



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WIN Clients launch Industry Certification and Training Project

The Westcott Community Center, Greater Syracuse Works, MACNY and our other collaborators and partners are pleased to announce the start up of the Industry Certification and Training Project (ICT)

KINGSTON, Tennessee (May 4, 2010) – The Industry Certification and Training Project (ICT), a partnership between MACNY (The Manufacturers Association of Central New York), The Westcott Community Center and Greater Syracuse Works, funded by two grants from the NYS Department of Labor totaling more than \$800,000, will provide a pathway for low-income individuals and the unemployed to achieve workplace credentials and skills certifications, leading to increased, long term employment. ITC will be offering those persons over 18 years of age, who are unemployed and meet income and other criteria, over 180 different certifications in nine broad fields. The program offers the following training options:

- **MACNY** – Training leading to NAM Certification in Production Technology, Welding/Sheet Metal, or Machining.
- **Westcott CC** – Training leading to certifications in Construction (including LEEDS, green deconstruction and weatherization), Office Technology, Entry-level Health Careers, and Asbestos Removal.
- Other services include case management (4 locations around the City of Syracuse), job readiness classes, employment placement and follow-along, other training/certification tracks, GED assessment & classes, substance abuse counseling, and many other services.

Both programs joined forces to maximize the number of potential participants and the scope of training options and, through establishing a **Project Office managed by Greater Syracuse Works**, to provide case management services. “This [partnership] promotes continued collaboration between national, state and local organizations, as we continue to work towards a high quality workforce within the Central and Upstate region,” said Randy Wolken, MACNY’s President.

The Manufacturers Association (MACNY) represents over 330 companies in a 21 county region in Central Upstate New York. The 97-year-old organization provides information. “Working together on this project is a ‘no-brainer’, says Steve Susman, Executive Director of the Westcott Community Center, “This collaborative model has



worked extremely well in our acclaimed Parent Success Initiative Employment Program and I'm sure it will be highly effective in this program as well." The Westcott Community Center serves over 40,000 people each year with Human Service and Arts and Cultural programming.

Founded in 1997, Greater Syracuse Works (GSW) is a collaboration of numerous community-based and non-profit agencies dedicated to developing projects that enhance the employment outcomes of individuals living in low-income areas.

Michelle Haab, GSW's Program Director, said "GSW and our members are very excited to be part this innovative project which utilizes the highly successful services model developed by GSW through the Parent Success Initiative and other projects. ICT leverages and builds on the expertise and commitment of a diverse set of community partners working together towards the project's goal."

WIN brings considerable experience in instructional services in preparing students for careers and college and in the use of technology and on-line curriculum. WIN is the leading publisher of Career Readiness Courseware, a program designed to deliver skills-based training for tomorrow's workforce, today! For more information, visit www.w-win.com

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