From: Letavish, George
To: Weems, Malcolm
Cc: Kupferschmid, Donald R.
Subject: FW: NRI Program
Date: Monday, September 17, 2012 4:10:00 PM

Dir. Weems,

Can you provide any help on this?? Trying to find out what ever happened to the NRI associated programs that were to be housed under the authority of IDOT & DCEO. I'm mainly talking about Training for Tomorrow, DBE, and the Community Business Fund and want to see if they were implemented, and if so, what the results have been. There is info on DCEO's website, but it's really old. IDOT & DCEO are digging…not sure if you can provide any direction?

I'm cc'ing Don Kupferschmid on here from IDOT who has been trying to track down info.

Thanks,

George

From: Shaw, Barbara
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 4:07 PM
To: Letavish, George
Subject: RE: NRI Program

Hi, George. I knew this part existed, but had no details. You might want to contact Malcolm Weems at CMS. Malcolm was the Deputy Director of GOMB and a major figure in the creation of NRI. He might have some answers on the economic development part of NRI. I hope this helps.

Barbara

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From: Letavish, George
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2012 3:42 PM
To: Shaw, Barbara
Cc: Kupferschmid, Donald R.
Subject: NRI Program

Good afternoon,

The original press release about NRI also mentioned these three programs as part of the overall package. I've been trying to hunt down info within DCEO & IDOT to see what's become of these

programs and whether or not they have any data we could take a look at. However, it's been difficult tracking people down who have any knowledge about these programs. I'm cc'ing Don Kupferschmid from IDOT on here as well who has been trying to find someone with knowledge of the DBE program.

Do you know anything about them? How they became part of the package? If they were actually implemented? If so, any good contacts to reach out to?

These are the 3 paragraphs from the original NRI press release:
http://www.illinois.gov/PressReleases/PressReleasesListShow.cfm?RecNum=8931

Job training for adults and small businesses will also be a vital component of the initiative. Funding through the **Training for Tomorrow Program** will help non-profit, community based organizations identify local industries having difficulty recruiting skilled, entry level workers. It will train and place more than 1,700 people into jobs over the next two years.

In addition, the Departments of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) and Transportation (IDOT) are working with regional business organizations to establish **a new program for Disadvantaged Business Enterprises** to help small contractors participate in state construction projects and other business opportunities within the public sector.

The initiative will also help provide additional funding to support small businesses. DCEO is partnering with financial institutions with strong small business lending backgrounds, including ACCION Chicago, Chicago Community Ventures and the Women's Business Development Center, to launch the **Community Business Fund**. The fund will provide critical micro- and small business financing to help put more people to work. More than 300 loans will likely be made to start-up and existing small businesses, which will lead to more than 800 jobs being created or retained over the next two years.

Thanks,

George

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