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Secretary Gassman Honors Workforce Boards for Partnership That Will Assist Nearly 3,100 Dislocated Workers Through June 2011

Boards deliver services with \$5 million in special grants, including \$813,000 in Recovery Act funds

MADISON – Department of Workforce Development Secretary Roberta Gassman today honored Workforce Development Boards in the state for a partnership to provide nearly 3,100 dislocated workers statewide with services supported through \$5 million in federal funds, including over \$813,000 in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act dollars.

“Thanks to our strong partnerships with regional Workforce Development Boards, these resources will help Wisconsinites who are out of work through no fault of their own build job skills and find new employment opportunities,” Secretary Gassman said. “By working together, we are advancing efforts to put Wisconsin back to work.”

The grants include nearly \$2.9 million in federal funding distributed last June and an additional \$2.2 million – which includes \$813,308 in ARRA dollars – distributed by November 30, 2010. The funds will help 3,094 dislocated workers in communities throughout Wisconsin pursue re-training and receive placement and other re-employment assistance.

DWD provided the funds to support services including assessment, case management, training, job development, placement, and supportive services such as transportation and child care. The funds will also help affected workers continue their education or expand their skills through retraining.

The Workforce Development Boards that have received funds to assist dislocated workers through June 2011 and the amount they received are:

- Waukesha-Ozaukee-Washington: \$980,206
- Milwaukee Area: \$970,332
- North Central Wisconsin: \$896,000
- Southeastern Wisconsin: \$580,658
- Fox Valley: \$470,746
- West Central Wisconsin: \$467,705
- Bay Area: \$385,535
- Western Wisconsin: \$282,934
- Southwest Wisconsin Workforce Development Board: \$54,399
- **Total: \$5,088,515**

For more information about DWD's dislocated worker program, visit DWD's web site at: www.dwd.wisconsin.gov.