Communities of Opportunity

A Community Development Initiative of the Georgia Rural Development Council

Community Improvement Strategy

Jenkins COUNTY

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Community Improvement Strategy for Jenkins County

Jenkins County seeks to improve educational attainment for all its citizens, particular the skills of its workforce, in order to strengthen their ability to attract industry to the county.

Issues to be Addressed

With unemployment at 5.9% and 28.4% of the citizens of Jenkins County living below the poverty level, Jenkins County sees the need to better educate its citizens. Jenkins County believes that if its school-age citizens can graduate from high school and its older citizens can receive adequate training to make them eligible for employment, everyone's quality of life will improve. A better-educated workforce could also entice industry to locate in Jenkins County, enhancing overall economic development.

Strategy

As a Community of Opportunity, Jenkins County will accomplish the following over the next two years:

1. provide workforce development training for adults of Jenkins County
2. work to attract new businesses to Jenkins County
3. apply to become a Certified Work Ready Community
4. provide broadband access throughout the county
5. strive to have better communication with all citizens of the county
6. provide programs and services that support high school and secondary graduation with marketable skills for employment
7. provide every at-risk child in public schools with a mentor

Measures of Success

For each strategy listed above, success will be measured as follows:

1. Jenkins County will improve its graduation rate from 63.6% to 85%.
2. Jenkins County will become a Certified Work-Ready Community.
3. Jenkins County will improve its unemployment rate from 5.9% to 4%.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Issue Addressed	Action Item	Responsible Local Partners	Responsible State Partners	Cost Estimate	Possible Funding Sources	Start & End dates for completion of action item
Workforce Development Training for adults	Provide job training/ retraining in computer and other marketable skills	Department of Labor (DOL), CWRC, S.T., Quick Start Debbie Sharpe	DOL, Governor's Office of Workforce Development, Department of Education (DOE), ECGC	$35,000 salary $7,500 supplies and incentives	WIA, Governor's Office of Workforce Development	July 2008 - July 2010
Workforce Development Training for adults	Provide potential workforce with training in work Ethics, career Experiences, Secondary Ed. Opportunities (S.T., O.T., GSU, A.S.), and Drug Prevention	DOL CWRC S.T. Debbie Sharpe	DOL, Governor's Office of Workforce Development, ECGC	Cost included in above estimate	WIA, Governor's Office of Workforce Development	July 2008 - July 2010
Workforce Development Training for adults	Provide job support such as transportation, apprenticeship opportunities, and job shadowing	Local Businesses, Jenkins County government Robin Scott	DOL, Governor's Office of Workforce Development, ECGC	Cost included in above estimate	WIA, Governor's Office of Workforce Development	July 2008 - July 2010
Workforce Development Training for Youth	Assist students (8^{th}-12^{th}) with employment goal setting	JCFEC, Board of Education (BOE), CWRC, S.T. Robin Scott	Governor's Office of Workforce Development, DOE, ECGC	$35,000 salary $15,000 supplies and incentives	WIA, Governor's Office of Workforce Development	July 2008 - July 2010

Issue Addressed	Action Item	Responsible Local Partners	Responsible State Partners	Cost Estimate	Possible Funding Sources	Start & End dates for completion of action item
Workforce Development Training for Youth	Create a Youth Entrepreneur Program (E.S., M.S.H.S.)	JCFEC, Board of Education (BOE), CWRC, S.T. Robin Scott	Governor's Office of Workforce Development, DOE, ECGC	Cost included in above estimate	WIA, Governor's Office of Workforce Development	July 2008 - July 2010
Workforce Development Training for Youth	Provide Youth Work Experiences for 11th & 12th graders	JCFEC, Board of Education (BOE), CWRC, S.T. Robin Scott	Governor's Office of Workforce Development, DOE, ECGC	Cost included in above estimate	WIA, Governor's Office of Workforce Development	July 2008 - July 2010
Workforce Development Training for Youth	Provide Career/Job Training for all High School Students	JCFEC, Board of Education (BOE), CWRC, S.T. Robin Scott	Governor's Office of Workforce Development, DOE, ECGC	Cost included in above estimate	WIA, Governor's Office of Workforce Development	July 2008 - July 2010
New Business to Jenkins County	Recruit New Industry Small & Large to Jenkins County (consider providing tax breaks or other incentives)	Industrial Development Authority, Chamber of Commerce, Millen City Council, Jenkins County Board of Commissioners, Downtown Development Authority Mabel Jenkins	Department of Community Affairs (DCA), Department of Economic Development (DEcD), DOL	To be determined based on strategy	Local Government, DCA, SBA, Georgia Cities Foundation	July 2008 - July 2010

Issue Addressed	Action Item	Responsible Local Partners	Responsible State Partners	Cost Estimate	Possible Funding Sources	Start & End dates for completion of action item
New Business to Jenkins County	Build new eco-tourism-related businesses around local natural resources	Industrial Development Authority, Chamber of Commerce, Millen City Council, Jenkins County Board of Commissioners, Downtown Development Authority Paula Herrington	DEcD, Department of Natural Resources (DNR)	To be determined based on strategy	Hotel/Motel Tax, Scenic By-Way Grant	July 2008 - July 2010
New Business to Jenkins County	Locate funding to assist in marketing Jenkins County to new business	Industrial Development Authority, Chamber of Commerce, Millen City Council, Jenkins County Board of Commissioners, Downtown Development Authority Mandy Underwood	USDA, DCA, DEcD, Georgia Power, Georgia EMC	Development Authority's budget	USDA-Redevelopment Grant/Loan	July 2008 - July 2010
Certified Work Ready Community	Complete required Work Key Assessment	BOE, Chamber of Commerce, JCFEC Debbie Sharpe	STC GOWD DOL	$15,000 for 300	Governor's Office of Workforce Development	July 2007-December 2008

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Certified Work Ready Community	Provide GAP Training	JCFEC, BOE, Chamber of Commerce Debbie Sharpe	GOWD STC DOL	Based on # of enrolled $10 per person	Governor's Office of Workforce Development, STC	End. December 2008 Will need to begin 2nd year
Provide Broadband Access Community Wide	Apply for a 5-County Regional Grant to fund broadband	Jenkins County Board of Commissioners, Development Authority, City of Millen Paula Herrington	One Georgia RDC	$2 Million	Bridge Grant (Funding is Endless) One Georgia USDA RESA	July 2008 – July 2009
Community Awareness & Education	Create a Demographic Database	Churches Chamber JCFEC Door to Door BOE-9th Grade Academy Paula Herrington	CSRA RDC, DCA, GA Chamber of Commerce	$25,000 salary ¾ F.T.E. $7,500 Advertising / media costs	Collaborative Partners DCA	July 2008 - July 2010
Community Awareness & Education	Solicit Time Pledges from Community Volunteers	Citizens Civic Clubs Comm. Agencies Churches Co-Op Julie Chance	N/A	Cost included in above estimate	Fundraise Donations	July 2008 - July 2010

Issue Addressed	Action Item	Responsible Local Partners	Responsible State Partners	Cost Estimate	Possible Funding Sources	Start & End dates for completion of action item
Community Awareness & Education	Quarterly articles in local newspaper	Churches, Chamber of Commerce, JCFEC JCHS / JCMS Journalism Club Debbie Sharpe	CSRA RDC, DCA, GA Chamber of Commerce	Cost included in above estimate	Collaborative Partners DCA	July 2008 - July 2010
Community Awareness & Education	Develop Telephone Tree	Churches, Chamber of Commerce, JCFEC JCHS / JCMS Journalism Club Paula Herrington	CSRA RDC, DCA, GA Chamber of Commerce	Cost included in above estimate	Collaborative Partners DCA	July 2008 - July 2010
Community Awareness & Education	Post informational Billboards	Churches, Chamber of Commerce, JCFEC JCHS / JCMS Journalism Club Paula Herrington	CSRA RDC, DCA, GA Chamber of Commerce	$25,000 salary ¾ F.T.E. $7,500 Advertising / media costs	Collaborative Partners DCA	July 2008 - July 2010
Community Awareness & Education	Create informational Flyer/ Newsletter	Churches, Chamber of Commerce, JCFEC JCHS / JCMS Journalism Club Paula Herrington	CSRA RDC, DCA, GA Chamber of Commerce	$25,000 salary ¾ F.T.E. $7,500 Advertising / media costs	Collaborative Partners DCA	July 2008 - July 2010

Issue Addressed	Action Item	Responsible Local Partners	Responsible State Partners	Cost Estimate	Possible Funding Sources	Start & End dates for completion of action item
Community Awareness & Education	Develop County Website	Chamber of Commerce JCFEC Mandy Underwood	CSRA RDC, DCA, GA Chamber of Commerce	$25,000 salary ¾ F.T.E. $7,500 Advertising / media costs	Collaborative Partners DCA	July 2008 - July 2010
Programming & Curriculum	Implement emergent, pre-literacy and early childhood education: Building Blocks Parents as Teachers Pre-K Head Start Pre-Schools	BOE CIS/JCFEC CSRA EOA Faith Comm. Local Businesses DFCS Health Department Erica Robinson	DOE CIS of GA EOA DCA DFCS Public Health	Pre-K Head Start existing programs PAT-$85,000 per year B.B. - $30,000	State Grants for pre-literacy and early childhood education	Ju.y 2008 - July 2010
Programming & Curriculum	Implement academic credit recovery services B.L.A.S.T. (AM & PM) Eagle Academy Summer School	BOE CIS JCFEC Joan Blackwood	BOE CIS Family Connection 21st CCLC DHR DCA	$200,000 salaries and supplies $50,000 ALS software curriculum	21st CCLC DHR afterschool / summer programming	August 2008 - July 2010

Issue Addressed	Action Item	Responsible Local Partners	Responsible State Partners	Cost Estimate	Possible Funding Sources	Start & End dates for completion of action item
Programming & Curriculum	Create more extracurricular activities for students to participate in after school	BOE Recreation Department, Local Youth Organizations, Churches Wade Parker	4-H, Boys and Girls Club, Georgia Dept of Education,	To be determined based on activities	BOE County Comm. Jenkins County Athletic Boosters	August 2008 - July 2010
Programming & Curriculum	Implement Drug Free Communities Program	BOE Law Enforcement County Commission City Council	Mental Health	$60,000 Salary and supplies	BOE County Comm.	August 2008 - July 2010
Programming & Curriculum	Adopt Violence Prevention policies -Bullying -Domestic Violence -CAN -Gang Violence	BOE CPPC CIS DFCS Safe Haven Law Enforcement Pam Brown	Mental Health CPPC DOE	Cost included in above estimate	CPPC PSSF DOE	July 2008 - July 2010
Programming & Curriculum	Implement School Health Services -BMI -Eye, Ear, Screenings -Scoliosis -Immunizations -Dental Screenings	BOE Hospital Health Department Local Physicians Public Health Pam Drake	Jenkins County Health Department, Region 7 Public Health District	$75,000 Salaries and supplies	BOE DOE Public Health	July 2008

Issue Addressed	Action Item	Responsible Local Partners	Responsible State Partners	Cost Estimate	Possible Funding Sources	Start & End dates for completion of action item
Programming & Curriculum	Create Marketing Program to promote public awareness of programs available through JCFEC and partners & MOU's with Parents, Local Partners and Community to commit to specific service delivery or collaborative work components	BOE JCFEC Newspaper Radio Chamber of Commerce Julie Chance	CIS Family Connection DOE	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	July 2008 - July 2010
Training Mentoring	MOU between School System & JCFEC to outline specific programs, services and activities that are collaborative responsibilities	BOE, Family Enrichment Julie Chance	DCA, GA Chamber of Commerce (Mabel Jenkins), CIS	$50,000-$75,000	BOE (In Kind)	July 2008 - July 2010
Training Mentoring	Marketing & Recruiting to Civic Groups to volunteer and/or donate funds to promote public awareness of programs available through JCFEC and collaborative partners	JCFEC person, civic groups, churches, local government Marty Miller	Georgia Dept. of Education	Cost included in above estimate	BOE (In Kind)	July 2008 - July 2010