



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Employers Able to Guide Own Destiny

CRANSTON – Sometimes there is a disconnect between skills taught in the classroom and the skills required to succeed in the workplace. With the Governor’s Workforce Board – Rhode Island’s (GWB-RI) Yes-2-Work Summer Jobs Program, employers can shape their future workforce by hiring teens for summer jobs. Participating employers build industry awareness and potential loyalty by training and mentoring youth aged 16-19. “You deliver the jobs – we’ll deliver the kids,” quipped GWB-RI Executive Director Adelita S. Orefice. “These teens will return to school next fall understanding what skills they’ll need to succeed in their chosen field and that they don’t have to leave Rhode Island to find a challenging career.”

Governor Donald L. Carcieri introduced the Yes-2-Work Summer Jobs Program several weeks ago to an audience of Rhode Island’s leading employers and members of local chambers of commerce. “Business leaders are uniquely qualified to motivate young people about their particular industries and the education and skill sets that are required to succeed in those fields,” Governor Carcieri said. “The Yes-2-Work Summer Jobs Program can play a role in matching our young people with employers to enhance their learning and create our future workforce.”

This is the inaugural year for the Yes-2-Work Summer Jobs Program, which has been modeled after successful programs in Boston, New York City, and at Lifespan. GWB-RI Chairman Joseph MarcAurele believes this program provides benefits to both employers and teenagers. “This private-sector led summer employment program responds to corporate concerns about the skills of the future workforce,” MarcAurele said. “GWB-RI develops policy that enriches our workforce, education, and economic development systems. This improves the skill base and, ultimately, increases economic development opportunities for all RI citizens and businesses.”

Employers interested in participating in the Yes-2-Work Summer Jobs Program are encouraged to contact Dottie Miller by phone at (401) 462-8727 or through e-mail at dmiller@dlt.state.ri.us.

– 30 –

The Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training offers a wide array of employment and training services to both the general public and to individuals with unusual barriers to employment. DLT is ready to assist any job seeker, whether the goal is a first job, a better job, or a career change. Rhode Island’s work force is protected through the enforcement of labor laws, prevailing wage rates, and work place health and safety standards. Temporary income support is available to unemployed, sick, or injured workers and a comprehensive rehabilitation program is available to those injured on the job.

DLT is dedicated to the growth and competitiveness of Rhode Island industry, administering a variety of training grants, tax credits, and apprenticeship programs to help employers. Economic indicators and labor market information are available for long-range planning. The Agency engages in active outreach, helping large and small employers retain their best workers or retrain their existing work force. At no cost to the employer, DLT will also screen job applicants, post job vacancies, and help businesses institute cost-sharing programs that can avert layoffs.

For more information on the innovative programs and services available to all Rhode Islanders at the Department of Labor and Training, please call (401) 462-8000 or visit the web site at www.dlt.ri.gov.

*Equal Opportunity Employer
Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities
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Governor Donald L. Carcieri  Director Adelita S. Orefice