

TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT NOTICE	NO. 8-06
	DATE August 15, 2006

TO: ALL STATE WORKFORCE LIAISONS
ALL STATE WORKFORCE AGENCIES

FROM: MARIA K. FLYNN /s/
Administrator
Office of Policy Development and Research

SUBJECT: Release and Availability of ETA Occasional Paper 2006-03: Evaluating Grants to Build Collaborations Between the Workforce Investment System and Faith- and Community-Based Organizations: Early Findings

1. Purpose. To announce the release and the availability of ETA Occasional Paper 2006-03: Evaluating Grants to Build Collaborations Between the Workforce Investment System and Faith- and Community-Based Organizations: Early Findings

2. Background. Recognizing the potential benefits of collaborations between Faith-based and community organizations and public agencies, and being cognizant of the barriers to these collaborations, ETA has awarded over \$25 million in grants to promote and sustain collaborations between FBCOs and the One-Stop system.

Mathematica Policy Research is conducting an evaluation of grants provided to twelve workforce investment boards in 2004 and produced a background paper that provides an overview of the policy and legal context for the grants and a description of the strategies developed by the grantees to facilitate collaboration. That report is available on our Web site (<http://wdr.doleta.gov/research/keyword.cfm>) or from ETA's dissemination unit (phone 202-693-3666).

3. Publication Description. This report presents initial findings and observations that have emerged from Mathematica's analysis of the data obtained to date:

- Identifying and recruiting FBCOs to collaborate with the WIBs was challenging, partly due to their inexperience in working with the system and concerns about rigorous reporting requirements under federal funding.
- Establishing relationships between FBCOs and One-Stop centers proved more difficult due, in part, to concerns about eligibility of certain target populations, such as undocumented aliens, and also distrust and unawareness of each other's services, goals, and capacity for serving clients.
- Most of the FBCOs increased access to the workforce investment system by providing services targeted to populations with barriers to using One-Stop centers,

including persons with limited English proficiency, immigrants, refugees, youth, incarcerated persons and ex-offenders, and persons with disabilities.

4. Availability. To download the full report or executive summary as a PDF, visit the ETA Occasional Paper series Web site at: <http://wdr.doleta.gov/research/keyword.cfm>. To request or reserve a hard copy of this publication, call the order line at 202-693-3666, or write the Dissemination Team, Division of Policy Legislation and Dissemination, Office of Policy Development and Research, Employment and Training Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Room N5637, Washington, D.C. 20210.