

Through Mayor Freeman-Wilson's Department of Commerce, the **NEW DAY/NEW JOBS: Construction Series** leverages the resources of the City of Gary, the Northwestern Indiana Building and Construction Trades Council, Work One, and corporate partners and works with the Indiana Plan for Equal Employment to recommend and administer instructional program hours that would serve as a platform to help Gary residents obtain construction jobs and maintain construction jobs long enough to advance to a self-sufficient wage and enjoy the value of work.

The main target audience for all training and job placement activities would include: City of Gary residents who are unemployed, underemployed, dislocated workers, individuals on public assistance, at-risk youth, ex-offenders, veterans, and/or individuals with limited English proficiency.

NEW DAY/NEW JOBS: Construction Series' purpose is to connect unemployed or under employed Gary, Indiana residents to construction jobs through collaborative workforce development efforts and strong partnerships with the economic development, business, education, and government sectors in the Northwest Indiana region. Specifically, the City of Gary's Department of Commerce, the Northwestern Indiana Building and Construction Trades Council, Work One and the Indiana Plan for Equal Employment partnership has developed a strategy to provide employment and training opportunities to residents of Gary, Indiana to fill hundreds of available jobs across eight building trade categories on active and future construction sites throughout the region. Through the partnership, we highlight our relationship with the Northwestern Indiana Building and Construction Trades Council and are working to secure a historic amount of new union memberships for workers who live in the City of Gary. The ideal impact on the City of Gary would be the development of a highly skilled workforce for NIPSCO, BP, US Steel and other regional employers, as well as provide a path to a career in the building trades for residents of the City of Gary.

THE PROGRAM

The City of Gary Department of Commerce seeks to connect residents of the City of Gary with high paying union scale jobs through an exciting partnership with the Indiana Plan for Equal Employment, the Northwestern Indiana Building and Construction Trades Council and Work One. Specifically, successful completion of the of the Indiana Plan pre-apprenticeship training program may allow an individual to secure work on an active union construction site for up to one year. Clearly, a renewed spirit of cooperation with the Northwestern Indiana Building and Construction Trades Council and many regional employers is the key to a last impact on the City of Gary and the region.

First, the City of Gary seeks to identify skilled workers who are union members in good standing. Those workers will be vetted, recorded and recommended to a large construction project team immediately.

Second, the City of Gary is leading the effort to recruit, educate and prepare eligible participants for entry into the construction trades and apprenticeship programs through the Indiana Plan program.

- Workers who demonstrate significant levels of skills and experience in the various building trades may be immediately certified by the Indiana Plan, vetted, recorded and recommended to a large construction project team.

- Workers who demonstrate the basic skills and simply need enhancement in the areas of reading and math will be required to complete ALL Indiana Plan requirements and curriculum. Upon graduation from the Indiana Plan program, the candidate will be certified by the Indiana Plan, vetted, recorded and recommended to a large construction project team.
- Workers who demonstrate the basic skills, education, and an intense desire to work, who may be ex-offenders or have other social barriers, will be forwarded to the Work One staff. Once the individual meets the basic requirements of the Indiana Plan program, the candidate will be certified by the Indiana Plan, vetted, recorded and recommended to a large construction project team.

The Run of Show – September 11, 2012

The City of Gary Department of Commerce proudly presents **NEW DAY/NEW JOBS: Construction Series** on Tuesday, T September 11, 2012 at 9:00 am at the Genesis Convention Center.

Welcome -- Mayor Karen Freeman-Wilson

Greetings – Mr. Kenneth Bennett, US Department of Labor, Regional Administrator

Overview of the NEW DAY/NEW JOBS: Construction Series – Mr. J. Forest Hayes, Department of Commerce, Director

Corporate and Regional Partners (3 minutes)

Mr. Michael Finissi, Northern Indiana Public Service Company (NIPSCO), Senior Vice-President and Chief Operations Officer

Mr. Randy Palmateer, Northwestern Indiana Building and Construction Trades Council, Business Manager

Mr. Joree Richards, Indiana Plan for Equal Employment, Executive Director

Ms. Robyn Minton, Center for Workforce Innovations, Vice-President of Operations

As a result, of the overwhelming success of the NEW DAY/NEW JOBS: Construction Series Kick-Off on Thursday, June7, 2012, our program features a public graduation and media event.

Media program ends

After a brief intermission, the workshop begins as follows:

Joree Richards of the Indiana Plan will conduct the orientation for the interested applicants at the Genesis Convention Center in the Indiana Hall, from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm. During the session, applicants will fill out applications, complete an assessment test, and go through a 3-5 minute orientation conducted by Mr. Richards.

Based on individual interviews, assessed levels of experience and/or test scores, applicants may be invited to complete an 80 hour preparatory course.