Mobile Workforce Center

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The One Stop Committee of the Southwestern Area Workforce Development Board met on February 16th at Dona Ana Community College in Las Cruces, New Mexico, and directed their administrator, Mr. Steve Duran, to write a mini-proposal to obtain funding that will provide workforce employment services to rural communities.

Mr. Duran explained to the committee that by having a mobile unit like a cargo van the Workforce Centers would be able to reach rural areas in Southwest New Mexico. Mr. Duran also stated that in Hidalgo and Catron counties there are minimal services being provided to job seekers.

The concept of the mini-proposal is to purchase a cargo van that will transport 12 computers with printers, and a scanner to provide access to rural community residents who do not have access to the services offered by the New Mexico Workforce Connection Centers. The staff offered to write a min-proposal for the mobile Workforce Center. The mini-proposal requested by Ms. Rheganne Vaughn, Chair of the One-Stop Committee, will include all cost associated with a cargo van mobile Workforce Center. Ms. Vaughn also requested a proposal for the use of existing vehicles of current providers.

The mobile Workforce Center could be utilized at job fairs, rapid response activities for layoffs, along with claims and training modules. The investment in the mobile unit will lead to a greater number of job seekers being able to access the Workforce Center Services, even if they are in a rural area.