



Weekly News Round-up

IN THIS ISSUE: MSCC Groundbreaking | \$14M for 3 Delta colleges | Promise Zones | Communities Unlimited



Chairman's Briefing: Time to Reimagine the Delta Workforce

Once again, it's back to school. But this year, it's not just our kids that need to head back to school; but our workforce training and education system. The theory is: Great training and education leads to a great job – one that allows you to put food on the table, pay your bills, gives you a sense of security and, every once in a while, do something special with your friends or family. But the reality is, not everyone has access to proper skills training or educational opportunities that lead to gainful employment, particularly access to those skills that are in line with today's job market and the needs of our business and industry.

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Mid-South Community College Breaks Ground on Hospitality Management Facility

Mid-South Community College took another step toward a world-class Hospitality Management program

Upcoming Events:

Register or Apply Today

Register by October 10

Lean Startup: Basics by Southeast Economic Development Fund (SEED\$)

Park Hills, MO | 10/23, 10/25, 10/28, 10/30 | 6:00-8:30pm
Basics is an introduction to a vastly improved process to create and launch successful new products and businesses.

October 21, 2014

Meet the Lenders - Tennessee

Jackson, TN
Bringing small business owners and entrepreneurs to meet one-on-one with loan officers from SBA participating lenders.

October 23, 2014

Meet the Lenders - Arkansas

Jonesboro, AR
Bringing small business owners and entrepreneurs to meet one-on-one with loan officers from SBA participating lenders.

Register by October 24

Lean Startup: LaunchPad by Southeast Economic Development Fund (SEED\$)

Park Hills, MO | November 4-February 3 | 6:00-8:00pm
LaunchPad is the premier training program offered by Paradi.me Founders Academy. This 12-week

with a ceremonial groundbreaking for the \$2.2 million Jeremy Jacobs Hospitality Center on Wednesday, Sept. 24. Funding for the Center has come from a variety of sources, including The Assisi Foundation, the Delta Regional Authority, the Arkansas Economic Development Commission, and MSCC.

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Vice President Biden, US Department of Labor announce \$450 million for Job-driven training grants, three in Delta

The U.S. Department of Labor has awarded \$450 million to community colleges and workforce training institutions through the fourth round of the Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training grant program. Three community colleges in the Delta region received awards bringing \$14.7 million to Delta communities for enhancement of regional workforce development efforts--Mid South Community College in West Memphis, AR; Delgado Community College in New Orleans, LA; and Southwest Tennessee Community College in Memphis, TN.

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COMMUNITIES
... Unlimited

Communities Unlimited to Serve Rural Communities with Place-Based Strategies

course is ideal for you if you have a passion to start a business or enhance an existing one.

October 29, 2014

Reimagining the Delta Workforce Summit - Illinois

John A. Logan College
Carterville, IL | 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

October 30, 2014

Application Webinar

Reimagining the Delta Workforce Capacity Building and Technical Assistance Fund
3:00pm - 4:00pm

**If you have an event that you would like featured in our Upcoming Events section, send event information to news@dra.gov*

Announcements From Our Partners:

Genova Products, 125 Jobs coming to Paducah, KY

HUD, USDA open applications for second round of Promise Zones designations | Application Deadline November 21

USDA requests applications for funding program with up to \$2.5 million in grants available to reduce childhood food insecurity in rural communities in America.

USDA Seeks Applications for Grants under the Rural Community Development Initiative | Application Deadline November 12

An innovative, new nonprofit based in Arkansas will work with under-resourced communities across seven states (AL, AR, LA, OK, MS, TN, and TX) to build wealth and improve quality of life. The organization, Communities Unlimited, Inc. is the product of a merger between alt.Consulting of Pine Bluff, Arkansas and Community Resource Group of Fayetteville, Arkansas.

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Promise Zones Program Accepting Applications for New Round of Communities

President Obama has launched the competition to designate the next round of Promise Zones, part of the President's plan to create a new pathway to the middle class by partnering federal agencies with local communities and businesses to create jobs, increase economic security, improve educational opportunities, and reduce violent crime. In January 2014, the first five Promise Zones were selected. Deadline for applications for the second round of designations is November 21, 2014.

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