



**PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE PUBLICATION**

**CONTACT:
SUE SNYDER, PA CAREERLINK®
NORTHUMBERLAND/SNYDER/UNION
570.988.7300**

PA CareerLink® Program Graduates Employees FIT 4 Careers in Building and Construction

Sunbury, PA – Eight (8) job seekers were recognized on March 28, 2012 for successfully completing the FIT 4 Green Building and Construction training program offered at the PA CareerLink® Northumberland/Snyder/Union Counties. This program was one of a series of FIT 4 Careers training programs being offered across the Central Pennsylvania workforce investment area. FIT 4 Careers was designed to provide job seekers with valuable work readiness and industry specific skills to increase their employability in fields like construction, health care, manufacturing and natural gas.

The Central Pennsylvania Workforce Development Corporation (CPWDC) was able to support this program, valued at \$2,500 per person, at no cost to the job seekers through a grant received from the PA Department of Labor and Industry utilizing funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. The program is endorsed by Associated Builders and Contractors, Inc, Central Pennsylvania Chapter.

Over several weeks, participants moved through a series of activities to develop skills and knowledge required for construction employment or additional training in the construction industry. In addition to career coaching provided by PA CareerLink® staff, the following instructors conducted industry-relevant classroom training to assist the job seekers:

- Dave Remick, President of Associated Builders and Contractors, Central Pennsylvania Chapter
- Wayne Sheppard, Assistant Professor of Construction Management at the Pennsylvania College of Technology, and
- Craig Shaffer, President of Safety Works, Inc.

Graduates earned nationally-recognized NCCER (National Center for Construction Education and Research) credentials by completing modules in Introduction to Blueprints, Introduction to Construction Math and Your Role in the Green Environment. Additionally, each graduate earned a National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC) by taking WorkKeys® assessments in Applied Mathematics, Locating Information and Reading for Information. The NCRC assists job seekers in demonstrating workplace skills needed to succeed in the job.

FIT 4 Careers programs are elite, intense learning sessions with strict requirements that demand defined soft skill behaviors, such as 100% on time attendance, to attain graduation. A high attrition rate is expected as participants learn more about the realities of the industry. Eight (8) participants graduated this session from a starting class of 24. Because the graduates have demonstrated a commitment to the program and increased their skills, they participated in an “invitation-only” networking fair with 7 local employers immediately following the ceremony.

An Information Session for FIT 4 Health Care will be held at the PA CareerLink® Northumberland/Snyder/Union Counties on April 18th at 10 am. For more information, please call 988-7300. Additional FIT 4 Careers programs are scheduled for other PA CareerLink® locations between now and June 30, 2012. To learn more visit, www.cpwdc.org > PA CareerLink® > Special Initiatives or contact your local PA CareerLink® office (www.pacareerlink.state.pa.us).

Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Equal Opportunity Employer.

###