

Regional Strategies...Global Results



Talent Driving Prosperity

July 11-13, 2006 • Anaheim, CA

Workforce Development in Rural Areas: Changes in Access, Service Delivery and Partnerships

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Workforce Development in Rural Areas

- Study carried out 8/04-5/05
- Consisted of:
 - Qualitative 5-day site visits to five rural LWIAs
 - Quantitative & geospatial analysis of nationwide network of local offices at three time periods
 - Literature review
 - Final report (including profiles of the five LWIAs)

Workforce Development in Rural Areas

- Qualitative site visits to rural LWIAs:
 - North Central PA – SE GA – Northwest IA
 - Northern NM – Linn, Benton, Lincoln OR
- Quantitative/geospatial analysis
 - Analysis and mapping of national workforce access points in 1979, 1999, 2004

Workforce Development in Rural Areas

- Changes to Networks 1979-2004
 - Overall population growth and “graying” of non-metro areas
 - Major economic transformation
 - Number of access remained about the same between 1979 and 2004
 - Access points fell between 1979 and 1999; then rebounded from 1999 to 2004

Workforce Development in Rural Areas

- Service Delivery and Accessibility
 - Major access strategy is networks of One-Stop access points
 - 6 types of access points ranging from comprehensive to computer-only
 - Other strategies included marketing, transportation assistance, Internet services, phone services, itinerant staff

Workforce Development in Rural Areas

- Rural One-Stop Partnerships
 - Partnerships critical in rural areas
 - Relatively few key One-Stop partners
 - Limited role of faith-based providers
 - CBO roles are diverse
 - Informal coordination between partners
 - Limited resources make cost-sharing challenging
 - Close relationships between partners can have beneficial or detrimental effects on rural partnerships



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