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## Winter Employment Program

The North Central Wisconsin Workforce Development Board (NCWWDB) has funding available through the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act to provide meaningful paid work experiences for young adults 18-24 who lack work history. To this end, we are excited to announce a “Winter Employment Program”. This will be a pilot program implemented in Marathon County, from February through March. NCWWDB intends to serve an additional 40 young adults during this time. They will meet with us for one full week of work readiness preparation prior to working with employers.

Employers who expressed an interest in participating in the past Summer Youth Employment Program are being recruited again, to employ and mentor a young adult. Participating employers need to submit a detailed job description to NCWWDB by January 29, 2010. NCWWDB will be reviewing the job descriptions during the one-week of work readiness preparation.

Feedback from the past Summer Youth Employment Program was that employers wanted more involvement in the matching process. Based on this feedback, NCWWDB is planning a half day event on February 10, 2010, where employers will have the opportunity to meet and interview young adults interested in the employer’s field of work. The event will be based on the concept of speed dating. We are calling it Job Speed. We ask that employers come to the Job Speed event prepared to interview up to five candidates in five minute intervals. Once employers have rated the best candidate, and the final match has been arranged, employers can discuss with their new employees a start date and schedule agreed upon by themselves, the young adults and the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Case Manager.

Employers will be asked to enter into a worksite agreement with the young adult and the WIA contracted provider. They will also be asked to complete a checklist of the employee’s skills after the first week of employment. The same checklist will then need to be completed at the end of the six week paid work experience. The young adults will be paid \$7.25 per hour by the WIA contracted provider, and Workman’s Comp and liability insurance will be covered as well.