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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Workforce Investment Board Announces Initiatives for 2008-2009**

CINCINNATI (May 28, 2008) – Three key initiatives have been identified as top priorities for the Southwest Ohio Region Workforce Investment Board (WIB) in their 2008-2009 fiscal year, starting July 1. The initiatives are:

- The **Construction Employee Readiness Program (CERP)**, a system developed and administered by the WIB to connect jobseekers to the construction industry through preparation for the union and nonunion apprenticeship programs or for entry-level building and construction jobs, initially to meet the needs of the Banks Project, as well as for the future anticipated construction in this region for the next several years.
- The **Disability Program Navigator**, developed in conjunction with the Department of Labor (DOL) as part of a statewide initiative to help people with disabilities and SSA beneficiaries maximize the comprehensive services offered by the WIB's Super Jobs Center to find work.
- The **Measurement and Continuous Improvement** initiative designed to improve the collection of data on and about job seekers as they take advantage of the programs and resources offered at the Super Jobs Center. Based on data collected via the Center's G\*STARS universal customer tracking web-based software, the WIB is able to customize programming based on need and demand. G\*STARS also facilitates uploads to Ohio's job matching system called "Sharing Career Opportunities and Training Information (SCOTI)," and tracks the use of Individual Training Accounts.

Additionally, says Sherry Kelley Marshall, WIB President and Executive Director, use of shared data collection can also help gauge the impact of the WIB's work along with partnering agencies. "Unifying workforce and social service providers under a common data system can maximize investment in employment services" she explains. "This will improve the regional economic climate for businesses and individuals, contributing to economic growth, inclusion and prosperity in our area."

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**About the Super Jobs Center:** The Super Jobs Center is a "one-stop shop" that serves both employers and jobseekers by providing recruitment, job search, and training services in a single, convenient location. All services are provided at no cost. Super Jobs operates in partnership with Arbor E&T, LLC (a ResCare company) and the Southwest Ohio Region Workforce Investment Board. For more information, visit [SuperJobs.com](http://SuperJobs.com).

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