

July 9, 1997

MEMORANDUM FOR: JTPA LIAISONS
SESA ADMINISTRATORS
WORKER ADJUSTMENT LIAISONS
ONE-STOP CAREER SYSTEM STATE LEADS
SCHOOL-TO-WORK GRANTEEES
MIGRANT AND SEASONAL FARMWORKER PROGRAMS
INDIAN AND NATIVE AMERICAN PROGRAMS
OLDER WORKER PROGRAMS
JOB CORPS CENTERS
ETA ASSOCIATES

FROM: RAYMOND J. UHALDE

SUBJECT: ETA Strategic Plan for Fiscal Year
1998-2002

In compliance with the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993, The Employment and Training Administration has drafted a Strategic Plan for Fiscal Years 1998 through 2002. As our partners and stakeholders, we are asking for your participation in this plan. We welcome your thoughts, comments and suggestions for improvement both immediately in response to legislative due dates and throughout the coming months.

ETA built this plan on the foundations laid down by a number of recent goals setting and reporting and performance management efforts which included your input and participation. Among these have been the annual performance agreements with the Secretary, many of which were included in the former Secretary's agreement with President Clinton, requests for your comments at this time last year on our initial strategic plan concepts, and through the several efforts directed to continuous improvement and customer satisfaction.

We value the collaborative process we undertook with you and your representative associations in developing these earlier goals. We all put a lot of effort into this process, and it paid off in developing the strategic plan. Among your earlier recommendations were the establishment of better linkages with School-to-Work and increased use of technology to facilitate all programming. In the strategic plan, we are proposing five strategic goals geared to our three major customer groups -- youth, adults, and employers, a training and employment systems goal, and an internal ETA improvement goal. However, to reach these five broad goals, we must accomplish and measure the many subgoals and outcomes which underpin them.

We continue to look to you to accomplish these long-term goals, and perhaps exceed them. I am convinced that we can find ways to stretch ourselves to achieve greater performance outcomes with fewer resources. We must do so if we are to justify resources for our programs. Through GPRA, Congress has said that it will fund those programs which can accomplish significant outcomes for its tax paying customers and do so efficiently and without overlap or duplication. Congress must make very hard budget decisions. Competition for scarce resources will be intense. We must put ourselves in the position to show that we can get important results for our customers, and that we can improve those outcomes over time.

Please share the attached proposed strategic plan with its proposed strategies and measures with your staff and local service delivery offices, as appropriate. Please assess your provision of services, your performance measurement, and management systems, and with that perspective, give us your reaction to this plan. If you want to make changes, please explain why. What adjustments, if any, to the strategies outlined would enhance successful outcomes? Under GPRA, we are required to submit strategic plans to OMB and Congress no later than September 30, 1997. Consistent with current governmental policies regarding the interagency clearance of materials being sent to Congress, we are instructed to submit an advance copy to OMB by August 15. To meet our required deadlines, we must receive your comments no later than August 1. If you cannot meet this deadline, we would still welcome your comments as we expect further refinement over the coming months.

Please send your comments to our GPRA Planning Group, Attention: Jack Rapport, Room C-5307, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20210. You may also e-mail comments to the group by sending them to Internet:GPRA@DOLETA.GOV. ETA national and regional staff need only send it to the e-mail group address: GPRA.

Let me say thank you for your continued partnership and ask you to encourage your service providers to focus on improving program outcomes and the quality of services provided to each customer. Your support is critical if we are to make a significant, positive difference in the lives of our youth and adult job seekers and to assist the Nation's employers.

Attachment

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Rm., N-5631:219-5487:S:\OPR\DPME\CONSULT.GPR
cc: Uhalde, Fiala, Greene, Carroll, file