

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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ODJFS Announces \$3.2 million in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act 'Constructing Futures' Grants

The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) has announced that it is awarding approximately \$3.2 million in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds to five collaborative partnerships that will provide low-income unemployed Ohioans with pre-apprenticeship training in construction careers. The grants – part of the state's "Constructing Futures" initiative – will serve Ohioans in historically underrepresented populations, so that they can gain the credentials necessary to pursue successful construction careers.

"The programs funded will target low-income non-working adults and dislocated workers, with a special focus on minority groups and women," said ODJFS Director Douglas Lumpkin. "They will help trainees attain successful careers in construction occupations by preparing them for full Registered Apprenticeship programs in those occupations."

Grants were awarded to partnerships with the following lead entities:

- Associated Builders and Contractors of Central Ohio (Columbus) – \$399,998
- Building Trades Institute (Lewis Center) – \$459,315
- The Electrical Trades Center (Columbus) – \$799,611
- Heat and Frost Insulators Local Union 45 Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee (JATC) (Toledo) – \$550,000
- Laborers' International Union of North America Local Union 265 JATC (Cincinnati) – \$998,976

Participating partners include Registered Apprenticeship sponsors, campuses of the University System of Ohio, One-Stop employment and training centers, nonprofit organizations specializing in career development for female and minority workers, and other entities. Each of the partnerships funded will offer such services as skill assessments, customized service plans, career guidance and occupational training, so that participants can gain the experience and skills they need for long-term employment in the construction industry.