-School Youth (ISY) program in the following ways:

-Commencing on July 1, 2009, DYCD will reallocate more than one third of the existing ISY budget to OSY to significantly increase the number of participants in OSY. In future years, the amount of ISY funds to be transferred to OSY will further increase as ISY contracts expire and follow-up obligations on existing cohorts are met.

-Current ISY contracts will be renewed at enrollment levels necessary to serve

juniors and non-graduating seniors for at least one year beginning September 1, 2009, plus any required 12-month follow-up period. This renewal will not encompass the enrollment of a new junior class commencing September 1, 2009.

-An Out-of-School Time (OST) Request for Proposals (RFP) is being developed to include as a separate service option the WIA ISY program model. New programs awarded under this RFP are expected to begin September 1, 2009, with a potential increase in service levels anticipated for September 1, 2010.

The OST High School Concept Paper, which outlines the plan for WIA ISY under "Competition II: Transition to Adulthood Programs" is available at the DYCD website here <http://www.nyc.gov/dydc>.

**MEMBER SPOTLIGHT:**

**Edward Jay Goldberg, Senior Vice President of Government & Consumer Affairs for Macy's**



*Why are you a member of the WIB?*

My main belief is that the acquisition of well-trained people and providing opportunities to find good resources for people in

organizations, whether it be retail or in other sectors, is imperative. Retailing is a very transient business and accomplishing this can be challenging. The WIB gives us that opportunity and I guess if really think about it, engenders productivity. The WIB, what it stands for and the goals it achieves, is to find new resources for employees and provide productive employees. I believe that business has an obligation to partner with the City in order to achieve these

goals. All of this can happen only when businesses and the City and respective agencies see each other as partners, and work towards this common goal. That is why Macy's is a partner.

*Why are the services offered through the system important to businesses?*

That answer is fairly simple- it's business continuity. Without having the necessary kind of resources available and ready access of well-trained employees, the business would not function properly. It's also about the community; the more we work together with local government and its respective agencies the better off the access will be to ensure the continuity of the business. It is mostly about human contact, you usually do not get the item out of a retail store until you talk to an associate or unless a stock person

places it on the shelf or truck. That is why having a good supply of well-trained employees is so important to our business.

*What is your favorite place in New York City?*

One of the most magical times of the year is when I stand on the street on Thanksgiving Day and enjoy the Macy's parade. But one of my favorite places in New York City is The Metropolitan Museum of Art. I have been there dozens of times and still enjoy all that it has to offer, whether it is walking up the grand main staircase, the sculpture gallery or the Egyptian Art area. I'm a real museum-goer so I particularly enjoy the Metropolitan, but truthfully, there are so many wonderful places in the city, too numerous to mention.