

# SLATE Update

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ST. LOUIS AGENCY ON TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT



Francis G. Slay, Mayor



ST. LOUIS AGENCY ON TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT

**SLATE**

MISSOURI CAREER CENTER

DOWNTOWN • CENTRAL WEST END

Michael K. Holmes, Executive Director

[www.stlworks.com](http://www.stlworks.com)

**February 2013 Issue**

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*SLATE Update* is a monthly newsletter produced by the St. Louis Agency on Training and Employment (SLATE), part of the City of St. Louis and funded by the Workforce Investment Act (WIA). SLATE helps match area job seekers with businesses through a variety of no-cost services.

The purpose of this publication is to share the progress and outcomes of our many programs, and will be of special interest to legislators, Workforce Investment Board members, vendors, partners, educational institutions, other public agencies or anyone with an interest in workforce development.

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## MAYOR SLAY RECOGNIZES SIX SHOW-ME HEROES EMPLOYERS

The *Show-Me Heroes* program, established by Governor Jay Nixon in January 2010, has connected many hundreds of Missouri veterans to job opportunities when they return home from service. Administered by the Missouri Division of Workforce

*Photo: Mayor Slay (center) proclaims February 25, 2013 to be Show-Me Heroes Supporters Recognition of Excellence Day in the City of St. Louis. Also pictured (from left) Michael K. Holmes, SLATE Executive Director, honorees-employers, recipients of Flag of Freedom Award and Proclamation.*

*“Employers help incredibly skilled and committed men and women in uniform transition to careers at home.” ~MAYOR FRANCIS G. SLAY*

Development (DWD) within the Department of Economic Development (DED), *Show-Me Heroes* also recognizes employers who reach out to, interview and hire veterans.

On February 25, 2013, City of St. Louis Mayor Francis G. Slay honored **six** local employers who have participated in *Show-Me Heroes* and made a special effort to reintegrate our returning heroes into the civilian workforce. The event took place at the Mayor's Office in City Hall on Market Street. The featured honorees were:

- **Allied Barton**, a provider of innovative and results-oriented contract security services.
- **Board of Probation & Parole, Eastern Region**, part of the Missouri Department of Corrections, which facilitates the release of offenders from confinement and other court directed programs.

- **Employment Connection**, a community-based organization with a long history of assisting clients with obtaining employment, temporary work, housing, and job training.
- **Magellan Health Care**, a leading, diversified specialty health care management organization.
- **People's Health Care**, providing comprehensive primary healthcare, such as pediatrics, internal medicine, OB/GYN, dental, and mammography.
- **Stone Fabricators**, an award-winning specialist in the fabrication and installation of granite, marble, and other stone products for both home and commercial use.

"The response of the St. Louis business community to *Show-Me Heroes* continues to impress," stated Mayor Slay. "These six

employers are helping our incredibly skilled and committed men and women in uniform transition quickly to careers here at home."

In July 2012, Governor Nixon signed HB 1680, which enhanced the ability of *Show-Me Heroes* to offer an On-the-Job (OJT) training component and expanded eligibility for financial assistance to spouses of active-duty service members.

Employers interested in taking the Pledge can go to [showmeheroes.mo.gov](http://showmeheroes.mo.gov) webpage and click *Take the Pledge Now*. While employers aren't required to have job vacancies to participate, Governor Nixon is calling on all Missouri employers to take the pledge to consider hiring a Missouri Veteran if they've got a job opening. To date, well over **2,500** Missouri businesses have taken the *Show-Me Heroes* pledge, including over **200** in the St. Louis area.



Photo: **Mayor Slay** (second left), **Show-Me Heroes** program Directors **Alan Rohlfing** (far left) and **Jon Barry** (far right), **SLATE** Veterans Employment Representative **Martin Payne** (fifth from left), with veterans hired through the program.





**Faultless Linen in St. Louis is among the country's most state-of-the-art laundry facilities.**

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### **FAULTLESS LINEN AND SLATE ACHIEVE DIVERSITY**

The SLATE Business Development department develops working relationships with and provides no-cost services to area employers of all kinds, from major international corporations to growing family-owned businesses. One example of the latter category is *Faultless Linen*.

Based in Kansas City, *Faultless* was established in the late 1800s by Sam and Cora Spence; today the company is managed by that couple's fourth generation descendants. As a recognized provider of quality healthcare textile service, *Faultless* entered the St. Louis market in 2001, and has created over **220** jobs with two major facilities located in the City of St. Louis. Their contributions to the local community were recognized last year when they were presented with a *Business of the Year Award* at the Mayor's annual Business Celebration Luncheon.

SLATE's relationship with the company goes back approximately five years. *Faultless Linen* is committed to diversity among its staff, and was looking for assistance to ensure continued recruitment of minorities and women for open positions. They contacted SLATE's *Business Development* department, offered a tour of their facilities, and in subsequent meetings discovered the many no-cost services available to them. Since that time, SLATE has conducted pre-screening and testing of job candidates for *Faultless*; **seven** recent referrals from SLATE have resulted in permanent hires.

*Faultless* promotes from within and is very proud of the stability and loyalty demonstrated within their company. Although most entry-level positions are not high-paying, *Faultless* provides regular pay increases, flexible work schedules, and comprehensive benefits. In fact, in addition to the owners, a number of other families have seen multiple

generations employed at *Faultless Linen*. SLATE hopes to help them continue this tradition in St. Louis!

### **EUC PROGRAM PRODUCES COST-SAVING RESULTS**

Created on June 30, 2008, the *Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC)* is a 100 percent federally funded program that provides temporary extension of unemployment compensation for individuals who have exhausted all regular state benefits. To continue



### **UNEMPLOYMENT NOTICE TO MISSOURI'S EUC RECIPIENTS**

Effective **April 1, 2013** all Unemployment Benefit (UI) Recipients must meet with a Missouri Career Center's Skills Team member immediately following completion of four-week reporting. UI Recipients are also required to bring their Work Search Record/Log for a review. Failure to comply with this new requirement may interrupt unemployment benefits.

eligibility for these benefits, last year thousands of individuals in Missouri were contacted by Career Center staff in order to become familiar with reemployment services and take a Self-Evaluation Questionnaire and Skills Assessment.

From May to December 2012, SLATE's two Career Centers met with approximately **3,500** EUC clients to help them re-skill and refocus their job search. Statewide, over **40,000** customers were scheduled for reemployment services; several thousand were disqualified and removed from the EUC rolls.

EUC has thus achieved two primary goals: to provide every possible form of assistance to the long-term unemployed who may be struggling to reenter the job market, and to enforce eligibility standards, conserving limited resources and taxpayer dollars. Recently, the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012 extended the expiration date of the EUC program to January 1, 2014; anyone interested in applying or extending their benefits should contact their local Career Center. However, no UI services will be available between 11:50 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at SLATE's Downtown location.

### **WHY USE JOBS.MO.GOV FOR YOUR JOB SEARCH?**

Every job seeker can attest that finding the best online source of high quality job postings can be

challenging and confusing. Many popular job-search engines, while allowing job seekers access to hundreds of thousands of jobs, are also populated with postings that have expired or even postings from employers who aren't reputable or are out of business.

Missouri jobseekers can now take advantage of the *newly re-designed jobs portal* from DWD, *jobs.mo.gov*, where job seekers can focus on finding quality, current job openings with established employers. How is this made possible? To post a job on *jobs.mo.gov*, employers must make a commitment not to charge a fee or require the purchase of any materials for a job listing, not to resell or report job seeker's personal information, and not to require a specific gender, age or religious preference. Employers also promise to pay at least minimum wage and are required to provide MO DWD with a valid Federal Employer ID number.

Unlike other websites, *jobs.mo.gov* is designed to ensure that the information job seekers submit is only used for the specific career matching purpose for which it is intended. DWD never shares,

sells or trades personal information about its registrants, unless required for law enforcement of statute. The privacy of our job-seekers is extremely important!

DWD's Tech Support Unit (TSU) spends every workday making sure the jobs listed in *jobs.mo.gov* meet these high standards, so that our job seeker customers can feel confident and secure while obtaining employment. The newly re-designed interface should make your job search easier, safer and more productive than ever before.

SLATE Missouri Career Center encourages our customers to try *jobs.mo.gov* and discover all it has to offer. Right now, you can browse nearly **15,000** current job postings without registration, although registration is required to apply. For an in-depth guided tour of the many ways you can use *jobs.mo.gov*, feel free to visit one of SLATE's two Career Center locations.

