



## **Seventh Planning District Consortium WORKFORCE INVESTMENT PLAN PY 05- PY 06**

### **C. Plan Development and Implementation**

- 1. Describe the methods used for joint planning and coordination of the programs and activities included in the Unified Plan. Describe the process used by the LWIA to provide an opportunity for public comment, including representatives of business and representatives of labor organizations, and input into development of the Plan, prior to submission of the Plan. The following agencies, groups and individuals should also be consulted: Youth Councils, Educators, Vocational Rehabilitation Agencies, Service Providers, Welfare Agencies, and Faith-Based and Community Organizations.**

The methods used for joint regional planning and coordination of programs within Labor Market Area 7 include a joint planning process between the workforce training partners in conjunction with WIA plan requirements. Staff from the Workforce Investment Boards within Labor Market Area 7, which include the City of Shreveport (WIA 71), and The Coordinating and Development Corporation (WIA 70), met with Wagner-Peyser, and STEP staff from the region on July 27, 2005, August 9, 2005, August 16, 2005, and August 16, 2006 to collaborate on the development of a regional plan. A draft of the regional plan was developed and included the following components:

- a. A method to use forecasting information, labor market information, and employer surveys to identify demand occupations, identify academic/workplace competencies needed, and jointly prioritize or rank training needs in Labor Market Area 7.
- b. A commitment to focus all publicly funded education, employment, and training programs on educating and training clients for jobs with career advancement pathways and higher levels of compensation.
- c. The negotiation of regional performance measures will be an integrated measurement system based on the Title I identified adult and youth performance measures and the measures identified for adult, youth, and the Perkins funded programs. Negotiation of standards will be part of the required regional planning process and documented in the regional plan developed by representatives of WIA 70 and 71. Title I regional incentive awards will be given to the WIA regions for meeting regional performance goals.
- d. A process for determining a minimum percentage of funding for training.
- e. A process for the coordination of multiple one-stop workforce centers within Labor Market Area 7.
- f. A commitment to align training programs and examine program consolidation.
- g. A plan for working with other agencies and organizations to coordinate transportation, child care, and other support services.

- h. A regional leadership strategy to identify emerging issues, develop regional support strategies as needed, and keep pace with federal and state regulations on changes.
- i. A plan for developing uniform criteria, performance standards, and application procedures in Region 7 to insure easy access to programs by business.

A draft of the regional plan was developed and draft copies were sent to the Regional Manager of the Louisiana Rehabilitation Services, the Youth Councils for WIA 70 and WIA 71, educators such as Region 7's colleges and universities, the Regional Director of the Louisiana Technical Colleges, school board superintendents, the Regional Director of the Department of Social Services, community organizations, such as Goodwill Industries, Boys and Girls clubs, YMCA, YWCA, Centerpoint, area Councils on Aging, CSBG offices, regional economic development agencies, regional labor organizations, and faith-based organizations, for review and comment.

A public notice was placed in *The Times* announcing a thirty (30) day comment period on the regional plan. The measures taken to receive formal comments on the regional plan from the public, representatives of business, and labor organizations are described above.