



SIGRED NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 2 ISSUE 2—MAY 31, 2007

DEDICATED TO WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

SILVER CITY-GRANT COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

From the President's Desk

Work Ethic Quotes:

- *Men are made stronger on realization that the helping hand they need is at the end of their own arm. —Sidney Phillips*
- *Put your heart, mind, intellect and soul even to your smallest acts. This is the secret of success.*
- *—Swami Sivananda*

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SIGRED continues the “Passion and Drive” towards our Economic Stability around Grant County as well as creating jobs in New Mexico.

The Board of Directors continues to listen to our communities throughout Grant County and has identified major priorities needing to be addressed.

Workforce is one of the most critical needs within our county / state. SIGRED has taken a proactive approach to help create a more stable workforce by starting at the “roots” of our future.

SIGRED's Executive Director Mary Ann Sedillo approached and challenged our board to find a positive way to serve our local communities

with a quality workforce. Our Executive Director with a partnership with the New Mexico Labor Department developed a program. Student Work Force Training (SWFT) was introduced into our two School Districts as a pilot program encouraging our students to take a challenge as well as business owners. The goal is to teach moral values, ethical values, responsibilities and accountability required of a workforce. SIGRED challenged the local business owners to become the mentors, teachers, councilors, etc. What better way then to utilize the quality of successful business owners to reach a positive workforce program here in our local area. Business Retention, Business Expansion, and Business Recruitment cannot

exist without the proper workforce in place in Grant County, the State of NM, or our Country.

The biggest questions asked by students, schools and business owners... What Does It Cost?

“It doesn't cost a dime...only quality and valuable time”

Our sincerest thanks to all students, school districts, employers/mentors, sponsors and anyone else that assisted us with the Student Work Force Training Pilot Program.

The SWFT Program won the “Eddie Award” in the Special Events Promotions category through the New Mexico Rural Alliance. This Alliance provides training and education to community leaders in order to improve rural economic viability. There mission is accomplished through sponsoring and developing educational events state wide.



Pilot Student Work Force Training Program (SWFT)



The Student Work Force Training Program created by SIGRED in conjunction with the New Mexico Department of Labor was able to enroll twenty six students for this school year to help them prepare for the workforce.

Through SWFT Juniors and Seniors from Cliff, Cobre and Silver High Schools were paired up with an employer/mentor for a total of thirty two hours in order to learn their profession and duties. The students will also learn: customer service, phone edict, dress for success, what an employer needs and

Expects of an employee, civics; the rights and duties of a citizen, why an employee should not miss work for an unnecessary reason, to arrive at work on time, sustain a good rapport with fellow employees, to create an impressionable relationship with an employer and obtain a job, to work hand in hand with an employer/mentor that can be a catalyst in his or her success, build relationships and bonds that will and can last a life time.

Additional training will provide the students with job interview skills, how to fill out an application properly, the

SWFT'S Lessons

CRYSTAL REISENAUER, FROM SILVER HIGH AND ZABETH RUNYAN FROM CLIFF HIGH ARE PICTURED ABOVE

Students will be introduced to public speaking; a talent that is a must in today's ever changing workforce. The Program will teach them how to write memos, letters, e-mails, resumes, letters of interest. A "Work Keys Test" will be given to each student by

The Department of Labor along with the process of "Career Profiling." The internet will be introduced to them as a tool to look for a job.

Students completing the SWFT Pilot Program will be issued a certificate by SIGRED and the Department of Labor proving they are ready to go to work.

At a recent "How to Plan for a Cool Summer" held at Silver High School sixteen students signed up to participate in the SWFT Program in August.



SWFT Pilot Program Employers/Mentors and Sponsors

Without the following employers/mentors the Student Work Force Training Pilot Program would not be a success: Silver City-Grant County Chamber of Commerce, U.S. Forest Service, Magistrate Judge Hall, County Sheriff, Holiday Inn Express, County Assessor, Gila Regional Medical Center, County Treasurer, Silver City Fire Department, Grant County Health Council, County Clerk, Dr. Douglas

Gorthy, Iron Works Gymnasium, SIGRED, County Commissioner District 1, Town of Silver City, Southwest Bone & Joint, Silver City Police Department, La Plata Middle School, and Alotta Gellato.

The following sponsors that donated funds for the program were First New Mexico Bank, AmBank, Gila Regional Medical Center and JSEC. Thanks!



Students Participating in The Pilot SWFT Program

Students participating in the Pilot Student Work Force Training Program from Cliff High School were Jessica Morgan, Zabeth Runyan, Gabby Granillo and Pamela Apodaca.

Students participating from Cobre High School were Lewes Schmidt, Katherine Ramos, David McBride, Felicia De La Torre, Aimee Laguna, Angelica Jimenez, Jerica Huerta, Adam Villalobos, Kimberly Villalobos and Kelsey Washington

Students participating from Silver High School were Randy Hernandez,

Crystal Reisenauer, Mathew Stott, Jessica Salaiz, Brooklin Baer, Michael Ogas, Jr., Robert Gomez, Amanda Silva and Clint McCabe.

The GREAT news at the end of the SWFT Program that twenty of the twenty six students will be working at a summer job here in the community or elsewhere. The students working out of state are Zabeth Runyan will be working in Alaska, Kathy Ramos will be working in Phoenix, Arizona, and Adam Villalobos in Texas. Good luck to all of you...may you be successful!



Special Thanks to Lawrence McCallin's & Mary Ann Sedillo's the diligent creators and sponsors of SWFT.

Why focus on the Workforce in Grant County?

The main complaint of businesses in Grant County is the lack of a trained workforce. It is a fact a business depends on the quality of their personnel in order to be productive and profitable.

SIGRED through the effort of the Department of Labor, business professionals and the local High Schools have merged to address the workforce issues. The business professionals volunteered in great numbers to teach and mentor students in work ethics.

The common goal between SIGRED and all the other players is to strengthen the local talent pool of workers to match the needs of local and regional employers. Workforce development is a must since we have become a service oriented nation.

By developing good work ethics and increasing the number of skilled workers the business attraction and marketing efforts of the community will be augmented tremendously.

In order to connect workforce and

economic development we have involved the business sector and schools and have placed potential employees in a local business to learn a profession and be mentored by the cream of the crop...the businesses that are seeking the qualified workforce.

"BOTTOM LINE; IF WE DO NOT HAVE A SKILLED WORKFORCE WE CANNOT RETAIN AND EXPAND OUR BUSINESSES IN GRANT COUNTY."

The Seven Wonders of the World

A group of students were asked to list the seven wonders of the world? The list consisted of: Egypt's Great Pyramids, Taj Mahal, Grand Canyon, Panama Canal, Empire State Building, St. Peter's Basilica, China's Great Wall.

The teacher noticed a student did not participate in the discussion, she simply kept on writing. When the teacher asked her what she was writing the girl

stated she was writing down the wonders of the world. The teacher asked her to recite her list. The girl lifted her head proudly and began; "There are so MANY...this is my list...to see, to hear, to touch, to feel, to laugh, to breath, to smell and to love... the room went silent. We can all agree...the most precious things in life cannot be built by hand or bought by man. Thanks for the innocent and the honest!



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Working For You

Mission Statement:
**SIGRED is committed to establishing
and elevating economic opportunities in
Grant County.**

WE ARE ON THE WEB!

WWW.SILVERCITY-BUSINESS.COM

SIGRED Executive Board Members

President—Jeremiah Garcia, 1st Vice President—Skip Thacker

2nd Vice President—Sean Ormand

Secretary—Rocky Mondello Treasurer—Tony Trujillo

SIGRED Board Members

Rudy Martinez, Ray Baca, Jon Saari, James Marshall, Priscilla Lucero, Joan Atencio, Chuck Hamilton, Mike Trujillo, Jan Galassini, Dr. Kathie Gilbert, David Gershenson, Ralph Gauer, Linda Baldwin

SIGRED Executive Director

Mary Ann Sedillo



What can SIGRED do to enhance the Community?

- We can help train Grant County citizens to be ready to enter the workforce. In today's world we seem to have some problems with individuals not being fully prepared to enter the workforce; SIGRED is willing and wanting to assist in this problem right here in our Community.
- Support and assist Bayard, Cliff, Gila, Hurley, Mimbres, Santa Clara, and the Town of Silver City in reaching and attaining their goals for economic development at their respective levels.
- Respond to the PRO's (Potential Recruitment Opportunity) through the New Mexico Economic Development Department. What this means is when businesses are attempting to relocate they send a PRO to our NM Economic Development Dept. requesting various things such as: a certain size of building, acreage, number of employees etc. The various Economic Development entities can respond whether their communities have what the new business is seeking.
- SIGRED can also help businesses succeed...if we can help one business succeed; we all win. Why do we all win; we keep people working, we keep businesses succeeding, we keep money flowing into the economy in our Community.
- Market our Community through the web, publications, newsletter and net working.
- Improve the quality of life for you and your neighbors.

