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Workforce Development, Inc. Announces New Education Programs with Area College Partners

Rochester, Minn. July 9, 2009 - Workforce Development, Inc. is pleased to announce the funding of six new educational programs at area colleges across southeast Minnesota. A Request for Proposal (RFP) was solicited to institutions of higher education in southeast Minnesota by the 10-county SE MN Workforce Investment Board. The proposals were to be “innovative, value-added training opportunities for adult and dislocated workers in our area in order for them to get and keep a living wage job in the new economy.” WDI was able to dedicate \$400,000 from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) to provide funding for these programs. Ten proposals were submitted and six were selected. The proposals that were selected all offer training for high demand skills.

The selected proposals are:

- **Culinary Professional Training Program**, Minnesota State College - Southeast Technical
- **Fundamental Welding Training Program**, South Central College
- **Allied Health Preparatory Program**, Rochester Community Technical College
- **Certificate in Maintenance for Manufacturing Production Technician**, Riverland Community College
- **Advanced Business Skills**, Rochester Community Technical College
- **Organizational Leadership Certificate Training Program**, Winona State University

These educational programs target dislocated workers, those who are permanently laid off due to no fault of their own. Interested candidates should go to their local Workforce Development, Inc. office to start the application process, or call 507-292-5176 for more information.

Workforce Development, Inc. is a locally controlled, nationally known non-profit agency that is dedicated to developing and advancing the workforce in the 10-county region of southeast Minnesota.

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