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Dutchess County Workforce Investment Board
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HEADLINE: Dutchess County Workforce Investment Board Submits 3-Year Strategic Plan

Poughkeepsie, New York, October 11, 2005 – The Dutchess County Workforce Investment Board, (DCWIB), has submitted its three-year strategic plan to the New York State Department of Labor. The DCWIB staff and its Board developed strategies to meet the challenges of the 21st Century workforce system.

The aim of the following three initiatives is to establish a flexible, highly skilled and competitive workforce able to create opportunities for individuals and businesses in our community.

1. Engage businesses through industry clusters and one-on-one meetings to fully understand their collective and individual employment needs then provide services in collaboration with workforce system partners.
2. Expand the reach and accessibility of our One Stop Employment Center, Dutchess Works, both by developing virtual and online tools and by establishing satellite sites throughout the county.
3. Enhance the employability of our youth through the further development of our primary youth service provider while expanding the reach through a county-wide delivery system involving community partnerships with schools and businesses.

Executive Director Richard Altman said, "Implementing this plan will allow the DCWIB to focus on creating a "skills ready" workforce as opposed to a "jobs ready" workforce. Rather than defining our "product" as jobs for individuals and employees for businesses, we are positioning the DCWIB to offer skills training to meet the ever changing needs of the local economy."

Workforce Investment Boards administer federal funds for job counseling and training, and are advocates for workforce issues to help employers and employees improve their competitiveness in business.

The programs provided by this agency are partially funded by moneys received from the County of Dutchess, the New York State Workforce Investment Board and the New York State Department of Labor.

EOE/P, auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities